

Force Protection Conditions (FPCON)

In June 2001, the Department of Defense's Force Protection Condition (FPCON) replaced the previous Terrorist Threat Condition (THREATCON). FPCON can be described as graduated levels consisting of Delta, Charlie, Bravo, Alpha, and Normal. This progressive level describes the measures needed to be taken by security agencies in response to various threat levels against military facilities.

Category	Explanation	Facility Access
FPCON DELTA	Defense intelligence indicates an imminent terrorist action against a specific location will occur, or a terrorist attack has occurred.	Military facility access will be highly restrictive, if not locked down. Highest attention given to facility and personnel protection.
FPCON CHARLIE	Defense intelligence indicates that terrorists targeting against personnel and facilities are imminent, or an incident has occurred.	Access to base will be restrictive. Thorough searches of all personnel and every vehicle will occur.
FPCON BRAVO	Predictable terrorist threat activity exists, or there is increased terrorist activity.	Access to base will be less restrictive than higher threat levels, although searches of personnel and vehicles will be noticeable.
FPCON ALPHA	Unpredictable terrorist threat activity exists, but the personnel and facility may not be specifically known.	Increased security and additional restrictions to protect facility and personnel from the existing threat.
FPCON NORMAL	Terrorist threat exists, however, routine security measures are being used.	Everyday security operations are adequate to protect facility and personnel from the existing threat.

NOTE: Various threat level operations need to be incorporated into an access control point's systems to assist security personnel with their responsibilities. Proper procedures and equipment must be utilized to have a properly functioning system. For example, installing and operating a 'Final Denial' type barrier (designed for minimal repetitions and heavy impact) as a 'Traffic Controlling' barrier (designed for maximum repetitions and light impact) may shorten the life of a barrier, increase maintenance life, and increase protection downtime. It is important to consult with a Security Integrator, staffed with Physical Security Professionals (PSPs), to assist your personnel with the correct security solution for your application.