

The NEST environment has been designed to protect CUI data. This design attempts to meet all of the NIST 800-171 controls, either with technical controls, procedural and policy controls or with compensating controls.

One of the areas of particular concern in the NEST environment is control 3.1.3, Control the flow of CUI in accordance with approved authorizations. Throughout the process of developing the NEST environment, all necessary movement of CUI data into or out of the NEST environment has been identified and documented. Controls have been put into place to “control the flow of CUI in accordance with approved authorizations”. Examples of some of these controls are:

- The SFTP process which restricts the ability of any one user from moving CUI data out of the NEST environment.
- All access to external sites where CUI data can be uploaded must be preapproved (amrdec site).

Despite these controls, it is still possible for NEST users to move CUI data out of the NEST environment in one or more unapproved manners. Users must not, under any circumstances, attempt to circumvent or otherwise bypass the controls in place to protect CUI data.

Examples of how users could potentially move CUI data out of the NEST environment include:

- Using a camera or cameraphone to take photographs of CUI data.
- Allowing an unapproved user to view CUI data.
- Falsely claiming that data being moved out of the NEST environment in an approved manner (the SFTP process) is NOT CUI data when it actually is CUI data.

NEST users must NOT, under any circumstances, attempt to circumvent or otherwise bypass the controls in place to protect CUI data. Users must not attempt to move CUI data out of the NEST environment using any non-authorized methods. Any attempts to move CUI data in a non-authorized manner must be reported as a security incident.

If you have any questions related to the proper movement of CUI data, or if it is discovered that the methods we have in place do not meet the business needs of your research, please contact the Research Data Security Specialist using this [contact information](#).