



**Homeland  
Security**

# Commercial Facility Risk Self-Assessment Tool

The impact of terrorist attacks and natural hazards on stadiums, hotels, theme parks, and other commercial facilities around the world underscores the need for serious assessments of security and preparedness measures at these facilities in the United States. With commercial facilities hosting hundreds of thousands of people on any given day, facility managers have a responsibility to ensure the safety and security of their staff, presenters, performers and attendees.

## A New Way to Assess Risk

Today, assessing risks and vulnerabilities is faster and easier thanks to a new voluntary online program: the Risk Self-Assessment Tool (RSAT). Developed by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) National Protection and Programs Directorate's Office of Infrastructure Protection in conjunction with private-sector-partners, the RSAT can assist facility managers in identifying, evaluating, and mitigating threats and vulnerabilities from terrorist attacks and natural hazards such as hurricanes, tornadoes, and wildfires. Currently, six RSAT modules exist that cover a large portion of the commercial facility sector, including: convention centers, lodging & hotels, racetracks, performing arts centers, stadiums & arenas and theme parks.



Source: DHS

The RSAT is free and provides valuable insights owners and operators can use to keep their facilities and the public more secure. In addition, the RSAT safeguards protected critical infrastructure information, ensuring any information entered into the RSAT cannot be disclosed by the Federal government, either under the Freedom of Information Act, any similar State or local disclosure laws, civil litigation, or as the basis for any regulatory action.

## How RSAT Works

RSAT combines threat, consequence, and vulnerability estimates with the following information supplied by owners and operators:

- **Facility Characterization:** Size, attendance, capacity and primary uses
- **Threat Rating:** A rating of the probability that a man-made or natural hazard will occur
- **Vulnerability Assessment:** Information on a facility's overall security posture, including emergency planning, training, communication, personnel access and onsite security forces
- **Specific Hazards:** A detailed evaluation of natural and man-made hazards identified by the facility owner or operator
- **Detailed Vulnerabilities:** An in-depth evaluation of protective measures already implemented, based upon additional information provided by owners and operators

## RSAT Reports

The RSAT provides two reports used in identifying and prioritizing those areas where protective measures, training, and procedures are needed most.

**The Self-Assessment Report:** Using the RSAT, an owner or operator can immediately print a Self-Assessment Report. The report provides detailed information on a facility's existing security and protection strengths, as well as the areas of greatest vulnerability for each hazard evaluated. Options are listed for those areas where security and protection might be improved, along with a general explanation of relevant security and protective measures.

**The Benchmark Report:** The RSAT also spotlights how security at a particular facility compares to others of similar size and usage. Facility managers who would like to receive this optional report must submit their RSAT data to the Department of Homeland Security for use in creating the comparison, but the data cannot be disclosed to third parties or used for any regulatory activities.

## How Often to Assess

The Department of Homeland Security encourages all facility managers to fully evaluate their protective measures and determine where their facilities may be vulnerable. In addition, the Department recommends a reassessment whenever there is a situational change, a recent security incident, or a new security threat to evaluate the impact. Even during a steady-state environment, reassessments are recommended at least once a year.

The Department of Homeland Security recognizes facility managers are best positioned to determine risks and to implement the protective technology, procedures, and other measures to safeguard commercial facilities. By using the RSAT in combination with a robust security posture, a facility can improve its resilience and increase the public safety and security of the facility.

## Contact Information

To learn more about the Risk Self-Assessment Tool, please contact [RSAT@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:RSAT@hq.dhs.gov). To register online, go to <https://rsat.anl.gov>.



Source: DHS