#20 - Concept to Clearance: Navigating ICD 705 from Planning to Accreditation

Summary

National security relies on secure facilities. This session offers practical guidance and lessons learned for implementing ICD 705 in SCIF design across OCONUS and EUCOM. Topics include planning considerations, design approaches, documentation protocols, and execution strategies to deliver compliant facilities while maintaining operational effectiveness and meeting Host Nation requirements.

Full Description

The protection of classified information within secured physical facilities remains a cornerstone of national security operations. This examination explores the essential elements and methodologies for planning, designing, and executing accredited secure facilities in compliance with Intelligence Community Directive (ICD) 705 requirements. The analysis draws from extensive field experience and recent case studies, both OCONUS and within the EUCOM Theater, to illuminate critical pathways in secure facility development.

The discussion begins with crucial pre-planning considerations, emphasizing the development of detailed scopes of work, Construction Security Plans, and TEMPEST countermeasures. These foundational elements establish the framework for information handling protocols and security measures throughout the facility's planning, design and construction. The examination then progresses through fundamental project planning principles, including the strategic delineation of security zones, integration of secure data networks, and optimization of building layouts to maintain access control requirements while supporting operational efficiency and interior environmental quality.

Technical documentation processes receive particular attention, with emphasis on proper handling, transfer, and storage protocols for sensitive project information. The analysis leverages project experience to highlight challenges and proven solutions in managing

classified information throughout the design and construction phases. The discussion further outlines strategic approaches to navigating critical project phases, including contract procurement, construction administration, and facility accreditation, with focus on OCONUS and EUCOM Theater requirements such as site security, construction surveillance, cleared workers, material screening, and secure shipping.

Case studies of recently completed secure facilities provide insights into successful implementation strategies and lessons learned, demonstrating effective methods for maintaining ICD 705 compliance while managing project timelines, stakeholder coordination, host nation requirements, and security protocols. The examination concludes with recommendations for establishing and maintaining secure spaces that protect classified operations while supporting mission requirements, serving as a valuable resource for government agencies and federal partners engaged in developing classified environments.

Learning Objectives

- National security relies on secure facilities. This session offers practical guidance and lessons learned for implementing ICD 705 in SCIF design across CONUS and EUCOM. Topics include planning considerations, design approaches, documentation protocols, and execution strategies to deliver compliant facilities while maintaining operational effectiveness and meeting Host Nation requirements.
- Apply security-driven design principles that integrate ICD 705 standards into facility layouts and security zones while effectively engaging key stakeholders.
- Implement proper documentation handling and transfer protocols that maintain security requirements throughout the project lifecycle and understand project documentation requirements and best practices.
- Guide SCIF projects through the critical phases of contract award, construction administration, accreditation, and occupancy while ensuring ICD 705 compliance.

Speakers

Timothy Conley
Senior Vice President at AECOM, Tim leads the U.S. Federal program in Europe, overseeing complex A-E projects for the U.S. Army, Navy, and Air Force for over 25 years. He directs

regional federal strategy and growth and actively contributes to SAME as a Rhein-Main Post board member and frequent panel leader.

Peter Brown, ASID, CID, NCIDQ, LEED AP
Peter is AECOM's Secure Facility Programming Lead with 30+ years of federal market experience. He has delivered over 40 secure projects worldwide, totaling 10 million square feet, including major DoD headquarters. A recognized expert in SCIF design, Peter partners with multiple federal agencies to create secure, efficient spaces. Led SCIF planning and design CONUS and OCONUS, including Poland, Greece, Italy and Spain.

Jennifer Ramirez, RA, NCARB, DBIA, LEED BD+C
Jennifer is a Senior Project Manager with expertise in USACE design and construction execution. She managed $7.6 billion in projects during her USACE tenure and contributed to UFC standards and sustainability policies. At AECOM, she leads architecture teams delivering secure facilities and specialized military projects across CONUS and OCONUS locations.

Cory Bonham, RA
Cory is a Senior Manager and SCIF technical subject matter expert with 20+ years of global experience. He specializes in ICD 705 compliance, TEMPEST mitigation, and secure facility architecture for federal and Intelligence Community clients. Cory leads design efforts, security assessments, and technical production for mission-critical and classified environments worldwide.