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Summary of ITAR Regulations - Handout from February 2001 Session

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Published Date: 02/08/2001

COGR SESSION ON ITAR AND EXPORT CONTROLS – FEBRUARY 8, 2001

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SUMMARY OF ITAR REGULATIONS

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What is a “Defense Article”? (22CFR120.6)

Defense article means any item or technical data designated in Sec. 121.1 of this subchapter. [The United States Munitions List]. This term includes technical data recorded or stored in any physical form, models, mockups or other items that reveal technical data directly relating to items designated in Sec. 121.1 of this subchapter. It does not include basic marketing information on function or purpose or general system descriptions.

What is an “Export”? (22CFR 120.17)

Export means:

(1) Sending or taking a defense article out of the United States in any manner, except by mere travel outside of the United States by a person whose personal knowledge includes technical data; or

(2) Transferring registration, control or ownership to a foreign person of any aircraft, vessel, or satellite covered by the U.S. Munitions List, whether in the United States or abroad; or

(3) Disclosing (including oral or visual disclosure) or transferring in the United States any defense article to an embassy, any agency or subdivision of a foreign government (e.g., diplomatic missions); or

(4) Disclosing (including oral or visual disclosure) or transferring technical data to a foreign person, whether in the United States or abroad; or

(5) Performing a defense service on behalf of, or for the benefit of, a foreign person, whether in the United States or abroad.

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Licenses for the Export of Defense Articles (22CFR123.1)

(a) Any person who intends to export or to import temporarily a defense article must obtain the approval of the Office of Defense Trade Controls prior to the export or temporary import, unless the export or temporary import qualifies for an exemption under the provisions of this subchapter. Applications for export or temporary import must be made as follows:

(1) Applications for licenses for permanent export must be made on Form DSP-5 (unclassified);

(2) Applications for licenses for temporary export must be made on Form DSP-73 (unclassified);

(3) Applications for licenses for temporary import must be made on Form DSP-61 (unclassified); and

(4) Applications for the export or temporary import of classified defense articles or classified technical data must be made on Form DSP-85.

(b) Applications for Department of State export licenses must be confined to proposed exports of defense articles including technical data.

(c) As a condition to the issuance of a license or other approval, the Office of Defense Trade Controls may require all pertinent documentary information regarding the proposed transaction and proper completion of the application form as follows:

(1) Form DSP-5, DSP-61, DSP-73, and DSP-85 applications must have an entry in each block where space is provided for an entry. All requested information must be provided.

(2) Attachments and supporting technical data or brochures should be submitted in seven collated copies. Two copies of any freight forwarder lists must be submitted. If the request is limited to renewal of a previous license or for the export of spare parts, only two sets of any attachment (including freight forwarder lists) and one copy of the previous license should be submitted.

(3) A certification letter signed by an empowered official must accompany all application submissions (see Sec. 126.13 of this subchapter).

(4) An application for a license under this part for the permanent export of defense articles sold commercially must be accompanied by a copy of a purchase order, letter of intent or other appropriate documentation. In cases involving the U.S. Foreign Military Sales program, three copies of the relevant Department of Defense Form 1513 are required, unless the procedures of Sec. 126.4(c) or Sec. 126.6 of this subchapter are followed.

(5) Form DSP-83, duly executed, must accompany all license applications for the permanent export of significant military equipment, including classified hardware or classified technical data (see Secs. 123.10 and 125.3 of this subchapter).

(6) A statement concerning the payment of political contributions, fees and commissions must accompany a permanent export application if the export involves defense articles or defense services valued in an amount of \$500,000 or more and is being sold commercially to or for the use of the armed forces of a foreign country or international organization (see part 130 of this subchapter).

(d) Provisions for furnishing the type of defense services described in Sec. 120.9(a) of this subchapter are contained in part 124 of this subchapter. Provisions for the export or temporary import of technical data and classified defense articles are contained in part 125 of this subchapter.

(e) A request for a license for the export of unclassified technical data (DSP-5) related to a classified defense article should specify any classified technical data or material that subsequently will be required for export in the event of a sale.

What is "Technical Data"? (22CRF120.10)

Technical data means, for purposes of this subchapter:

(1) Information, other than software as defined in Sec. 120.10(4), which is required for the design, development, production, manufacture, assembly, operation, repair, testing, maintenance or modification of defense articles. This includes information in the form of blueprints, drawings, photographs, plans, instructions and documentation.

(2) Classified information relating to defense articles and defense services;

(3) Information covered by an invention secrecy order;

(4) Software as defined in Sec. 121.8(f) of this subchapter directly related to defense articles;

(5) This definition does not include information concerning general scientific, mathematical or engineering principles commonly taught in schools, colleges and universities or information in the public domain as defined in Sec. 120.11. It also does not include basic marketing information on function or purpose or general system descriptions of defense articles.

What is "Public Domain"? (22CRF120.11)

(a) Public domain means information which is published and which is generally accessible or available to the public:

(1) Through sales at newsstands and bookstores;

(2) Through subscriptions which are available without restriction to any individual who desires to obtain or purchase the published information;

(3) Through second class mailing privileges granted by the U.S. Government;

(4) At libraries open to the public or from which the public can obtain documents;

(5) Through patents available at any patent office;

(6) Through unlimited distribution at a conference, meeting, seminar, trade show or exhibition, generally accessible to the public, in the United States;

(7) Through public release (i.e., unlimited distribution) in any form (e.g., not necessarily in published form) after approval by the cognizant U.S. government department or agency (see also Sec. 125.4(b)(13) of this subchapter);

(8) Through fundamental research in science and engineering at accredited institutions of higher learning in the U.S. where the resulting information is ordinarily published and shared broadly in the scientific community. Fundamental research is defined to mean basic and applied research in science and engineering where the resulting information is ordinarily published and shared broadly within the scientific community, as distinguished from research the results of which are restricted for proprietary reasons or specific U.S. Government access and dissemination controls. University research will not be considered fundamental research if:

(i) The University or its researchers accept other restrictions on publication of scientific and technical information resulting from the project or activity, or

(ii) The research is funded by the U.S. Government and specific access and dissemination controls protecting information resulting from the research are applicable.

Required Licenses for the Export of Technical Data and Classified Defense Articles (22CFR125.1 and 125.2)

125.1(a): The controls of this part apply to the export of technical data and the export of classified defense articles. Information which is in the public domain (see Sec. 120.11 of this subchapter and Sec. 125.4(b)(13)) is not subject to the controls of this subchapter.

125.2(a): A license (DSP-5) is required for the export of unclassified technical data unless the export is exempt from the licensing requirements of this subchapter.

(c) Disclosures. Unless otherwise expressly exempted in this subchapter, a license is required for the oral, visual or documentary disclosure of technical data by U.S. persons to foreign persons. A license is required regardless of the manner in which the technical data is transmitted (e.g., in person, by telephone, correspondence, electronic means, etc.). A license is required for such disclosures by U.S. persons in connection with visits to foreign diplomatic missions and consular offices.

What is a “Defense Service”? (22CFR120.9)

Defense service means:

(1) The furnishing of assistance (including training) to foreign persons, whether in the United States or abroad in the design, development, engineering, manufacture, production, assembly, testing, repair, maintenance, modification, operation, demilitarization, destruction, processing or use of defense articles;

(2) The furnishing to foreign persons of any technical data controlled under this subchapter (see Sec. 120.10), whether in the United States or abroad; or

(3) Military training of foreign units and forces, regular and irregular, including formal or informal instruction of foreign persons in the United States or abroad or by correspondence courses, technical, educational, or information publications and media of all kinds, training aid, orientation, training exercise, and military advice.

What is a “Technical Assistance Agreement”? (22CFR120.22)

An agreement (e.g., contract) for the performance of a defense service(s) or the disclosure of technical data, as opposed to an agreement granting a right or license to manufacture defense articles. Assembly of defense articles is included under this section, provided production rights or manufacturing know-how are not conveyed. Should such rights be transferred, Sec. 120.21 is applicable. (See part 124 of this subchapter).