



Composite Adversary Team Program



Office of Independent Oversight and Performance Assurance
U.S. Department of Energy



Introduction

The Office of Safeguards and Security Evaluations (OA-10), part of the Secretary of Energy's Office of Independent Oversight and Performance Assurance (OA), provides national-level oversight of safeguards and security programs throughout the Department of Energy and the National Nuclear Security Administration. OA-10 established and operates the Composite Adversary Team Program to support the rigorous performance testing activities that are an integral and important aspect of its oversight efforts. This brochure provides basic information about the Composite Adversary Team Program and its place in the independent oversight process.

About the CAT Program

The Composite Adversary Team – commonly known as the “CAT,” and whose members are referred to as “CATs” – is an elite group of specially-trained Security Police Officers and Federal Agents that have been hand-picked from throughout the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). OA-10's CAT Program Manager and CAT Program Coordinator ensure that CAT members are selected, trained, equipped, and ready for employment in support of OA-10's performance testing program.

The CAT Program is a cooperative effort involving OA-10 and various protective forces and DOE field elements across the Department. OA-10 manages the program, utilizes the CAT, provides necessary team and individual weapons and equipment, and pays for all members' travel expenses related to CAT assignments. However, the program depends upon the cooperation and support of protective forces and DOE field elements which allow the individual CATs to participate by providing the time off from their regular duties needed to complete CAT assignments and by continuing their salaries while they participate in CAT activities.

CAT Mission

The CAT's primary mission is to serve as an adversary force during performance tests of protective forces and physical security systems conducted by OA-10 during independent oversight inspections of safeguards and security programs at DOE facilities. Common mission requirements include:

- ◆ Acting as the adversaries in major force-on-force performance tests of DOE protective forces. This mission requirement includes devising, planning, and executing tactical assaults against significant targets to achieve test objectives established by OA-10.
- ◆ Role playing in limited scope performance tests to assess elements of a site's protection system. These activities vary in size and complexity, and may include executing scenarios of many different types whose structures range from closely-scripted to free-play.
- ◆ Testing the effectiveness of detection and assessment systems and delay barriers by employing basic and advanced techniques in deliberate attempts to penetrate or otherwise defeat them.



It is important to note that while the CAT's mission is to support the performance testing portion of OA-10 inspections, the CATs themselves are not inspectors and are never asked or allowed to evaluate the performance of the site being inspected.

Who Are the CATs?

The CAT is made up of protective personnel from across the DOE – Security Police Officers from DOE sites and Federal Agents from the Office of Secure Transportation.

They are all volunteers for the program and are drawn from among their home organizations' most highly trained, qualified, and motivated personnel. Many are members of their sites' Special Response Teams. The CAT typically represents over a dozen DOE sites and organizations.



CAT Training

While CAT members joining the program are among the best trained and qualified that their home sites have to offer, the specific demands of the CAT mission require additional advanced training to fully prepare them to perform their role of credibly simulating a terrorist or other adversary group. To that end, OA-10 assembles the CAT annually (twice a year when possible) for a week of intensive training under instructors who are world-class experts in tactics, weapons, and equipment. Training locations are chosen to allow extensive free-play activities in environments representative of DOE sites. For example, training has been conducted at the Nevada Test Site's Area 27 and Device Assembly Facility, and at specialized training ranges at Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, including the Military Operations on Urban Terrain facility (a state-of-the-art "combat city" used by Marines and special operations personnel to train in urban warfare). Specialized training provided to the CAT by OA-10 includes:



- ◆ Offensive (attack) planning considerations and techniques
- ◆ Teamwork
- ◆ Rapid, violent, individual and small-unit movement, maneuver, and attack techniques (shock techniques)
- ◆ Use of smoke, simulated chemical agents, and simulated explosives
- ◆ Use of specialized equipment, weapons, and marksmanship techniques
- ◆ Techniques to test/defeat detection and assessment sensors and barriers.

CAT Selection Process

Each CAT member serves for a two-year period on average. OA-10 follows a formal selection process for identifying new CAT members. Basic requirements and selection steps include:

- ◆ Prospective CATs must be volunteers for the program.
- ◆ CATs must be currently certified DOE Security Police Officers or Federal Agents; proficient in the tactical, marksmanship, and other duty skills required by their site; and in excellent physical condition, with no medical limitations. While advanced training and experience such as membership on a Special Response Team is welcome, it is not required in all cases. Both male and female applicants are welcome.
- ◆ Candidates must be recommended by their (protective force/safeguards and security) management. Such recommendation implies that management will make the individual reasonably available to participate in CAT assignments, site protection priorities permitting. Typically, OA-10 requests three recommendations for each position to be filled.
- ◆ The responsible DOE field element (typically safeguards and security organization director) must concur in the recommendation of a prospective CAT member. Such concurrence also implies concurrence in the willingness to make the individual reasonably available for CAT assignments.
- ◆ Prospective CATs must be accepted into the program by the OA-10 CAT Program Manager. The Program Manager and other designated individuals typically interview each candidate, review the experience and skills performance record of each one, and discuss each candidate with protective force supervisors and others who are familiar with his/her abilities.



Once accepted into the program, a CAT member is expected to participate in and successfully complete required training, demonstrate the appropriate levels of tactical skills, teamwork, and initiative, and be reasonably available to accept CAT assignments when called upon.

Program Benefits

The CAT Program is beneficial to OA-10, to the individual CAT members, to the sites and organizations that participate in the program, and to the American public:

- ◆ OA-10's oversight program benefits from the availability of this highly and specially trained and skilled group of individuals to provide a credible adversary force for performance tests. This enables OA-10 to ensure that they conduct the most rigorous tests possible under the conditions existing at each inspection site.
- ◆ The individual CAT members benefit personally and professionally from the rigorous, advanced, specialized, offense-oriented training provided by OA-10's experienced expert instructors. They similarly benefit from the interchange of ideas and techniques between members from various sites, and from the experience gained in planning and executing attacks against various protective forces.
- ◆ The sites and organizations participating in the CAT Program benefit from the knowledge and experience their CAT members gain and bring back to their sites. These include: information about current OA-10 inspection techniques and areas of emphasis; advanced tactical training methods, skills, and techniques; and practical sensor testing techniques – all of which can be used to improve the performance of the site's protective force and protection system.
- ◆ The U.S. Government and the American public benefit from the increased security that results from rigorous performance testing using the CAT. It inspires confidence to know that the forces protecting critical U.S. assets have practical experience in countering a highly trained and capable adversary team—the CAT.

For more information regarding the OA-10 Composite Adversary Team Program, please contact the Program Manager by calling the Office of Safeguards and Security Evaluations at (301) 903-5895.