

# AN INSIDE JOB: PROTECTING CHEMICAL FACILITIES FROM INSIDER EXPLOITATION

Critical Infrastructure Protection and Resilience North America (CIPRNA)  
April 7, 2022



# CISA Chemical Security Overview

Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS)

Ammonium Nitrate Security Program

Regulatory

Voluntary

Bomb-Making Materials Awareness Program (BMAP)

ChemLock

CFATS identifies facilities with chemicals that are high-risk and works with them to develop tailored security plans that meet risk-based standards.



## CFATS 18 Risk-Based Performance Standards

- 1) Restrict Area Perimeter
- 2) Secure Site Assets
- 3) Screen and Control Access
- 4) Deter, Detect, Delay
- 5) Shipping, Receipt, and Storage
- 6) Theft and Diversion
- 7) Sabotage
- 8) Cyber
- 9) Response
- 10) Monitoring
- 11) Training
- 12) Personnel Surety
- 13) Elevated Threats
- 14) Specific Threats, Vulnerabilities, or Risks
- 15) Reporting Significant Security Incidents
- 16) Significant Security Incidents and Suspicious Activities
- 17) Officials and Organization
- 18) Records

## Personnel Surety Background Checks

Verify and Validate Identity

Check Criminal History

Validate Legal Authorization to Work in the U.S.

Identify People with Terrorist Ties

# Key Steps to Insider Threat Mitigation



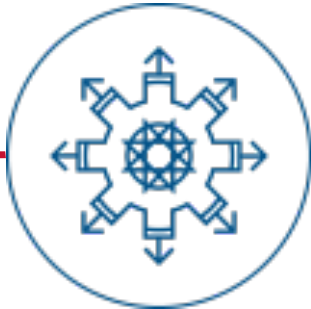
*Define*



Detect and  
Identify



Assess



Manage

[ [cisa.gov/insider-threat-mitigation](https://cisa.gov/insider-threat-mitigation) ]



# Definition of Insider Threat

An Insider Threat is the **potential for an insider to use their authorized access or special understanding** of an organization to harm that organization.



Harm can include **malicious, complacent, or unintentional acts** that negatively affect the organization, its data, personnel, facilities, or associated resources.



# Types of Insider Threat



## Unintentional

**Negligent:** Insiders expose an organization to a threat by their carelessness.

**Accidental:** Human error results in a mistake that causes unintended risk to an organization.

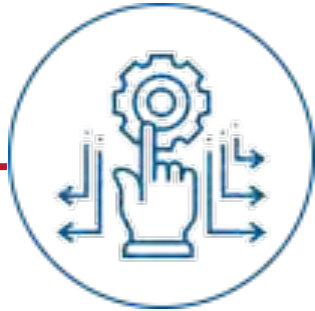


## Intentional/Malicious

Insiders intentionally take actions that harm an organization for personal benefit or grievance.



# Key Steps to Insider Threat Mitigation



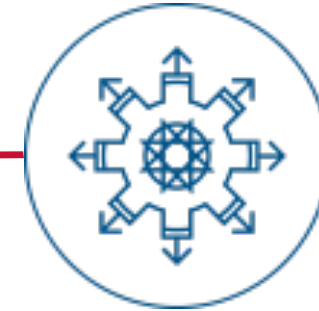
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# Identifying the Threat

**No standard profile – impacted by:**

Personal Predispositions - Contextual Stressors - Patterns of Suspicious Behaviors and Actions



Seldom act impulsively



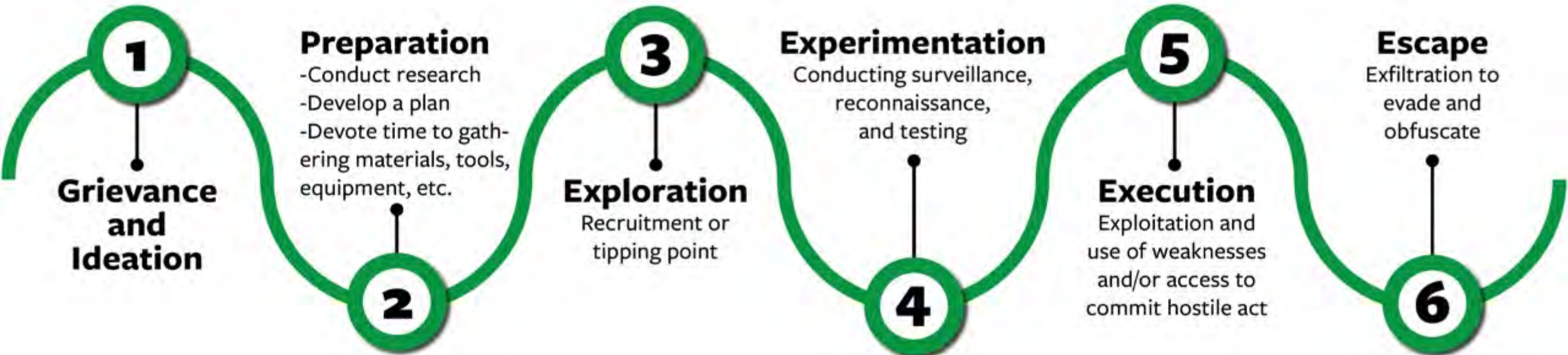
Moving from Idea to Action



**Red flags** involve changes in baseline behavior

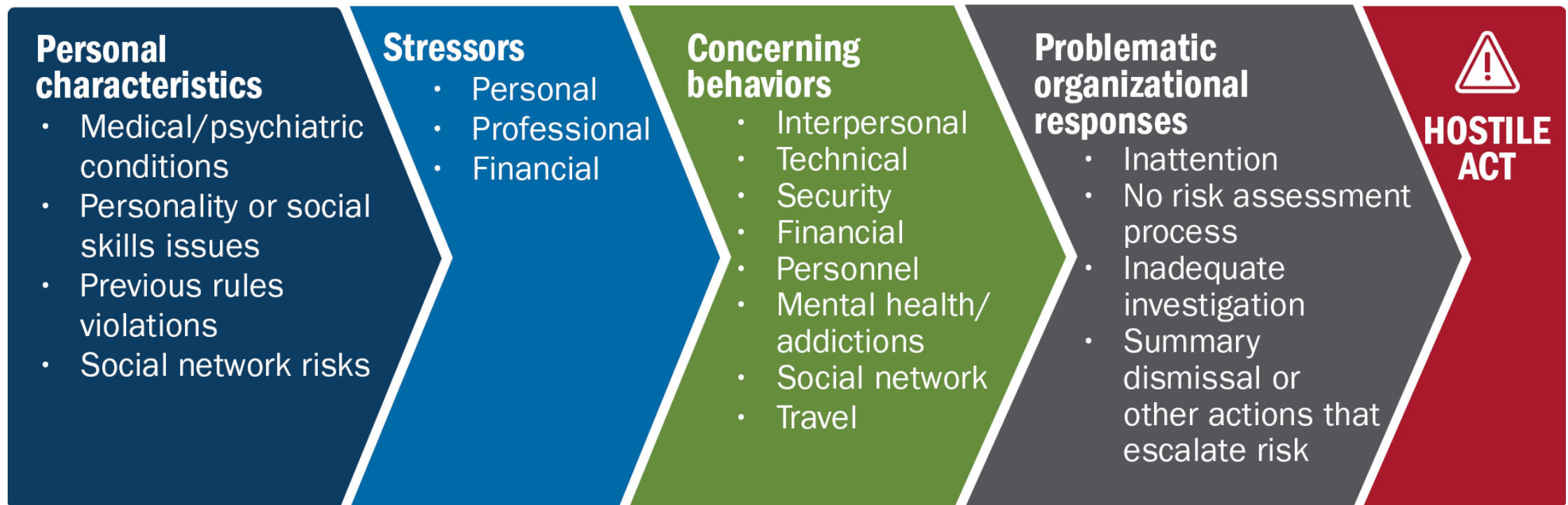


Usually exhibit observable patterns



# Factors Along the Path to Insider Risk

## Importance of the “whole person” concept





# Identification is Possible!

In **42 computer system sabotage incidents** throughout the critical infrastructure sectors:



of perpetrators communicated negative feelings, grievances, and/or an interest in causing harm

- **92%** verbally
- **12%** via email



of the time, others had information about the insiders' plans, intentions, and/or activities

- **64%** coworkers
- **21%** friends
- **14%** family members
- **14%** someone involved with the incident

In **27 violent attacks in public spaces**:

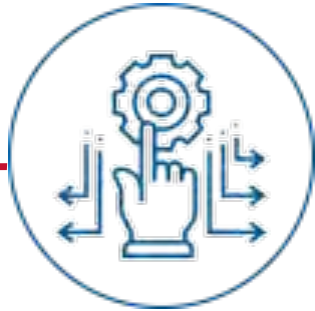


of the attackers made concerning comments

- Expressing **interest in previous attackers**
- Making or suggesting **racist and misogynistic comments**
- Referencing a **desire to purchase a gun**
- Expressing **aspirations to commit future violence**



# Key Steps to Insider Threat Mitigation



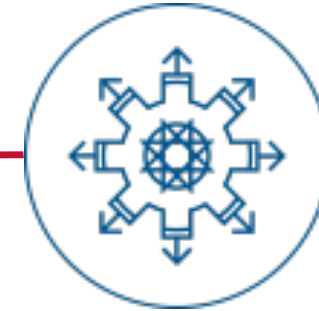
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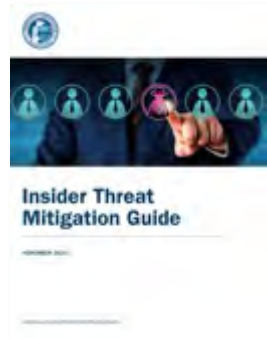
# Insider Threat Program Development

**Build upon existing policies, physical security procedures, IT, and cybersecurity programs**

**Borrow available best practices, concepts, and tools from available sources:**  
Examples:



National Insider Threat Task Force



Insider Threat Mitigation Guide



Insider Risk Mitigation Program Evaluation (IRMPE)

**Include these four mission areas:**

- Plan
- Organize & Equip
- Train & Execute
- Evaluate & Improve



# Preventing the Next Insider Threat

1

Train employees to recognize behaviors that indicate a progression

2

Instill a positive culture for reporting

3

Establish Threat Management Team and develop intervention capabilities

**Awareness + Action = Prevention**



# Conclusion

**There is no “one-size-fits-all” approach to threat management.**  
**Having an effective Insider Threat Mitigation Program can protect against an insider incident having wide-ranging consequences with devastating outcomes and long-term, negative impacts.**

## Principles and Keys for Success

- » **Promote a protective and supportive culture** throughout the organization.
- » **Safeguard organizational valuables** while protecting privacy, rights, and liberties.
- » **Remain adaptive** as the organization evolves and its risk tolerance changes.
- » **Focus on prevention** and helping people versus just catching them doing things wrong.
- » **Employ a balance of positive and negative incentives**, promoting employee satisfaction and performance while avoiding overly aggressive reactions following notification of a threat.





**Chemical Security:**  
[cisa.gov/chemical-security](https://cisa.gov/chemical-security)  
[CFATS@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:CFATS@hq.dhs.gov)  
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**Insider Threat:**  
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