

# FAQ SHEET

## THIRD-PARTY VERIFICATION

### FOR CHEMICAL PROCESS SECURITY

#### ***Acronyms and Abbreviations Used***

ACC	-	American Chemistry Council
SVA	-	Security Vulnerability Assessment

#### ***What is third-party verification?***

The ACC Security Code of Management Practices requires confirmation by an independent organization that member companies have implemented the physical site security enhancements to which they have committed.

Verification is required only on a one-time basis for facilities that have the potential for off-site impacts from uncontrolled releases, theft of materials, or product contamination.

#### ***Why are third-parties needed?***

Third-party verification is intended to assure the public that facilities are secure.

#### ***What is meant by physical site security enhancements?***

Physical site security includes measures such as fences, cameras, and gates. Physical security process changes may also be included. Examples of these are badge display, visitor escort provisions, locks/master key control, vehicle control systems, and package searches.

#### ***What about other site security enhancements?***

Verification under the ACC Security Code is confined to physical security measures. Non-physical site security measures such as manufacturing process modifications are not subject to verification. This is because of the complexity of these types of changes, the expertise required to verify them, the difficulty of doing so, and the potential strategic business sensitivity of the information. For similar reasons, non-site security measures such as cyber security do not have to be verified.

### ***How are security enhancements identified?***

Typically, the need for additional security measures is identified as a result of a security vulnerability assessment (SVA).

### ***Who can verify?***

Companies may use any independent third party they believe will be credible in the eyes of their plant community (employees and neighbors) and other facility stakeholders. Verifiers may be selected on a company-wide or plant-by-plant basis.

### ***What factors should be considered in selecting verifiers?***

- Expertise (e.g. security)
- Affiliation (e.g. reputable security consulting firm)
- Experience, education and accreditation
- Reputation (with the plant community)
- Independence
- Ability to maintain confidentiality

### ***When should I get a verifier involved?***

Companies should involve verifiers early in the consideration and implementation of a security program. They can provide input on the security measures to be implemented. This is strongly encouraged by the ACC Security Code.

### ***What will a verifier do?***

They will determine if physical security enhancements from the security vulnerability assessment are in place. They may offer comments on planned enhancements if involved early in the process.

### ***What will a verifier not do?***

They will not independently assess which site security measures or enhancements could or should be implemented.

### ***When does verification have to be completed?***

Verification must be completed no later than three months after the security enhancements are to be in place.

***How is verification confirmed?***

The ACC Security Code does not require verifiers to sign any documents or attest to verification, although companies may require them to do so. The Code does require companies to document the fact of verification, who conducted the verification, when it was conducted, and the general conclusions reached. Verifiers may be asked to complete a verification report but the Code does not require it.

***How can I get more information?***

Contact Primatech at:

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[www.primatech.com](http://www.primatech.com)

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- **PSM Program Development and Implementation**
- **RMP Program Development and Implementation**
- **Release and Spill Assessment**
- **Process Security Management**
- **Threat and Vulnerability Analysis for Deliberate Acts Including Terrorism**
- **Third-party verification for chemical process security**
- **S84 - Safety Instrumented Systems**
- **Layers of Protection Analysis (LOPA)**
- **Operating and Maintenance Procedures Development**
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