



UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY (U//FOUO)
ATTENTION—SURFACE TRANSPORTATION STAKEHOLDERS

(U) The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) is providing this Security Awareness Message to our industry partners in light of the upcoming anniversary of the March 11, 2004 Madrid transit bombings. This message is not in response to a specific threat to the Homeland, but is intended to encourage a heightened sense of security awareness in the surface modes of transportation on March 11. The Department of Homeland Security's National Terrorism Advisory System (NTAS) Bulletin issued on December 16, 2015 remains in effect dhs.gov/ntas/advisory/ntas_15_1216_0001.

(U) TSA recommends our industry partners continue to maintain security training programs and pre-operational briefings designed to elevate readiness within their respective organizations. Employees should be aware of indicators of suspicious activity and provide timely reports of security incidents using the procedures outlined in their organization's security plan.

(U) Transportation systems are considered to be potential targets because they are heavily used, publicly accessible, and an attack could have significant adverse consequences. There continue to be reports of suspicious activity and trespassing, including persons taking pictures in and around transportation infrastructure. While many photographers are likely hobbyists, photography can also be an indicator of pre-operational surveillance in preparation for a terrorist attack. The theft of equipment from unattended company and private vehicles continues to be a concern. Employees leaving company equipment in vehicles should be encouraged to store these items in the trunk or a similar locked compartment when the vehicle is unoccupied. Lost or stolen equipment such as radios, proximity cards, keys, uniforms, and vehicles can be used by terrorists to gain access into restricted areas or to impersonate employees.

(U) TSA's Office of Intelligence and Analysis identifies the primary threats to the U.S. transportation sector include, but are not limited to, groups or individuals aligned with or adopting the principles commonly held by violent Sunni extremist groups, including Homegrown Violent Extremists and Lone Offenders.

(U//FOUO) For mass transit and passenger rail operators, Operation RAILSAFE is scheduled for March 11, 2016. Law enforcement agencies are encouraged to increase security at railroad stations and rights-of-way. Additional information can be found at police.amtrak.com/operation-railsafe. If eligible under program guidance, transit and passenger rail systems that have received funding through the Transit Security Grant Program may reprogram funds to cover costs associated with implementing the actions recommended in this message, including overtime expenses.

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