CYBERSECURITY AND THE CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

American® Chemistry Council

Cutting-edge technology and innovation are two mainstays for the Business of Chemistry. The chemical sector uses information technology to help manage the complex process that goes into developing, manufacturing, and delivering its products.

Our industry also generates valuable intellectual property related to new chemistries and processes. In fact, chemical companies invested $91 billion in research and development in 2016 alone.

Protecting the technology that helps run facilities, as well as the valuable information regarding chemical formulas and customer databases, from a potential cyberattack are critical for enhancing security for our industry.

Taking Action to Address Cyber Threats

ACC and its members have taken numerous aggressive steps to enhance cybersecurity:

INDUSTRY PROGRAMS & INITIATIVES

- Invested $15 billion under the Responsible Care® Security Code that requires members to enhance both physical security and cybersecurity
- Created ChemITC to serve as a forum for IT professionals in the chemical sector to share information & best practices

FEDERAL PARTNERSHIPS & REGULATIONS

- Worked with the National Institute of Standards and Technology to develop and implement the cybersecurity framework
- Support implementation of the security regulatory program for our industry, the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards, which includes cybersecurity requirements

Policy Priorities

Encourage the sharing of timely cyber threat information by providing protections related to lawsuits, public disclosure, and antitrust concerns, as well as safeguard privacy and civil liberties

Aggressively prosecute cybercrimes and hold those accountable for perpetrating acts intended to cause harm to critical infrastructure operating systems, for stealing intellectual property and trade secrets, or for obtaining personal information for financial gain

Recognize chemical sector efforts to enhance cybersecurity through existing voluntary standards, federal regulations, industry programs, and/or current information sharing frameworks