

# CMMC PREPARATION Webinars: Understanding CMMC Timeline & Steps to Compliance

CONNSTEP  
3/9/2023

## Four Webinar Series

3/9 – 6/1

12 noon – 1 pm

**March  
9th**

Understanding CMMC Timeline  
& Steps to Compliance

**April  
6th**

How to Develop & Implement Effective  
CMMC Policies & Procedures

**May  
4th**

How to Leverage Your IT Managed  
Service Provider (MSP) to Achieve  
CMMC Compliance

**June  
1st**

Steps to Take in Preparation for a  
CMMC Audit

## Understanding CMMC Timeline & Steps to Compliance:

1. Requirements CliffsNotes - the Who, What, How, and WHEN
2. CMMC Roll-out Update
3. Steps to Compliance
4. DCMA Assessments Findings
5. Success Factors and Resources

# Presenters:



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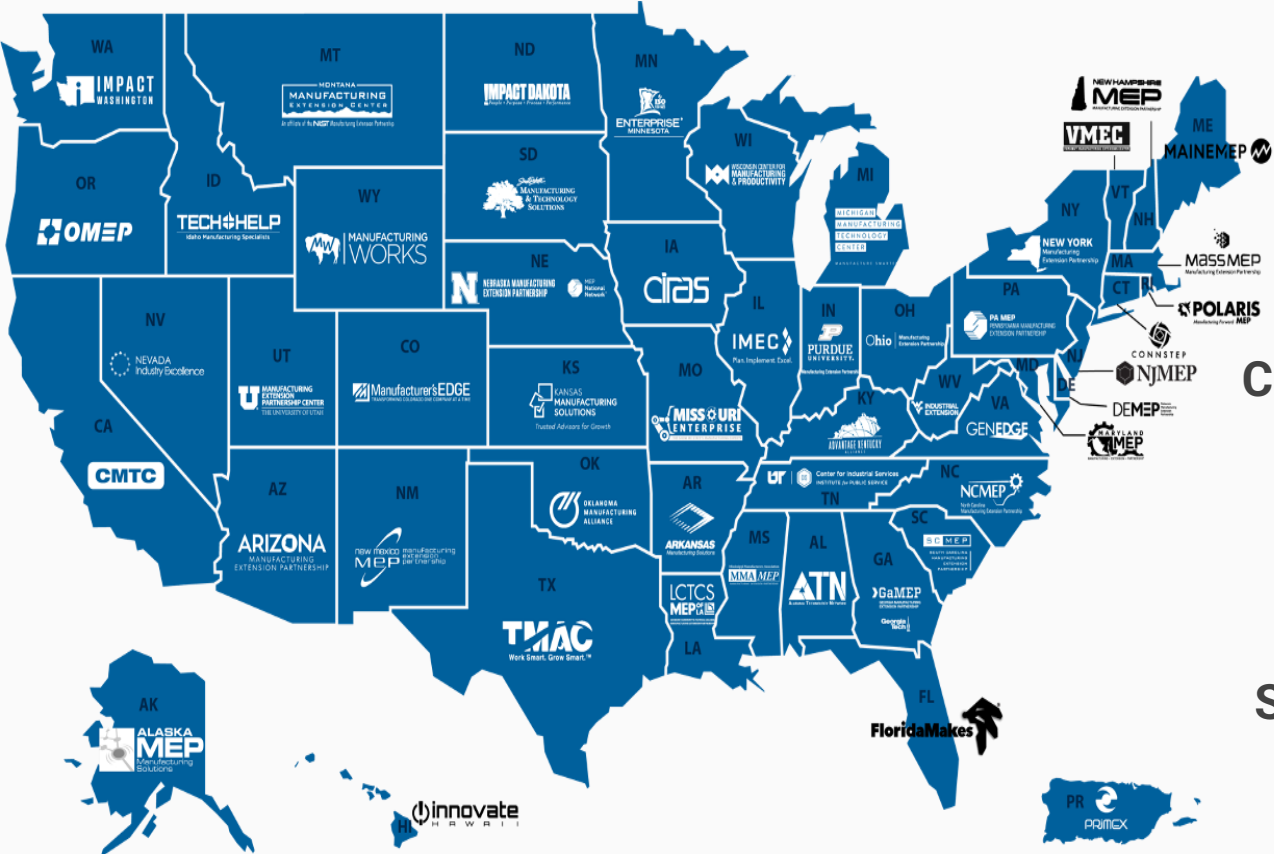
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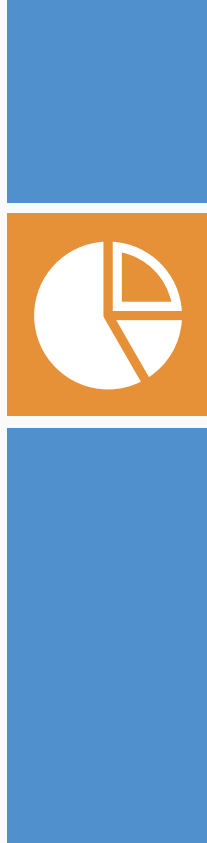
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# CONNSTEP is Connecticut's MEP



CONNSTEP is the Connecticut representative of the **MEP National Network™** facilitated and sponsored by the **National Institute of Standards and Technology**

# Value Delivered to Clients



2021 & 2022 | Independent survey results as reported by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP)

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# Poll



## 2015: DFARS 252.204-7012 Regulation

- **Who: ANYONE who works under a DoD contract**
- **What:**
  - protect CUI residing on a contractor's systems
  - report CUI loss incidents to DoD
  - flow down the clause in subcontracts
- **How: implement NIST SP 800-171 (NIST: non-regulatory body)**
- **When: compliant by Dec 2017 – wide non-compliance**

## Nov 2020: DoD Interim Rule

DFARS 252.204-7019 - **NIST SP 800-171** self-assessment results -> SPRS database

DFARS 252.204-7020 - DoD assessors can conduct NIST SP 800-171 assessment

DFARS 252.204-7021 - Implement CMMC and flow down to subcontractors

## CURRENT DoD Contracts:

NIST SP 800-171 Framework -> 110 practices

- DFARS 252.204-**7012** – protect CUI, report incidents, and flow down requirements
- DFARS 252.204-**7019** - self-assessment scores into SPRS system
- DFARS 252.204-**7020** – DoD assessors can conduct NIST SP 800-171 compliance assessments

## UPCOMING DoD Contracts:

DFARS 252.204-7021 – **CMMC anticipated start date June 2023**

- **CMMC 2.0 model** - three progressively sophisticated levels depending on the **type of information the supplier handles**
  - ✓ Level 1 (Foundational -> 17 practices)
  - ✓ Level 2 (Advanced -> 110 practices) = NIST SP 800-171
  - ✓ Level 3 (Expert -> 110+ practices)
- May require third-party certification OR self-assessment, depending on the **type of information and acquisition priority**

# CMMC 2.0 Roll-out Update

June 2019	CMMC program announced
February 2020	CMMC version 1.0 model released
November 2021	CMMC version 2.0 released in response to 850+ comments received
July 2022	Submitted for the rulemaking process (~9-24 months, going through a rigorous process of being vetted on the government side)
June 2023	Expected publication of the interim final rule
June - July 2023	60-day comment period
May 2023 and beyond	CMMC requirements could begin appearing in solicitations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Phase 1 – self-assessments only (with an affirmation of compliance by a senior company official)</li><li>• Phase 2 – self-assessments and 3rd party certifications (if required)</li></ul>
Late 2023 to early 2024	Publication of final rules.

## CMMC 2.0 Roll-out Update:

- The phased roll-out timeline can still change (take longer) - there will be recognition of previous assessments conducted
- During this time, the DoD encourages the DIB sector to strengthen its cybersecurity compliance posture:
  - performing a comprehensive self-assessment
  - remediate any gaps
  - update score to reflect the current posture
- DoD has announced it will be checking the accuracy of reported scores in SPRS by performing “medium assessments”
- Provision for requirements waivers – based on the government’s rapid need for company products **currently not in the DoD supply chain**

## The Primes may still have their requirements for certification to mitigate their own risk:

- Primes need to manage their cyber risk
- Since there are no CMMC certifications available to help determine risk, they need to validate compliance by other mechanisms (e.g., SPRS score, assessments, surveys, etc.)
- Prime contractors have contractual responsibilities and must prepare their ENTIRE supply base
- They will be using this time to press forward on cyber compliance and determine which supplier will meet the requirements

# What's at Stake?

## Impact of a Security Attack on SMM

- Financial loss & operational downtime
- Reputation and image damage
- Loss of proprietary data and intellectual property
- Contractual and legal obligations
- Adopting Cybersecurity Framework protects CT organizations against punitive damage assessment for cybersecurity negligence

# Actions to Take

1. Identify the data your company handles
2. Recognize customer-specific requirements
3. Flow down the DFARS requirements if you send CUI to your supply base
4. Submit your correct score to the SPRS



## What to Expect while Embarking on Cybersecurity Journey?

- 6 to 18-month process
- Change of business processes, physical and operational protection controls, new procedures, documentation, companywide training programs
- Upgrading IT technologies and support
- Ongoing security risks assessment and management
- Develop a cadence for ongoing compliance maintenance
- Implementing a culture of change management, employee engagement, and collaboration

- Cybersecurity Gap Analysis
- Plan of Action and Milestones (POAM)
- System Security Plan
- *Enter score in SPRS Database*
- **Policies and Procedures**
- **Incident Response Plan**
- **Risk Management and Governance**

**CMMC: evidence-based practices built into the Business Structure that demonstrates security maturity**

## Policies and Procedures:

- Develop
- Document
- Implement
- Train
- Monitor
- Manage Risk
- Maintain

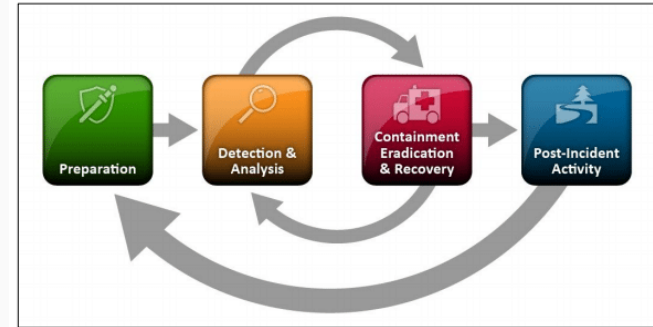
Human Errors  
lead to  
over 80% of all  
Security Incidents

*Protection method?*

Acceptable Use  
Policies  
& Procedures

## How to Build Security Incident Response Capabilities?

- Incident Response Plan
- Inter-departmental response team
- Communication plan
- PR strategy
- Team training exercises
- Lessons learned
- Relationships with external resources
- Cyber insurance
- Reporting requirements, etc.



# Actions to Take

1. Develop a robust System Security Plan reflecting the current state
2. Identify POAM remediation plans with start/end dates, milestones, and action owners
3. Create an Incident Response Plan and internal team with roles and responsibilities

## DCMA Scoring Methodology

- start at 110 points
- subtract 1, 3, or 5 points for each unimplemented requirement
- score range: -203 to 110

**Submit the score to SPRS** with an affirmation of compliance by a senior company official

**No SSP:** Noncompliance with DFARS 252.204-7012

Not all requirements have equal weight

*NIST SP 800-171 DoD Assessment Scoring*

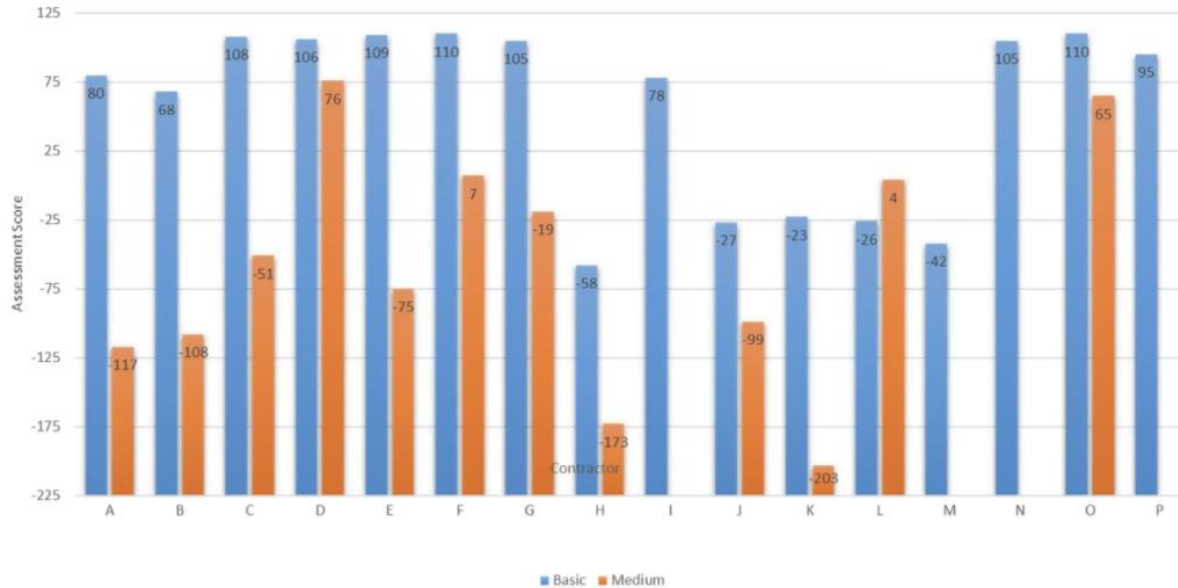
Security Requirement		Value
3.1.1*	Limit system access to authorized users, processes acting on behalf of authorized users, and devices (including other systems).	5
3.1.2*	Limit system access to the types of transactions and functions that authorized users are permitted to execute.	5
3.1.3	Control the flow of CUI in accordance with approved authorizations.	1
3.1.4	Separate the duties of individuals to reduce the risk of malevolent activity without collusion.	1
3.1.5	Employ the principle of least privilege, including for specific security functions and privileged accounts.	3

Distribution Statement A: Approved for public release. Distribution is unlimited.



## Medium Assessment Study Scores

Medium Assessment Comparison



\*Blank entries= no data

Distribution Statement A: Approved for public release. Distribution is unlimited.

- DIBCAC has begun conducting Medium Confidence assessments on SMMs
- Reported SPRS scores widely overinflated
- Prosecuting intentional misrepresentations through their Civil Cyber Fraud Initiative within the DoJ

## **Key reasons for scores overinflation:**

1. **Not understanding requirements (depth and breadth of controls)**
2. **Failing to provide documentation and evidence**



<b>3.1.3</b>	<b>SECURITY REQUIREMENT</b> Control the flow of CUI in accordance with approved authorizations.
	<b>ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVE</b> <i>Determine if:</i>
<b>3.1.3[a]</b>	<i>information flow control policies are defined.</i>
<b>3.1.3[b]</b>	<i>methods and enforcement mechanisms for controlling the flow of CUI are defined.</i>
<b>3.1.3[c]</b>	<i>designated sources and destinations (e.g., networks, individuals, and devices) for CUI within the system and between interconnected systems are identified.</i>
<b>3.1.3[d]</b>	<i>authorizations for controlling the flow of CUI are defined.</i>
<b>3.1.3[e]</b>	<i>approved authorizations for controlling the flow of CUI are enforced.</i>

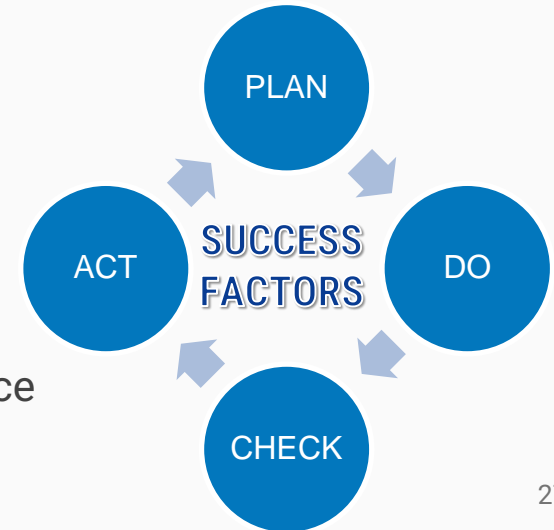
\*NIST SP 800-171A is the assessors' guide to the NIST SP 800-171 requirements

# Actions to Take

1. Download NIST SP 800-171A (Assessors Guide)  
<https://csrc.nist.gov/publications/detail/sp/800-171a/final>
2. Download the CMMC Assessment Guide  
<https://dodcio.defense.gov/CMMC/Documentation/>
3. Become familiar with the objectives of each control  
(the depth and breadth of controls)

## What Factors make Cybersecurity Programs Successful?

- Executive support and strategy
- Involved leadership overseeing security governance
- Dedicated team with business, operations, and procedural background
- Strong project manager
- Cost-effective, progressive business solutions
- Partnership with “the right” MSP and MSSP



Download: A Guide to Help SMMs Achieve Cybersecurity Compliance with the Right IT MSP Partner

<https://bit.ly/msp-guide>

President Biden is urging the industry to participate in the “Shields Up” campaign against Russian cyber aggression.

**SHIELDS  UP**



CISA recommends all organizations—regardless of size—adopt a heightened posture when it comes to cybersecurity and protecting their most critical assets.

<https://www.cisa.gov/shields-up>

# State Funding Available

State funding is available for  
**Connecticut Manufacturing SIRI and CYBER Assistance Program (SAC)**  
for manufacturing companies or allied service providers located in Connecticut.



<https://ctsac.ccat.us/>

# Questions?

CMMC – Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification

CUI - Controlled Unclassified Information

DFARS - Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement

DIB – Defense Industrial Base

DIBCAC – Defense Industrial Base Cybersecurity Assessment Center

DCMA – Defense Contract Management Agency

IRP – Incident Response Plan

IT – Information Technology

MEP - Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership

MSP – Managed Service Provider

MSSP – Managed Security Service Provider

NIST – National Institute of Standards and Technology

NIST SP 800-171 – NIST Special Publication 800-171, Protecting Controlled Unclassified Information in Nonfederal Systems and Organizations

POAM – Plan of Action and Milestones

SPRS – Supplier Performance Risk System

SSP – System Security Plan

# Questions and Answers

Q: We are a manufacturer of aerospace parts and migrating to Microsoft 365. Microsoft is stating we need a higher level (GCC High) of security than what our IT managed service provider thinks we need. What level is required?

A: To correctly protect CUI on Microsoft 365 that CUI needs to reside on a GCC High instance. Good data segregation practices can help reduce the number of instance needed.

Q: Who determines our priority and how do we know what priority our company has?

A: The priority will be determined by the DoD Program Officer for the Prime Contractor. As the Prime flows the information to sub-tiers, they could impose their own requirements.

Q: Are the DoD medium confidence assessments performed by DCMA?

Yes, by Defense Industrial Base Cybersecurity Assessment Center, which is part of DCMA.

Q: Has DCMA performed any assessments to date in Connecticut?

While we do not know the specific companies or geographics areas covered by DCMA audits, it is reasonable to believe Connecticut companies are included.

Q: Is funding available in Massachusetts that you know of?

We are aware that funding has been available in Massachusetts. You can contact MassMEP, [massmep.org](http://massmep.org), to get current information on programs in Massachusetts.



# Questions and Answers

Q: Should we capture the hours spent on the effort to become compliant?

A: We are not aware of any requirement to document the time that a company has spent becoming compliant. The CMMC will look for evidence that the controls for each requirement are being met.

Q: Does Connecticut offer any funding?

A: Yes, the Manufacturing Innovation Fund has several programs that could assist Connecticut companies in cybersecurity implementation. More information can be found at: <https://www.ccat.us/programs/>

Q: Some of the requirements are not explicit enough. For example, do we need something like ThreatLocker for blacklisting and whitelisting software or is it acceptable to just not be an admin on any workstation?

A: Each company should take a risk management approach to implement solutions that fit their business needs. CONNSTEP can provide advice on specific requirements.

Q: Will you be talking about how to identify and/or Mark CUI? Are there different handling requirements for CUI/CDI

A: We will add this to the agenda for the second session.

Q: Does CONNSTEP provide a Service to participate with a company for a DCMA audit?

A: CONNSTEP has not been as to participate with a company during a DCMA audit. We do offer a medium confidence gap assessment to help prepare for a DCMA audit.