



BUILDING A STRONG SECURITY POSTURE FROM THE BASE UP

TSA's **Baseline Assessment for Security Enhancement (BASE)** is a no-cost, voluntary, risk-based program that evaluates the security posture of **200+ surface transportation systems** annually. BASE aides Mass Transit and Highway Motor Carrier systems in elevating their security posture by implementing and sustaining baseline security measures applicable to their operating environments and specific system characteristics.

TSA Transportation Security Inspectors assess organizations on Security Action Items (SAIs) that address industry fundamentals. BASE includes SAIs relating to topics such training/awareness programs and cyber/physical protections that are designed to measure the breadth of organizational security plans. Following the BASE, TSA inspectors provide organizations with the results of the assessment and actionable recommendations to improve their security posture

Modal Assessments

TSA has five assessments based on mode of transportation:



Mass Transit

- Large System
- Small System



Highway Motor Carrier

- Motor Coach
- Trucking
- School Bus



Industry Focus

1. Developed the BASE in partnership with:

- An Industry Working Group
- The Department of Transportation

2. Designed by Industry for Industry:

- SAI questions incorporate industry stakeholder feedback and best practices from MT and HMC organizations of all sizes.

Timeline

SCHEDULE

PREPARE

ASSESS

FOLLOW-UP



1. TSA Inspectors schedule the BASE with the organization's security-related personnel



2. TSA inspectors provide the organization with a BASE Resource Kit, which includes the assessment's focus areas, industry smart practices, and additional resources to aid in preparing for the assessment



3. TSA inspectors interview the organization's security personnel to assess and evaluate their security plans



4. TSA inspectors debrief the stakeholder and provide an Executive Summary with findings and recommendations

Benefits

Tailored Assessments



Assessments tailored to the mode and size of the organization, providing separate assessments for MT and HMC.

Targeted Improvements



Targeted reassessments focus on specific security areas, providing actionable options for consideration to strengthen an organization's lowest scoring items.

Grant Funding



Organizations that conduct a BASE may qualify to receive grant funding (e.g., FEMA Preparedness (Non-Disaster) Grants) to address high-risk security areas.

Additional Programs & Guidance



By partnering with TSA, organizations receive added guidance & no-cost programs to strengthen their security, including exercises, trainings, and further assessments.