



Technical Meeting on the Nuclear Security Implications of Counterfeit, Fraudulent and Suspect Items

IAEA Headquarters, Vienna, Austria
and virtual participation via Cisco WebEx

4 - 6 September 2024

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Information Sheet

Introduction

The commercial supply chain, to include the nuclear supply chain, is ever more expansive as globalization offers producers and suppliers, alike, with more affordable items as a consequence of increased competition and greater availability. However, this globalization complicates the supply chain, and diminishes or completely prevents the transparency and traceability of items as they change hands on their way to the final customer. This lack of transparency in production practices or traceability of item integrity allows for the pervasive infiltration of counterfeit, fraudulent and suspect items (CFSIs) to take place on a grand scale.

CFSIs do not undergo the same rigorous quality assurance procedures as legitimate items, and deviate from prescribed specifications. Within the nuclear supply chain, CFSIs can diminish the integrity of equipment, systems, structures, components or devices that contribute to nuclear safety and/or nuclear security. The inadvertent introduction or malicious insertion of CFSIs within the nuclear security supply chain could lead to the occurrence of a nuclear security event, due to premature or unexpected part failure or performance.

CFSIs may be inserted for financial gain or based on malicious intent, however, despite the motivation for the insertion, the creation of CFSIs is intentional. CFSIs are a concern from a nuclear security perspective in many forms. Computer components from previously disposed systems that are repackaged and sold as new, computer hardware that has been altered to allow for adversaries to access sensitive information through undisclosed backdoors, and construction hardware that is misrepresented as being a higher grade than it actually is are all examples of CFSIs that can have nuclear security related implications.

This technical meeting, complemented by the mediation and contribution of participants from the related coordinated research project focusing on this topic, will provide the participants with the opportunity to learn, discuss and engage with a variety of nuclear supply chain stakeholders who are actively working to address the issue of CFSI infiltration, or have experienced the impacts of a successful infiltration.

Objectives

The primary objective of this Technical Meeting is to address nuclear security implications of Counterfeit, Fraudulent and Suspect Items (CFSIs). The meeting will focus on building capacity and understanding within Member States regarding this topic. Additional objectives include:

- Characterize how CFSIs can diminish the integrity of equipment, systems, structures, components or devices that contribute to nuclear safety and/or nuclear security and the relevance to current Design Basis Threat assessments;
- Define nuclear security scenarios relevant to CFSI;
- Encourage information sharing related to best practices for preventing and mitigating the existence of CFSIs within the nuclear supply chain.

Target Audience

The target audience for this technical meeting consists of operators, regulators and other stakeholders of the nuclear supply chain and associated security equipment. This would include product manufacturers, relevant to the nuclear supply chain, and end-users of equipment related to nuclear security. Participants shall be capable of identifying areas of research related to nuclear security and capable of making a presentation in English to support discussions and document preparation on the topic.

Working Language(s)

English

Participation and Registration

All persons wishing to participate in the event have to be designated by an IAEA Member State or should be members of organizations that have been invited to attend.

In order to be designated by an IAEA Member State or invited organization, participants are requested to submit their application via the InTouch+ platform (<https://intouchplus.iaea.org>) to the competent national authority (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA or National Atomic Energy Authority) or organization for onward transmission to the IAEA by **10 June 2024**, following the registration procedure in InTouch+:

1. Access the InTouch+ platform (<https://intouchplus.iaea.org>):
 - Persons with an existing NUCLEUS account can sign in to the platform with their username and password;
 - Persons without an existing NUCLEUS account can register [here](#).
2. Once signed in, prospective participants can use the InTouch+ platform to:
 - Complete or update their personal details under ‘Complete Profile’ and upload the relevant supporting documents;
 - Search for the relevant event under the ‘My Eligible Events’ tab;
 - Select the Member State or invited organization they want to represent from the drop-down menu entitled ‘Designating Authority’ (if an invited organization is not listed, please contact InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org);
 - If applicable, indicate whether financial support is requested and complete the relevant information (this is not applicable to participants from invited organizations);
 - Based on the data input, the InTouch+ platform will automatically generate the Participation Form (Form A) and/or the Grant Application Form (Form C);
 - Submit their application.

Once submitted through the InTouch+ platform, the application, together with the auto-generated form(s), will be transmitted automatically to the required authority for approval. If approved, the application, together with the applicable form(s), will automatically be sent to the IAEA through the online platform.

NOTE: The application for financial support should be made, together with the submission of the application, by **10 June 2024**.

For additional information on how to apply for an event, please refer to the [InTouch+ Help](#) page. Any other issues or queries related to InTouch+ can be sent to InTouchPlus.Contact-Point@iaea.org.

Selected participants will be informed in due course on the procedures to be followed with regard to administrative and financial matters.

Participants are hereby informed that the personal data they submit will be processed in line with the [Agency’s Personal Data and Privacy Policy](#) and is collected solely for the purpose(s) of reviewing and assessing the application and to complete logistical arrangements where required. The IAEA may also use the contact details of Applicants to inform them of the IAEA’s scientific and technical publications, or the latest employment opportunities and current open vacancies at the IAEA. These secondary purposes are consistent with the IAEA’s mandate. Further information can be found in the [Data Processing Notice](#) concerning the IAEA InTouch+ platform.

Expenditures and Grants

No registration fee is charged to participants.

The IAEA is generally not in a position to bear the travel and other costs of participants in the event. The IAEA has, however, limited funds at its disposal to help meet the cost of attendance of certain participants. Upon specific request, such assistance may be offered to normally one participant per country, provided that, in the IAEA's view, the participant will make an important contribution to the event.

The application for financial support should be made, together with the submission of the application, by **10 June 2024**.

Venue

The event will be held at the Vienna International Centre (VIC) where the IAEA's Headquarters are located. Participants must make their own travel and accommodation arrangements.

General information on the VIC and other practical details, such as a list of hotels offering a reduced rate for IAEA participants, are listed on the following IAEA web page:

<https://www.iaea.org/events>.

Participants are advised to arrive at Checkpoint 1/Gate 1 of the VIC one hour before the start of the event on the first day in order to allow for timely registration. Participants will need to present an official photo identification document in order to be admitted to the VIC premises.

Visas

Participants who require a visa to enter Austria should submit the necessary application to the nearest diplomatic or consular representative of Austria at least four weeks before they travel to Austria. Since Austria is a Schengen State, persons requiring a visa will have to apply for a Schengen visa. In States where Austria has no diplomatic mission, visas can be obtained from the consular authority of a Schengen Partner State representing Austria in the country in question.

Organization

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Subsequent correspondence on scientific matters should be sent to the Scientific Secretary/Secretaries and correspondence on other matters related to the event to the Administrative Secretary.