

Operations Security Professionals Society (OPS)



Individual Membership Benefits

Access to Recognition and Professional Certification Programs

- The Society has an 18 year legacy of established standards and certification programs for OPSEC professionals to promote recognition and development of seasoned OPSEC practitioners in government.
- In 1991, OPS established the OPSEC Certified Professional (OCP) program to recognize individuals who meet the highest standards of the OPSEC profession. A network of OCP mentors is available to guide OCP candidates through the process of certification. Those who meet the criteria and maintain their certification are authorized to annotate "OCP" after their name.
- In 2003, the Society also implemented the OPSEC Associate Professional (OAP) recognition program to recognize individuals with an intermediate level of OPSEC education and experience. OAPs are encouraged to pursue OCP status through mentoring by currently certified OCPs.

Networking

- One of the most valuable benefits is the potential for networking, idea sharing, and professional opportunities to include job searches with other Society members.

The OPS Public Website

- The public website provides Society and appropriate public information at www.OPSECsociety.org

Members Only Portal (MOP)

- The MOP is a protected site hosted by the ESP Group, L.L.C. used as a communications and collaboration tool accessed via the OPM Website. Once you join OPS, you will receive an invitation by our MOP administrator. On that site you will be able to communicate with other OPS members, network for jobs, trade ideas and techniques, and feel secure that your ideas and views are safe within OPS channels. There is also a Chat Room and a Survey Tool.

The OPSEC Journal

- The Society publishes professional papers in the OPSEC Journal. Copies of this professional publication are available to Society members in electronic form. All papers submitted with a member's OCP application may be included in the OPSEC Journal. Other articles are welcome send to: Certifications@OPSECsociety.org

The OPS News

- The OPS News is the Society's newsletter. It contains information on recent and upcoming events within the Society. This newsletter is sent on a frequent basis via regular email as well as posted on the MOP.

Revised 1 Aug 2008. Previous versions superseded.

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www.OPSECsociety.org

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ABOUT OPSEC

OPSEC is a process used to identify and then deny critical information (specific information about capabilities and/or intentions) to adversaries seeking to exploit such information for their advantage and our disadvantage. The OPSEC process involves systems, threat and vulnerability analyses, risk assessment, and cost-effective countermeasure planning and implementation. Key components are:

- 1) the specific items deemed critical to the mission
- 2) indicators of that information
- 3) countermeasures that protect this information from the adversary, and
- 4) an analytical basis for these decisions, if the process is applied properly.

OPSEC differs from traditional security because it is based on analysis from an adversary's perspective, "What does the adversary need?" While modern OPSEC originates from military operations, we can also apply the discipline to protect critical economic, technological, and business proprietary information from adversaries who seek to exploit such information to their benefit. The process is applicable to government, supporting industry, public sector essential services, and private sector activities. On a personal level, it also supports privacy, asset protection, and safety.

ABOUT THE SOCIETY

In 1990, Charter members established the Operations Security (OPSEC) Professionals Society (OPS) to further the application of OPSEC as a professional discipline and to foster the highest standards of professionalism and competence among members. The Society is a 501c(6) chartered in the State of Maryland. Our Society mission extends beyond just our members, as we attempt to help organizations apply this mission-enhancing discipline.

The OPS Motto

Operations Security Professionals: The Keys to Risk Management in a World of Increasing Risks.

The OPS Vision Statement

To Be The Only Recognized Certifying Body For Operations Security Professionals.

The OPS Mission Statement

The mission of the Operations Security Professionals Society is to advance the interests of the United States and its allies by:

- Promoting, within federal, state and municipal government agencies, academe, and private industry, as vital to national security interests, the development and nurturing of an Operations Security mindset and the practice of risk management based upon Operations Security principles;
- Serving as a means of educating and informing the American people with regard to the role of Operations Security in maintaining a strong national defense.

The Operations Security Professionals Society will accomplish its mission by means of:

- Establishing and maintaining the integrity of The Standards for Certification of Persons as Operations Security Professionals;
- Certifying persons as Operations Security Professionals;
- Expanding the body of knowledge upon which Operations Security practices are based;
- Building and maintaining the organizational, financial, educational, training and other supporting infrastructure elements required to enable the Society to carry out the foregoing mission elements.