



## Virtual Small Business Training Week 2021 August 17 - 19

### Session Q&As

Day 1: Tuesday, August 17 @ 3:00pm – 4:00pm  
Session: Cybersecurity Resources

Q	<b>How do firms find out about your services? For instance, can SBA field staff have your office do some webinars?</b>
A	To learn more about our services, please visit and register at <a href="https://projectspectrum.io">projectspectrum.io</a> and if there is interest in having Project Spectrum briefed at an event, please all such request to <a href="mailto:outreach@projectspectrum.io">outreach@projectspectrum.io</a> and please include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Name, date and proposed time slot for Project Spectrum’s presentation</li><li>• A copy of the agenda, even if in draft form</li><li>• Event Medium (i.e. Virtual or In-Person)</li><li>• If virtual, please indicate the name of the proposed platform and whether video can be played as part presentation, as well as any other pertinent platform details.</li><li>• Audience Discernment (i.e. Type and Projected # of Attendees etc.)</li></ul>
Q	<b>Once a login account is created with Project Spectrum, and a business entity uploads their company information regarding their cybersecurity assessments -- how secure is Project Spectrum website, once a business entity shares their assessment info?</b>
A	At Project Spectrum, we understand the importance of securing data particularly given the pervasive climate of cyber-attacks, that we find ourselves attempting to thwart. As such, careful attention has been put in place to ensure that any information transmitted via ProjectSpectrum.io is secure both from a data “at rest” and “in transit” perspective.
Q	<b>Will you clearly differentiate the support you provide to "general" small businesses versus those performing under a MP Agreement?</b>
A	The main distinctions between the support provided for “general” registrants as compared that of MPP Pilot Registrant companies is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• General registrants have access to Cybersecurity resources listed on Project Spectrum.io such as self-assessments, blogs, white papers, community forum, news, and articles etc.</li><li>• MPP Pilot Registrant Companies can take advantage of all the resources mentioned above on the <a href="https://projectspectrum.io">projectspectrum.io</a> site, but with the added benefit of having additional features</li></ul>

	included by way of The Office of Small Business Programs incorporation of the Pilot participant company receiving a customized training compliance plan, after completing their respective self-assessment(s). Additionally, in the ladder phases of the Pilot Program, they get to work with a Cyber Advisor who will assist them in the build out of a System Security Plan and engage in an individualized fashion regarding network mapping, vulnerability assessments, and they will learn of mitigation strategies for threats posed by their current cybersecurity environment.
<b>Q</b>	<b>Will this be mandatory in all MPP agreements going forward?</b>
<b>A</b>	If the question is whether utilizing Project Spectrum will be a requirement for all MPP agreements, The DoD Office of Small Business Programs should be consulted as they are the sponsors of Project Spectrum and could best speak to future requirements.
<b>Q</b>	<b>Is the use of project spectrum going to be mandatory for MPP agreements?</b>
<b>A</b>	If the question is whether utilizing Project Spectrum will be a requirement for all MPP agreements, The DoD Office of Small Business Programs should be consulted as they are the sponsors of Project Spectrum and could best speak to future requirements.
<b>Q</b>	<b>How secure is Project Spectrum website once a business entity creates a login and uses the assessment tools?</b>
<b>A</b>	At Project Spectrum, we understand the importance of securing data particularly given the pervasive climate of cyber-attacks, that we find ourselves attempting to thwart. As such, careful attention has been put in place to ensure that any information transmitted via ProjectSpectrum.io is secure both from a data “at rest” and “in transit” perspective.

**Questions Below Were Answered Live During the Presentation and Do Not Require an Additional Response**

<b>Q</b>	The DoD CMMC's initiative is costly for a number of Small Businesses incl. those who currently or previously hold DoD contracts. As a PTACer is hearing more about this being a disadvantage to them and are seeking other markets. So, the questions are:  1. Why is it so costly?  2. Is there any consideration for a sliding scale based on SBs' revenues? 3. Is there any consideration for policy changes to allow primes to carry the total or partial cost burden of their subs?
<b>Q</b>	I may have missed this point, is this free to Small Businesses? I know of companies looking for CMMC training. I want to pass it on.
<b>Q</b>	Mr. Sykes, do you offer help in developing both the SSP and POA&M?
<b>Q</b>	When do you anticipate the Project Spectrum will open up to all Small Businesses, not just the Protege firms in the DoD MPP?
<b>Q</b>	Does SBA have any recommendations for contractors that can help with trying to comply with 52.204-21 Basic Safeguarding of Covered Contractor Information Systems, 252.204-7012 Safeguarding Covered Defense Information and Cyber Incident Reporting, 252.204-7019 Notice of

	NIST SP 800-171 DoD Assessment Requirements, 252.204-7020 NIST SP 800-171 DoD Assessment Requirements. Are there any free resources available to small businesses?
Q	Does the MEP charge the business for their part in these services?
Q	We can share this with our PTAC clients?
Q	What is the cost associated with meeting the requirements? Are contractors aware of the price so they can capture that in their responses to our solicitations? The Government is going to end up paying for this one way or another.