

Congress Must Act Now to Protect Chemical Facilities from Drone Threats



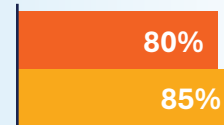
Drones are a valuable tool that can perform important tasks to support chemical manufacturing and help keep workers safe. They can conduct equipment inspections and security surveillance and provide emergency response. However, like any other tool, the misuse of drones can pose significant and unique risks to critical infrastructure such as chemical facilities.

Rising Security Threats

According to a recent survey of chemical companies more than **80%** of companies think drones pose a threat to their facilities. **85%** of companies have detected unknown drones near their facilities over the past year. A majority of companies said the drone threats have risen over the past five years, and they expect the threat will continue to rise in the next five years.

TOP 5 THREATS UNAUTHORIZED DRONE USE POSE TO CHEMICAL FACILITIES

- Hostile Surveillance
- Industrial Espionage (stealing sensitive technology/intellectual property)
- Disruption to Operations
- Worker Safety
- Damage to Facility



- CHEMICAL COMPANIES THAT THINK DRONES POSE A THREAT TO THEIR FACILITIES
- CHEMICAL COMPANIES THAT HAVE DETECTED DRONES NEAR THEIR FACILITIES OVER THE PAST YEAR

"Drones can and are being weaponized. In the hands of a criminal offender,... or terrorist the severity of consequence could be catastrophic. Even a non-malicious recreational drone that loses signal or battery and experiences a fly away or loss of control could damage critical equipment that could result in catastrophic event."

— Chemical Facility Operator

Congress Must Act

Congress recognized the serious security risk posed by drones when it passed legislation charging the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to create "flight-restricted zones" around critical infrastructure, including chemical facilities, in 2016. Unfortunately, the FAA has repeatedly failed to meet statutory deadlines.

To counter the rising drone threat and protect the nation, Congress must:

- Direct the FAA to complete its rulemaking to protect critical infrastructure from unknown drones without further delay.
- Pass legislation that would provide facility operators with the ability to detect drones trespassing around their sites and provide facilities along with local and state law enforcement with the authority to mitigate unauthorized drone use around critical infrastructure.

"The problem we face is the lack of measures that industry or law enforcement can take to prevent drones from flying in or around our facilities. Until it becomes possible for industries to register for a no-fly zone and grant local law enforcement the power to enforce these regulations, our means to protect ourselves from this threat are severely limited."

— Chemical Facility Operator