

Webinar Q&A Pod – Chat w/ Industry

05/20/2016

1. One of the things that we want to see on the home page would be the navigation tabs that will quickly get us to the specific areas of functionality that we need. Currently the home page is a massive eye test. Like looking at Yahoo versus Google

ANSWER: A redesign of the website is included in the IT Modernization Effort.

2. Will we need to obtain a new digital certificate before using this new service?

ANSWER: The answer is we're building our system to accept the digital certificates that are currently in use. The intention is to evaluate and have suggestions on what is going to be required in the future. We do understand and are considering the impact of cost of changing the credentialing process. The goal is to secure Industry's data.

3. Will both EAR and ITAR licenses be submitted through the same tool, or will they continue to be separate?

ANSWER: At this time, our direction is just for the ITAR licenses. Although we are aware of a larger initiative for a One Platform approach across all exporting agencies, Karen Wrege spoke to this future project in a previous webinar.

4. With regard to user experience, it would be quite helpful to take a "wizard" approach to filling out forms (e.g. DSP 5) where there would be pull down menu's with attached help balloons, rather than having to refer to the 185 page instruction document.

ANSWER: This type of feature will be considered in future releases, as DDTC recognizes the value of linking the ITAR to the applicable sections.

5. Expand functionality to include CJ submittals.

ANSWER: The development of the system will include the Commodity Jurisdiction.

6. The existing historical data from DTrade would be transition over to the new system?

ANSWER: While all the historical data will be housed in an archive our technical team is evaluating the historical data and DDTC stakeholders will determined what historical data is to be migrated to the new environment.

7. Has consideration been given to forming a single system for all export matters?

ANSWER: Karen Wrege spoke to the Single Platform initiative in a previous webinar; however it is out of scope for this project team.

8. Harmonize with SNAAP?

ANSWER: At this time the scope of our project is a DDTC specific IT Modernization project.

9. Would DDTC and BIS converge the user interface so that it is the same for both kinds of licenses?
ANSWER: Karen Wrege spoke to the Single Platform initiative in a previous webinar, however it is out of scope for this project team.
10. Expand functionality to include Voluntary Disclosure submittal and closure.
ANSWER: Voluntary Disclosures, Advisory Opinions and General Correspondence will be built into the system.
11. Will the new system provide a complete list of all previously approved licenses? Will the list be searchable?
ANSWER: Our Data migration team is analyzing the legacy data to determine the migration plan. The applications that are submitted in the new system will be available in the historical view. The ability to search records by the metadata that is captured is an innate feature to the system.
12. Will the new system provide a capability to use treaties like the one with Australia, the UK, and Canada?
ANSWER: At this time a response cannot be provided but as soon as the team has one Industry will be notified.
13. Can you address if there is an automated email interface that may in the future update the applicant about status of licenses, questions from LOs, etc.
ANSWER: The system will have an email system for generic template messaging. The templates will request that the user access the system to retrieve the message and or complete an action. At this time the system will not have an instant messaging capability.
14. When will industry be able to see the single license structure in order to provide comments? And can you provide an update of DDTC's April meeting with BIS on the single license subject?
ANSWER: The single form is currently in DDTC management review. Once that review is complete the form will follow the OMB process for review and comment.
15. To prevent unnecessary RWAs, will the new system allow applicants to amend DSP vehicle information after they have been submitted?
ANSWER: The determination for minor edits defined by DDTC management will be allowed. Also to assist with completion the ability to copy a previously submitted application will be built into the system
16. Will users need to register with Identrust for credentials to access the new web-based platform?
ANSWER: As the system will contain industry data specific to the company there will be an authentication criteria for accessing the system. At this point it has not been determined what that mechanism would be. Initially though the current certificates that are used access DTrade will also work to access the new system.
17. Am I understanding you correctly that there will now be a single application for all DDTC forms as part of this project?
ANSWER: In regards to Licensing forms for DDTC, yes there is an internal project to consolidate all licensing forms.

18. Will the system identify all USG (e.g., DDTC, DTSA, etc.) POCs (name, phone #, and e-mail) reviewing an application?

ANSWER: The new system will show the same amount of information as currently available to Industry with the addition of "Status".

19. When will the new system come into effect? Timeline? Training?

ANSWER: The project team is working toward a timeline of the end of summer 2016. Yes, there will be training for users and a schedule and resources will be posted.

20. Has anything been determined about DSP-85's?

ANSWER: DDTC is currently going through a process to stream line all of the licensing data collections. The data collections will be similar to what is currently asked on the DSP forms. However, if the application contains classified information it will still need to be processed manually.

21. Would you please expand on how the Batch Interface is changing?

ANSWER: We are considering a REST API for Batch submissions. We are currently building the system to support the existing Batch interface (SOAP with Attachments).

22. Is the Web Interface similar to Share Point functionality? I created a contracts/ licensing portal system in Share Point in my past employment, and I used it for tracking, monitoring my daily activities in Share Point. Is there a similarity with the Web Interface functionality?

ANSWER: The ability to track and monitor DDTC user activities daily will be a feature within the new web interface. How it is specifically designed is still in process.

23. In this new project, can you do search filter functionality when you are looking for licenses, agreements, etc.?

ANSWER: One of our goals is to create a better search system within the new web interface. We will take your comments into account about filtering for specific applications.

24. Is there a there a hide conceal functionality?

ANSWER: User roles and permissions will be established within the system. A Corporate Administrator role will be designated for the company and the role will manage the various roles and assignments. If you have suggestions on roles and permissions please send them to our team for consideration.

25. Is there a disable pressed buttons in the functionality?- One of the problems in Web Applications encounters with the form is the submission process. With very simple forms, when you click "Submit" button twice or more very quickly, the form will be submitted two or more times and it creates a problem.

ANSWER: We will incorporate system rules to not allow for duplicate submissions.

26. In the DSP-85, will the all the data that you fill up in the form be the same as in the web interface?

ANSWER: DDTC is currently going through a process to stream line all of the licensing data collections. The data collections will be similar to what is currently asked on the DSP forms. However, if the applications contain classified information it will still need to be processed manually.

27. As mentioned in the Webinar, we can run form reports. Can you create a web query?

ANSWER: One of our goals is to create a better search system. We will take your comments into account about adding a reporting and query tools.

28. Are you going to do a Pilot Test before you launched this project?

ANSWER: There will be User Acceptance Testing.

29. Will the new system have secure API for sending and receiving data from industry?

ANSWER: For the initial release the system design will continue to support the current Industry design in regards to batch and data exchanges, as change will have an enormous impact on business and the ability to interact with DDTC.

30. Will the system allow for more than one interface from the current single approved vendor?

ANSWER: Based on the interest of a change to how data is currently exchanged and the design of interfaces, DDTC will be conducting additional webinars and requirement sessions for the future changes to the design.

31. How will the batch schema change?

ANSWER: Initially the change to the batch schema will be minor. When the team has finalized the change, notices will be posted and various information sessions will be scheduled.

Comments from Industry:

1. The ability to generate reports (e.g. csv, Excel, etc.) from user dashboard views.
2. Enhanced search capability.
3. Secure APIs for sending/receiving data from system that are open/available for industry certification/integration.
4. Dashboards showing DDTC statistics such as cycle times by type of application (license, agreement, CJ, etc.).
5. Excellent presentation. Thank you.
6. With respect to his web service question, our future plans do call for automating the interface
7. I recently did a filing with IRS for a non-profit organization. The IRS now uses a system where a unique password comes to you in e-mail or phone. Password is good for 15 min. No permanent certificate. Something to consider.
8. With regard to using DTRADE2, Mary and Ellie, the search criteria are really arcane. It would be nice to be able to pull information by our company name and get a list of all current activity with status

9. It would be good for the Applicant and Licensing Officers to be able to communicate directly (similar to SNAP-R) should there be any requests for clarification, requests for additional documentation, etc.