COURIER STATION DESIGN

1. Purpose

This publication establishes minimum standards governing design of facilities designated as Defense Courier Stations, hereafter referred to as courier stations.

2. Scope

The standards established in this publication are applicable both within the Continental United States and outside the Continental United States. Existing courier stations need not be modified to conform to construction standards stated herein, however, the criteria for intrusion detection systems are applicable for all proposed and existing courier stations.

3. References

Appendix A contains a list of references used in this manual.

4. Descriptions and definitions

a. Descriptions of the Defense Courier Service (DCS) mission, administration, and operation, are contained in DOD 5200.33R.

b. DCS personnel must meet particular standards of physical fitness, therefore, handicapped accessibility standards do not apply to courier station design.

c. Courier stations receive classified material, then consolidate and ship material to other courier stations for distribution to a final destination. Courier station operation centers around the secure storage area where all material is palletized or pouch electroly and temporarily stored until shipment. The secure storage area is a Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility (SCIF) which must be designed and constructed according to DIAM 50-3.

d. Definitions of terms in DIAM 50-3 are applicable to all types of sensitive compartmented information facilities. The following definitions, which apply to courier stations only, are provided to aid in the interpretation of DIAM 50-3 as it pertains to the design and construction of courier stations.

   (1) Access Control System, Unattended - An electronic, electromechanical, or mechanical system designed to identify and/or admit personnel with properly authorized access to the secure area. Identification may be based on any number of methods such as the sequencing of a combination, special key, magnetic card, fingerprints, signature, voice, etc. These systems are for personnel access control only and are not to be used for the protection of classified materials.

   (2) SCIF Acoustic Security - Those security measures designed and used to deny aural access to classified information do not apply to courier station facilities.

   (3) SCIF Authorized Personnel - Any person who is fully cleared and indoctrinated for sensitive compartmented information (SCI) and has been granted access to the CS SCIF.

   (4) Cognizant Security Authority (CSA) - Government agency responsible for the accreditation and general security of a SCIF. This includes Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) and Defense Courier Service Inspector General (DCS/IG).

   (5) Continuous Operations - This condition exists when a facility is manned 24 hours every day by not fewer than two appropriately indoctrinated personnel, referred to as Two Person Control (TPC), who have the continuous capability of detecting unauthorized entry into the SCIF. Positive identification and access control must be maintained at all entrance points not fully secured.

   (6) Continuous Personnel Access Control - An access control system where access to a facility is continuously controlled by a cleared individual, as determined by the CSA.
(7) Intrusion Detection System - A security alarm system consisting of an alarm display and monitoring system, data communication system, and intrusion detection sensors, used to detect and annunciate intrusion into the area of coverage within a facility.

(8) Motion Sensor - An intrusion detection sensor that detects motion within a protected area.

(9) Penetration Sensor - An intrusion detection sensor that detects attempted penetration into a protected area.

(10) Volumetric Sensor - An intrusion detection sensor that detects movement or human presence in a protected area delineated in three dimensions, height, width, and breadth.

(11) SCIF Nondiscussion Area - A clearly defined area within a SCIF where classified discussions are not authorized. All such areas will be clearly marked. This includes the total SCIF area in a courier station.

(12) Senior Official Of The Intelligence Community (SOIC) - Those senior principals and observers on the National Foreign Intelligence Board who head intelligence organizations or intelligence-producing agencies within the Intelligence Community.

(13) Surreptitious Entry - The unauthorized entry into a SCIF or security container in a manner in which evidence of such entry is not readily discernible.

(14) DCS SCIF - A SCIF is an accredited area, room, or group of rooms, where SCI may be stored. SCIFs will have personnel access control to preclude entry by unauthorized personnel. Non-SCI indoctrinated personnel entering a SCIF must be continuously escorted by an indoctrinated employee who is familiar with the security procedures of that SCIF. The physical security protection for a SCIF is intended to prevent and detect technical, and physical access by unauthorized persons. The DCS SCIF, described as a vault in DIAM 50-3, Chapter 5, includes the secure storage room, TPC cage and dry storage area.

(15) Visual Security - Those security measures designed and used to deny unauthorized visual access to classified materials and activity do not apply to DCS facilities.

(16) Administrative Area - Non-SCI area with controlled access and meeting requirements for discussion, processing and closed storage of material classified to the secret level. This area will include offices, bathrooms, showers, and storage areas as required by mission.

(17) Roll-up Door - DCS SCIF loading ramp access to be a roll-up door of at least 16 gage sheet metal, or equivalent style and strength. The frame and door must form a close fit with no gap. The door must be lockable from the inside of each bottom corner. The locking pin must be cast in the floor when possible. Door will have a motor driven roll up mechanism and will be openable from the inside during loss of power.

(18) Dry Storage Area - Secure storage for operational items and mobility gear will be sized according to mission requirements.

5. Area requirements

The following guidance is provided for establishing area requirements for courier stations

Table 1 provides net floor area allowances in square feet for essential functional spaces in small, medium, large, and hub courier station.

b. The customer service area will be no larger than the area listed in Table 1. Customer service will have an outside security entrance located convenient to the dock area, a security cage and a service counter. Provide personnel access to the security cage from the secure storage area. In small courier stations, the customer service area may be in the administration area when advantageous to the station mission and number of assigned personnel.

c. The secure storage size will be determined according to the station mission and customer requirements. The length, width, and height of secure storage areas should provide maneuvering clearances for forklift uses, storage for pallets boxes, and airline containers.
individual basis as required by the vehicle types serving the courier station.

c. Administrative areas will be located so that a line of sight is established between the administrative area and the SCIF door. The line of sight should permit personnel in the administrative area to view all persons entering or leaving the SCIF. Vestibules are considered part of the administrative area and vestibules will contain a pass window for checking credentials of personnel entering the courier station.

7. Technical criteria

a. General. The physical plant should be efficient to operate, maintain, and manage. Construction standards will conform to the data given herein and those standards and specific criteria issued by the cognizant military department. The DCS engineering staff will provide technical guidance on DIAM 50-3 as it applies to SCI secure storage area on a project by project basis; these requirements may vary according to facility size, mission, and geographic location.

b. Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning Design.

(1) Authorization. Air-conditioning and in-side/outside design temperatures shall be in accordance with those standards and specific criteria issued by the cognizant military department.

(2) Special requirement. The air conditioning and ventilation system will be designed to operate on 100 percent outside air when air conditioning system refrigeration equipment fails. Provide an economizer cycle to permit cooling of the building where economically feasible.

c. Electrical Design. The electrical distribution, lighting, and telephone systems design shall conform to the data given herein and those standards and specific criteria issued by the cognizant military department. The minimum requirements of NFPA No.70 and ANSI C2 must be met.


8. Design and construction

Design and construction will be performed under strict supervision by US personnel with proper security clearance.

9. Intrusion detection systems

Refer to DIAM 50-3 for design guidance on SCIF intrusion detection system requirements. The DCS/IG and engineering staff will provide technical assistance on the application of DIAM 50-3 requirements to particular station intrusion detection system on a project by project basis.
Figure 1. Courier Station Functional Diagram.
Figure 2. Small Courier Station Suggested Floor Plan.

Figure 3. Medium Courier Station Suggested Floor Plan.
Figure 4. Large Courier Station Suggested Floor Plan.

Figure 5. Hub Courier Station Suggested Floor Plan.