

# CFATS Re-Authorization

## Facility Security



## Issue Summary

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This program is integral for specialty chemical manufacturers, providing uniform standards for use, storage, and handling of high-risk chemicals. CFATS also provides a unique opportunity for companies to work collaboratively to increase their security through facility risk assessments, guidance to companies about their security plans and policies, and vetting personnel against the terrorist screening database.



## SOCMA's Goal

SOCMA seeks a clean reauthorization of the CFATS program as soon as possible. Having predictable, long-term facility security is paramount to protecting against threats to national security.

## Business Impact on the Chemical Industry

With the program no longer authorized, companies no longer have access to tools like voluntary site inspections, site security plan assessments, and personnel screening for terrorist ties through the Personnel Surety Program (PSP).

## Current Status

The Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) program, which provides uniform standards for chemical manufacturers to ensure facility safety, expired on July 27 due to inaction by the Senate. The House passed H.R. 4470, which would cleanly reauthorize the program for 2 years, on July 25th by a vote of 409-1, but the Senate failed to advance the bill before the program's expiration. SOCMA is optimistic this is a temporary halt on the CFATS program.