Transportation Security Administration

SETA

Security Enhancement Through Assessment

RAISING THE SECURITY BASELINE THROUGH FRONTLINE FOCUS

TSA's **Security Enhancement Through Assessment (SETA)** program is a no-cost, collaborative, voluntary program that is designed to evaluate and improve a surface transportation stakeholder's security posture at the front line employee level through a three phased approach of initial assessment, training and reassessment. Collaborative and tailored tactical level assessment scenarios include vehicle inspection procedures, suspicious and unattended bag response, suspicious individual procedures and other requests through stakeholder input.

- The SETA program was developed in support of the agency's Risk Based Security initiatives and a national strategy for performing risk mitigation activities by utilizing national and stakeholder security standards by mode of transportation. A multiple-phased approach, these joint assessments focus on five key elements: Identify, Assess, Mitigate, Reassess, and Sustain.

Eligible Candidates

The SETA program can be conducted within all modes of surface transportation.



Freight

- Freight Rail
- Shipper/Receiver
- Trucking



Passenger

- Passenger Rail
- Mass Transit
- Motor Coach
- School Bus



Maritime

- Maritime Transportation Security Act (MTSA) Facilities



Infrastructure

- Pipeline

Application

1. **Timeline**: From the initial planning stages to the completion of the assessment, the goal is to complete all three phases of SETA within ninety days, but the timeline is tailored to each individual stakeholder.
2. **Pre-planning (TSA)**: Prior to the assessment, TSA Surface inspectors conduct operational planning with the stakeholder to gain first-hand knowledge of daily stakeholder operations.
3. **Pre-planning (Stakeholder)**: Through collaboration, the stakeholder and TSA agree to assessment scenarios utilized. To ensure a valid assessment, the stakeholder limits employee knowledge of the assessment to those with a need to know.

Tailored Assessment

- Tailored to meet the specific security needs of the stakeholder.
- Utilizes the APTA Revenue Vehicle Security Inspections recommended practice SS-SRM-RP-012-09 as a security standard.
  - Pre-Trip Inspection
  - In-Service Inspection
  - Post-Trip Inspection
- Assessment scenarios continually under development and based on industry input and need.
  - Unattended Bag
  - Suspicious Bags or Person
  - Unique Vulnerabilities

Multiphase Approach

Phase I

Identify

TSA Inspectors and the participating stakeholder will jointly discuss and decide which potential vulnerability fits within the SETA assessment capabilities.

Assessment

TSA inspectors conduct the initial assessment in collaboration with the stakeholder, establishing a security baseline. Following the completion of Phase I, inspectors will provide a debriefing to discuss the results of the assessment.

Phase II

Mitigate

TSA Inspectors will provide frontline employees with security briefings or security training. The options will be tailored to the stakeholder, focusing directly on the area that was assessed.

Phase II is recommended to be completed within 30 to 60 days from the completion of Phase I.

Phase III

Reassessment

TSA inspectors conduct a follow-up assessment, measuring programmatic changes in security posture.

Sustain

TSA and the stakeholder will jointly establish a sustainment plan to maintain an increased level of security

Phase III is recommended to be completed within 30 to 60 days from the completion of Phase II

Stakeholder Fact Sheet

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TSA Surface Operations

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