SmartSuite

Framework / Cybersecurity / Other

MPA Content Security Program v5.1

MPA Content Security Program v5.1 defines security and content-protection requirements to prevent unauthorized access and leaks of motion-picture assets.

What it is

The MPA Content Security Program v5.1 is an industry-specific cybersecurity and content protection framework that helps organizations in the motion picture and television sector safeguard intellectual property and sensitive assets against unauthorized access, theft, and leaks.

Published by the Motion Picture Association (MPA), this program is widely adopted by studios, production vendors, post-production facilities, and service providers that handle valuable pre-release or proprietary content. It outlines best practices and requirements spanning security controls, risk management, data protection, incident response, and compliance oversight to ensure the security of content throughout its lifecycle.

At a glance

PUBLISHER Motion Picture Association (MPA)	TYPE Guidance	VERSION v5.1
EFFECTIVE 2022	DOMAIN Cybersecurity	FAMILY Other
REGION United States	INDUSTRY Other	ADOPTION MODEL Industry Requirement
IMPLEMENTATION COMPLEXITY High		

Source: https://www.motionpictures.org

Why it matters

- **Strengthen content protection** Safeguardpre-release materials and proprietary assets from unauthorized access, theft, and leaks within production, post-production, and distribution environments.
- **Improve security oversight** Provide a structured framework for monitoring security controls and enforcing consistent protection standards across third-party vendors and internal teams.
- **Support regulatory compliance** Enable alignment with international data protection and information security regulations, reducing legal risk and ensuring contract compliance during audits.
- **Enhance incident response readiness** Facilitate swift identification, containment, and resolution of security incidents, minimizing the impact on content integrity and distribution schedules.

Updated Sep 26, 2026 · © 2026 SmartSuite Inc. All rights reserved.

How SmartSuite supports MPA CSP v5.1

Content Security Control Library

Organize MPA security requirements for production, post-production, storage, and distribution environments with assigned ownership.

Production and Asset Access Governance

Control and document user access to sensitive content, systems, and facilities involved in media production workflows.

Vendor and Production Partner Oversight

Track security requirements, assessments, and contractual obligations for vendors handling pre-release content.

Security Assessments and Compliance Tracking

Manage internal reviews and studio assessments validating adherence to MPA content protection practices.

Media Security Incident Response

Coordinate investigation, escalation, and remediation of security incidents involving protected media assets.

Program Reporting and Studio Assurance

Provide dashboards showing compliance status, open issues, vendor risks, and overall content security readiness.

Common framework mappings

CIS Controls v8.1 | ISO 27001:2022 | ISO 27002:2022 | ISO 27017 | ISO 27018 | ISO 27701 | MITRE ATT&CK | NIST CSF 2.0

Official resources

MPA Content Security Program v5.1 Best Practices

Defines best practices for content security in the motion picture industry.

motionpictures.org

MPA Guidelines for Content Protection

Outlines guidelines and security measures for protecting intellectual property.

motionpictures.org

Frequently asked questions

What is the MPA Content Security Program v5.1 used for?

The MPA Content Security Program v5.1 is used to protect intellectual property and sensitive pre-release content in the motion picture and television industry. It provides a structured set of best practices and requirements for mitigating the risk of unauthorized access, theft, or leakage throughout the content lifecycle.

Is adopting the MPA Content Security Program v5.1 mandatory or certifiable?

Adoption is generally contractual rather than regulatory, with studios and distributors often requiring vendors to demonstrate alignment or compliance through formal audits. While the program itself does not grant certification, third-party assessments and studio reviews are common methods for validating adherence.

Who does the MPA Content Security Program v5.1 apply to?

The program applies to any organization handling valuable entertainment content, including production companies, post-production facilities, visual effects studios, and service providers. It is especially relevant for entities working with sensitive or unreleased material intended for distribution by major studios or content owners.

What key controls and artifacts are required by the MPA Content Security Program v5.1?

Organizations must implement technical, physical, and administrative controls covering content classification, access management, physical security, supply chain security, and secure distribution. Essential compliance artifacts include documented risk assessments, control mappings, policy manuals, incident response plans, and audit evidence.

Updated Sep 26, 2026 · © 2026 SmartSuite Inc. All rights reserved.

How do organizations implement the MPA Content Security Program v5.1?

Implementation involves mapping program controls to internal security practices, conducting security risk assessments, developing policies, and establishing oversight procedures. Regular compliance assessments, employee training, and incident response drills are also core parts of the implementation process.

How does the MPA Content Security Program v5.1 relate to other standards such as ISO 27001 or NIST?

The MPA framework can be integrated with general information security programs like ISO 27001 or NIST SP 800-53 by mapping overlapping controls and aligning risk management processes. This helps organizations demonstrate comprehensive due diligence during audits and contractual reviews.

What are the ongoing compliance requirements for the MPA Content Security Program v5.1?

Organizations must conduct regular self-assessments and audits, maintain current documentation, monitor for policy effectiveness, and promptly address identified risks or gaps. Continuous training, incident reporting, and ongoing improvement of controls ensure continued adherence to the program.

How would SmartSuite support MPA Content Security Program v5.1?

SmartSuite helps organizations operationalize the MPA Content Security Program v5.1 by providing control libraries, linked risk registers, and evidence collection tools. It enables teams to track compliance status, manage remediation workflows, prepare for audits, collect and organize supporting documentation, and generate compliance reports from centralized dashboards.

License included / downloadable: Yes MPA Content Security Best Practices v5.1 is publicly available on the Motion Picture Association's website. License included with platform

Full framework page and mappings: smartsuite.com/frameworks/mpa-content-security-program-v5-1