Subchapter L [Reserved]

SUBCHAPTER M—INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC IN ARMS REGULATIONS

PART 120—PURPOSE AND DEFINITIONS

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SOURCE: 58 FR 39283, July 22, 1993, unless otherwise noted.

§ 120.1 General authorities, receipt of licenses, and ineligibility.

(a) Section 38 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2778), as amended, authorizes the President to control the export and import of defense articles and defense services. The statutory authority of the President to promulgate regulations with respect to exports of defense articles and defense services is delegated to the Secretary of State by Executive Order 13637. This subchapter implements that authority, as well as other relevant authorities in the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.). By virtue of delegations of authority by the Secretary of State, these regulations are primarily administered by the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Defense Trade Controls, Bureau of Political-Military Affairs.

(b)(1) Authorized officials. All authorities administered by the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Defense Trade Controls pursuant to this subchapter may be exercised at any time by the Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security or the Assistant Secretary of State for Political-Military Affairs.

(2) The Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Defense Trade Controls supervises the Directorate of Defense Trade Controls, which is comprised of the following offices:

(i) The Office of Defense Trade Controls Licensing and the Director, Office
§ 120.2 Designation of defense articles and defense services.

The Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2778(a) and 2794(7)) provides that the President shall designate the articles and services deemed to be defense articles and defense services for purposes of import or export controls. The President has delegated to the Secretary of State the authority to control the export and temporary import of defense articles and services. The items designated by the Secretary of State for purposes of export and temporary import control constitute the U.S. Munitions List specified in part 121 of this subchapter. Defense articles on the U.S. Munitions List specified in part 121 of this subchapter that are also subject to permanent import control by the Attorney General on the U.S. Munitions Import List enumerated in 27 CFR part 447 are subject to temporary import controls administered by the Secretary of State. Designations of defense articles and defense services are made by the Department of State with the concurrence of the Department of Defense. The scope of the U.S. Munitions List shall be changed only by amendments made pursuant to section 38 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2778). For a designation or determination on whether a particular
Item is enumerated on the U.S. Munitions List, see §120.4 of this subchapter.

[78 FR 22752, Apr. 16, 2013]

§ 120.3 Policy on designating or determining defense articles and services on the U.S. Munitions List.

(a) For purposes of this subchapter, a specific article or service may be designated a defense article (see §120.6 of this subchapter) or defense service (see §120.9 of this subchapter) if it:

(1) Meets the criteria of a defense article or defense service on the U.S. Munitions List; or

(2) Provides the equivalent performance capabilities of a defense article on the U.S. Munitions List.

(b) For purposes of this subchapter, a specific article or service shall be determined in the future as a defense article or defense service if it provides a critical military or intelligence advantage such that it warrants control under this subchapter.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPHS (a) AND (b): An article or service determined in the future pursuant to this subchapter as a defense article or defense service, but not currently on the U.S. Munitions List, will be placed in U.S. Munitions List Category XXI until the appropriate U.S. Munitions List category has been amended to provide the necessary entry.

(c) A specific article or service is not a defense article or defense service for purposes of this subchapter if it:

(1) Is determined to be under the jurisdiction of another department or agency of the U.S. Government (see §120.5 of this subchapter) pursuant to a commodity jurisdiction determination (see §120.4 of this subchapter) unless superseded by changes to the U.S. Munitions List or by a subsequent commodity jurisdiction determination; or

(2) Meets one of the criteria of §120.41(b) of this subchapter when the article is used in or with a defense article and specially designed is used as a control criteria (see §120.41 of this subchapter).

NOTE TO §120.3: The intended use of the article or service after its export (i.e., for a military or civilian purpose), by itself, is not a factor in determining whether the article or service is subject to the controls of this subchapter.

[78 FR 22753, Apr. 16, 2013]

§ 120.4 Commodity jurisdiction.

(a) The commodity jurisdiction procedure is used with the U.S. Government if doubt exists as to whether an article or service is covered by the U.S. Munitions List. It may also be used for consideration of a redesignation of an article or service currently covered by the U.S. Munitions List. The Department must provide notice to Congress at least 30 days before any item is removed from the U.S. Munitions List. Upon electronic submission of a Commodity Jurisdiction (CJ) Determination Form (Form DS–4076), the Directorate of Defense Trade Controls shall provide a determination of whether a particular article or service is covered by the U.S. Munitions List. The determination, consistent with §§120.2, 120.3, and 120.4, entails consultation among the Departments of State, Defense, Commerce, and other U.S. Government agencies and industry in appropriate cases.

(b) Registration with the Directorate of Defense Trade Controls as defined in part 122 of this subchapter is not required prior to submission of a commodity jurisdiction request. If it is determined that the commodity is a defense article or defense service covered by the U.S. Munitions List, registration is required for exporters, manufacturers, and furnishers of such defense articles and defense services (see part 122 of this subchapter), as well as for brokers who are engaged in brokering activities related to such articles or services.

(c) Requests shall identify the article or service, and include a history of this product’s design, development, and use. Brochures, specifications, and any other documentation related to the article or service should be submitted as electronic attachments per the instructions for Form DS–4076.

(d)(1) [Reserved]

(2) A designation that an article or service meets the criteria of a defense article or defense service, or provides the equivalent performance capabilities of a defense article on the U.S. Munitions List set forth in this subchapter, is made on a case-by-case basis by the Department of State, taking into account:
§ 120.5 Relation to regulations of other agencies.

(a) If a defense article or service is covered by the U.S. Munitions List set forth in this subchapter, its export and temporary import is regulated by the Department of State (see also § 120.2 of this subchapter). The President has delegated the authority to control defense articles and services for purposes of permanent import to the Attorney General. The defense articles and services controlled by the Secretary of State and the Attorney General collectively comprise the U.S. Munitions List under the Arms Export Control Act (AECA). As the Attorney General exercises independent delegated authority to designate defense articles and services for purposes of permanent import controls, the permanent import control list administered by the Department of Justice has been separately labeled the U.S. Munitions Import List (27 CFR part 447) to distinguish it from the list set out in this subchapter. In carrying out the functions delegated to the Attorney General pursuant to the AECA, the Attorney General shall be guided by the views of the Secretary of State on matters affecting world peace and the external security and foreign policy of the United States. The Department of Commerce regulates the export, reexport, and in-country transfer of items on the Commerce Control List and other items subject to its jurisdiction, as well as the provision of certain proliferation activities, under the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) (15
§ 120.42 of this subchapter). Separate approval from the Department of Commerce is not required for these items when approved for export under a Department of State license or other approval. Those items subject to the EAR exported pursuant to a Department of State license or other approval would remain under the jurisdiction of the Department of Commerce for any subsequent transactions. The inclusion of items subject to the EAR on a Department of State license or approval does not change the jurisdiction of the items. (See §123.1(b) of this subchapter for guidance on identifying items subject to the EAR in a license application to the Department of State.)

§ 120.6 Defense article. 

Defense article means any item or technical data designated in §121.1 of this subchapter. The policy described in §120.3 is applicable to designations of additional items. 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 §121.1 of this subchapter. It also includes forgings, castings, and other unfinished products, such as extrusions and machined bodies, that have reached a stage in manufacturing where they are clearly identifiable by mechanical properties, material composition, geometry, or function as defense articles. It does not include basic marketing information on function or purpose or general system descriptions.

§ 120.7 Significant military equipment. 

(a) Significant military equipment means articles for which special export controls are warranted because of their capacity for substantial military utility or capability.

(b) Significant military equipment includes:

(1) Items in §121.1 of this subchapter which are preceded by an asterisk; and

(2) All classified articles enumerated in §121.1 of this subchapter.

§ 120.8 Major defense equipment.

Pursuant to section 47(6) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2794(6) note), major defense equipment means any item of significant military equipment (as defined in §120.7) on the U.S. Munitions List having a nonrecurring research and development cost of more than $50,000,000 or a total production cost of more than $200,000,000.

§ 120.9 Defense service.

(a) 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 §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. (See also §124.1.)

(b) [Reserved]

§ 120.10 Technical data.

(a) Technical data means, for purposes of this subchapter:

(1) Information, other than software as defined in §120.10(a)(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 or documentation.

(2) Classified information relating to defense articles and defense services on the U.S. Munitions List and 600-series items controlled by the Commerce Control List;

(3) Information covered by an invention secrecy order; or

(4) Software (see §120.45(f)) directly related to defense articles.

(b) The definition in paragraph (a) of this section 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 §120.11 of this subchapter or telemetry data as defined in note 3 to Category XV(f) of part 121 of this subchapter. It also does not include basic marketing information on function or purpose or general system descriptions of defense articles.

§ 120.11 Public domain.

(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 §125.4(b)(13) of this subchapter);

(8) Through fundamental research in science and engineering at accredited institutions of higher learning in the United States where the resulting information is ordinarily published and shared broadly within 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.

(b) [Reserved]

§ 120.12 Directorate of Defense Trade Controls.


(71 FR 20537, Apr. 21, 2006)

§ 120.13 United States.

United States, when used in the geographical sense, includes the several states, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the insular possessions of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, any territory or possession of the United States, and any territory or possession over which the United States exercises any powers of administration, legislation, and jurisdiction.
§ 120.14 Person.

Person means a natural person as well as a corporation, business association, partnership, society, trust, or any other entity, organization or group, including governmental entities. If a provision in this subchapter does not refer exclusively to a foreign person (§ 120.16) or U.S. person (§ 120.15), then it refers to both.

§ 120.15 U.S. person.

U.S. person means a person (as defined in § 120.14 of this part) who is a lawful permanent resident as defined by 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(20) or who is a protected individual as defined by 8 U.S.C. 1324b(a)(3). It also means any corporation, business association, partnership, society, trust, or any other entity, organization or group that is incorporated to do business in the United States. It also includes any governmental (federal, state or local) entity. It does not include any foreign person as defined in § 120.16 of this part.

[71 FR 20537, Apr. 21, 2006]

§ 120.16 Foreign person.

Foreign person means any natural person who is not a lawful permanent resident as defined by 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(20) or who is not a protected individual as defined by 8 U.S.C. 1324b(a)(3). It also means any foreign corporation, business association, partnership, trust, society or any other entity or group that is not incorporated or organized to do business in the United States, as well as international organizations, foreign governments and any agency or subdivision of foreign governments (e.g., diplomatic missions).

[71 FR 20537, Apr. 21, 2006]

§ 120.17 Export.

(a) 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.

(6) A launch vehicle or payload shall not, by reason of the launching of such vehicle, be considered an export for purposes of this subchapter. However, for certain limited purposes (see § 126.1 of this subchapter), the controls of this subchapter may apply to any sale, transfer or proposal to sell or transfer defense articles or defense services.

(b) [Reserved]

§ 120.18 Temporary import.

Temporary import means bringing into the United States from a foreign country any defense article that is to be returned to the country from which it was shipped or taken, or any defense article that is in transit to another foreign destination. Temporary import includes withdrawal of a defense article from a customs bonded warehouse or foreign trade zone for the purpose of returning it to the country of origin or country from which it was shipped or for shipment to another foreign destination. Permanent imports are regulated by the Attorney General under the direction of the Department of Justice’s Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (see 27 CFR parts 447, 478, 479, and 555).

[71 FR 20537, Apr. 21, 2006]

§ 120.19 Reexport or retransfer.

Reexport or retransfer means the transfer of defense articles or defense services to an end-use, end-user, or destination not previously authorized by license, written approval, or exemption pursuant to this subchapter.

[77 FR 16597, Mar. 21, 2012]
§ 120.20 License or other approval.

License means a document bearing the word “license” issued by the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Defense Trade Controls, or his authorized designee, that permits the export, temporary import, or brokering of a specific defense article or defense service controlled by this subchapter.

Other approval means a document issued by the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Defense Trade Controls, or his authorized designee, that approves an activity regulated by this subchapter (e.g., approvals for brokering activities or retransfer authorizations), or the use of an exemption to the license requirements as described in this subchapter.

[79 FR 8084, Feb. 11, 2014]

§ 120.21 Manufacturing license agreement.

An agreement (e.g., contract) whereby a U.S. person grants a foreign person an authorization to manufacture defense articles abroad and which involves or contemplates:

(a) The export of technical data (as defined in §120.10) or defense articles or the performance of a defense service; or

(b) The use by the foreign person of technical data or defense articles previously exported by the U.S. person. (See part 124 of this subchapter).

§ 120.22 Technical assistance agreement.

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, §120.21 is applicable. (See part 124 of this subchapter).

§ 120.23 Distribution agreement.

An agreement (e.g., a contract) to establish a warehouse or distribution point abroad for defense articles exported from the United States for subsequent distribution to entities in an approved sales territory (see part 124 of this subchapter).

§ 120.24 Port Directors.

Port Directors of U.S. Customs and Border Protection means the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Port Directors at the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Ports of Entry (other than the port of New York, New York where their title is the Area Directors).

[70 FR 50959, Aug. 29, 2005]

§ 120.25 Empowered Official.

(a) Empowered Official means a U.S. person who:

1. Is directly employed by the applicant or a subsidiary in a position having authority for policy or management within the applicant organization; and

2. Is legally empowered in writing by the applicant to sign license applications or other requests for approval on behalf of the applicant; and

3. Understands the provisions and requirements of the various export control statutes and regulations, and the criminal liability, civil liability and administrative penalties for violating the Arms Export Control Act and the International Traffic in Arms Regulations; and

4. Has the independent authority to:
   (i) Inquire into any aspect of a proposed export, temporary import, or brokering activity by the applicant;
   (ii) Verify the legality of the transaction and the accuracy of the information to be submitted; and
   (iii) Refuse to sign any license application or other request for approval without prejudice or other adverse recourse.

(b) For the purposes of a broker who is a foreign person, the empowered official may be a foreign person who otherwise meets the criteria for an empowered official in paragraph (a) of this section.


§ 120.26 Presiding Official.

Presiding Official means a person authorized by the U.S. Government to conduct hearings in administrative proceedings.
§ 120.27 U.S. criminal statutes.

(a) For purposes of this subchapter, the phrase U.S. criminal statutes means:

(1) Section 38 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2778);

(2) Section 11 of the Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 U.S.C. app. 2410);

(3) Section 793, 794, or 798 of title 18, United States Code (relating to espionage involving defense or classified information) or section 2332d, 2339A, 2339B, 2339C, or 2339D of such title (relating to financial transactions with the government of a country designated as a country supporting international terrorism, providing material support to terrorists or terrorist organizations, financing of terrorism, or receiving military-type training from a foreign terrorist organization);

(4) Section 16 of the Trading with the Enemy Act (50 U.S.C. app. 16);

(5) Section 206 of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (relating to foreign assets controls; 50 U.S.C. 1705);


(7) Chapter 105 of title 18, United States Code (relating to sabotage);

(8) Section 4(b) of the Internal Security Act of 1950 (relating to communication of classified information; 50 U.S.C. 783(a));

(9) Sections 57, 92, 101, 104, 222, 224, 225, or 226 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2077, 2122, 2131, 2134, 2272, 2274, 2275, and 2276);

(10) Section 601 of the National Security Act of 1947 (relating to intelligence identities protection; 50 U.S.C. 421);

(11) [Reserved]

(12) Section 371 of title 18, United States Code (when it involves conspiracy to violate any of the statutes listed in this section);

(13) Sections 3, 4, 5, and 6 of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004, Public Law 108–458 sections 6903–6906, relating to missile systems designed to destroy aircraft (18 U.S.C. 2332g), prohibitions governing atomic weapons (42 U.S.C. 2122), radiological dispersal services (18 U.S.C. 2332h), and variola virus (18 U.S.C. 175c);

(14) Sections 2779 and 2780 of title 22, United States Code (relating to fees of military sales agents and other payments, and transactions with countries supporting acts of international terrorism);

(15) Section 542 of title 18, United States Code (relating to the entry of goods by means of false statements), where the underlying offense involves a defense article, including technical data, or violations related to the Arms Export Control Act or International Traffic in Arms Regulations;

(16) Section 545 of title 18, United States Code (relating to smuggling goods into the United States), where the underlying offense involves a defense article, including technical data, or violations related to the Arms Export Control Act or International Traffic in Arms Regulations;

(17) Section 554 of title 18, United States Code (relating to smuggling goods from the United States), where the underlying offense involves a defense article, including technical data, or violations related to the Arms Export Control Act or International Traffic in Arms Regulations; and

(18) Section 1001 of title 18, United States Code (relating to false statements or entries generally), Section 1831 of title 18, United States Code (relating to economic espionage), and Section 1832 of title 18, United States Code (relating to theft of trade secrets) where the underlying offense involves a defense article, including technical data, or violations related to the Arms Export Control Act or International Traffic in Arms Regulations.

(b) [Reserved]


§ 120.28 Listing of forms referred to in this subchapter.

The forms referred to in this subchapter are available from the following government agencies:

§ 120.29 Missile Technology Control Regime.

(a) For purposes of this subchapter, Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) means the policy statement among the United States, the United Kingdom, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Italy, Canada, and Japan, announced on April 16, 1987, to restrict sensitive missile-relevant transfers based on the MTCR Annex, and any amendments thereto.

(b) The term MTCR Annex means the MTCR Guidelines and the Equipment, Software and Technology Annex of the MTCR, and any amendments thereto.

(c) List of all items on the MTCR Annex. Section 71(a) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2797) refers to the establishment as part of the U.S. Munitions List of a list of all items on the MTCR Annex, the export of which is not controlled under Section 6(1) of the Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 U.S.C. App. 2405(1)), as amended. MTCR Annex items specified in the U.S. Munitions List shall be identified in §121.16 of this subchapter or annotated by the parenthetical “(MT)” at the end of each applicable paragraph.


§ 120.30 The Automated Export System (AES).

The Automated Export System (AES) is the Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, electronic filing of export information. The AES shall serve as the primary system for collection of export data for the Department of State. In accordance with this subchapter U.S. exporters are required to report export information using AES for all hardware exports. Exports of technical data and defense services shall be reported directly to the Directorate of Defense Trade Controls (DDTC). Also, requests for special reporting may be made by DDTC on a case-by-case basis, (e.g., compliance, enforcement, congressional mandates).

[68 FR 61100, Oct. 27, 2003]

§ 120.31 North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is comprised of the following member countries: Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom, and the United States.

[77 FR 22670, Apr. 17, 2012]

§ 120.32 Major non-NATO ally.

Major non-NATO ally, as defined in section 644(q) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2403(q)), means a country that is designated in accordance with section 517 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C.
§ 120.38 Maintenance levels.

(a) Organization-level maintenance (or basic-level maintenance) is the first level of maintenance that can be performed “on-equipment” (directly on the defense article or support equipment) without specialized training. It consists of repairing, inspecting, servicing, calibrating, lubricating, or adjusting equipment, as well as replacing minor parts, components, assemblies, and line-replaceable spares or units. This includes modifications, enhancements, or upgrades that would result in improving only the reliability or maintainability of the commodity (e.g., an increased mean time between failure (MTBF)) and does not enhance the basic performance or capability of the defense article.

(b) Intermediate-level maintenance is second-level maintenance performed...
§ 120.39 Regular employee.
(a) A regular employee means for purposes of this subchapter:
(1) An individual permanently and directly employed by the company, or
(2) An individual in a long term contractual relationship with the company where the individual works at the company’s facilities, works under the company’s direction and control, works full time and exclusively for the company, and executes nondisclosure certifications for the company, and where the staffing agency that has seconded the individual has no role in the work the individual performs (other than providing that individual for that work) and the staffing agency would not have access to any controlled technology (other than where specifically authorized by a license).

(b) [Reserved]
[76 FR 28177, May 16, 2011]

§ 120.40 Affiliate.
An affiliate of a registrant is a person that directly, or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, controls, or is controlled by, or is under common control with, such registrant.

NOTE TO § 120.40: For purposes of this section, “control” means having the authority or ability to establish or direct the general policies or day-to-day operations of the firm. Control is rebuttably presumed to exist where there is ownership of 25 percent or more of the outstanding voting securities if no other person controls an equal or larger percentage.
[78 FR 52686, Aug. 26, 2013]

§ 120.41 Specially designed.
(a) Except for commodities or software described in paragraph (b) of this section, a commodity or software (see §120.45(f)) is specially designed if it:
(1) As a result of development, has properties peculiarly responsible for achieving or exceeding the controlled performance levels, characteristics, or functions described in the relevant U.S. Munitions List paragraph; or
(2) Is a part (see §120.45(d)), component (see §120.45(b)), accessory (see §120.45(c)), attachment (see §120.45(c)), or software for use in or with a defense article.

(b) For purposes of this subchapter, a part, component, accessory, attachment, or software is not specially designed if it:
(1) Is subject to the EAR pursuant to a commodity jurisdiction determination;
(2) Is, regardless of form or fit, a fastener (e.g., screws, bolts, nuts, nut plates, studs, inserts, clips, rivets, pins), washer, spacer, insulator, grommet, bushing, spring, wire, or solder;
(3) Has the same function, performance capabilities, and the same or “equivalent” form and fit as a commodity or software used in or with a commodity that:
(i) Is or was in production (i.e., not in development); and
(ii) Is not enumerated on the U.S. Munitions List;
(4) Was or is being developed with knowledge that it is or would be for use
in or with both defense articles enumerated on the U.S. Munitions List and also commodities not on the U.S. Munitions List; or

(5) Was or is being developed as a general purpose commodity or software, i.e., with no knowledge for use in or with a particular commodity (e.g., a F/A-18 or HMMWV) or type of commodity (e.g., an aircraft or machine tool).

NOTE TO PARAGRAPHS (a) AND (b): The term "commodity" refers to any article, material, or supply, except technology/technical data or software.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (a)(1): An example of a commodity that as a result of development has properties peculiarly responsible for achieving or exceeding the controlled performance levels, functions, or characteristics in a U.S. Munitions List category would be a swimmer delivery vehicle specially designed to dock with a submarine to provide submerged transport for swimmers or divers from submarines.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (b): The term "enumerated" refers to any article on the U.S. Munitions List or the Commerce Control List and not in a "catch-all" control. A "catch-all" control is one that does not refer to specific types of parts, components, accessories, or attachments, but rather controls unspecified parts, components, accessories, or attachments only if they were specially designed for an enumerated item.

NOTE 1 TO PARAGRAPHS (b)(4) AND (5): For the purpose of this definition, "development" means all production stages, such as product engineering, manufacture, integration, assembly (mounting), inspection, testing, and quality assurance. This includes "serial production" where commodities have passed production readiness testing (i.e., an approved, standardized design ready for large scale production) and have been or are being produced on an assembly line for multiple commodities using the approved, standardized design.

NOTE 2 TO PARAGRAPH (b)(3): For the purpose of this definition, "development" is related to all stages prior to serial production, such as: design, design research, design analyses, design concepts, assembly and testing of prototypes, pilot production schemes, design data, process of transforming design data into a product, configuration design, integration design, layouts.

NOTE 3 TO PARAGRAPH (b)(3): Commodities in "production" that are subsequently subject to "development" activities, such as those that would result in enhancements or improvements only in the reliability or maintainability of the commodity (e.g., an increased mean time between failure (MTBF)), including those pertaining to quality improvements, cost reductions, or feature enhancements, remain in "production." However, any new models or versions of such commodities developed from such efforts that change the basic performance or capability of the commodity are in "development" until and unless they enter into "production."

NOTE 4 TO PARAGRAPH (b)(3): The form of a commodity is defined by its configuration (including the geometrically measured configuration), material, and material properties that uniquely characterize it. The fit of a commodity is the action or actions it is designed to perform. Performance capability is the measure of a commodity's effectiveness to perform a designated function in a given environment (e.g., measured in terms of speed, durability, reliability, pressure, accuracy, efficiency). For software, the form means the design, logic flow, and algorithms. The fit is defined by its ability to interface or connect with a defense article. The function means the action or actions the software performs directly related to a defense article or as a standalone application. Performance capability means the measure of the software's effectiveness to perform a designated function.

NOTE 5 TO PARAGRAPH (b)(3): With respect to a commodity, "equivalent" means its form has been modified solely for fit purposes.

NOTE 1 TO PARAGRAPHS (b)(4) AND (5): For a defense article not to be specially designed on the basis of paragraph (b)(4) or (5) of this section, documents contemporaneous with its development, in their totality, must establish the elements of paragraph (b)(4) or (5). Such documents may include concept design information, marketing plans, declarations in patent applications, or contracts. Absent such documents, the commodity may not be excluded from being specially designed by either paragraph (b)(4) or (5).

NOTE 2 TO PARAGRAPH (b)(4) AND (5): For the purpose of this definition, "knowledge" includes not only the positive knowledge a circumstance exists or is substantially certain to occur, but also an awareness of a high probability of its existence or future occurrence. Such awareness is inferred from evidence of the conscious disregard of facts known to a person and is also inferred from a person's willful avoidance of facts.


§ 120.42 Subject to the Export Administration Regulations (EAR).

Items "subject to the EAR" are those items listed on the Commerce Control List in part 774 of the EAR and all
other items that meet the definition of that term in accordance with § 734.3 of the EAR. The EAR is found at 15 CFR parts 730 through 774.

[78 FR 22755, Apr. 16, 2013]

§ 120.43 [Reserved]

§ 120.44 Foreign defense article or defense service.

Foreign defense article or defense service means any article or service described on the U.S. Munitions List of non-U.S. origin. Unless otherwise provided in this subchapter, the terms defense article and defense service refer to both U.S. and foreign origin defense articles and defense services described on the U.S. Munitions List. A defense article or defense service is determined exclusively in accordance with the Arms Export Control Act and this subchapter, regardless of any designation (either affirming or contrary) that may be attributed to the same article or service by any foreign government or international organization.

[78 FR 52686, Aug. 26, 2013]

§ 120.45 End-items, components, accessories, attachments, parts, firmware, software, systems, and equipment.

(a) An end-item is a system, equipment, or an assembled article ready for its intended use. Only ammunition or fuel or other energy source is required to place it in an operating state.

(b) A component is an item that is useful only when used in conjunction with an end-item. A major component includes any assembled element that forms a portion of an end-item without which the end-item is inoperable. A minor component includes any assembled element of a major component.

(c) Accessories and attachments are associated articles for any component, equipment, system, or end-item, and which are not necessary for its operation, but which enhance its usefulness or effectiveness.

(d) A part is any single unassembled element of a major or a minor component, accessory, or attachment which is not normally subject to disassembly without the destruction or the impairment of designed use.

(e) Firmware and any related unique support tools (such as computers, linkers, editors, test case generators, diagnostic checkers, library of functions, and system test diagnostics) directly related to equipment or systems covered under any category of the U.S. Munitions List are considered as part of the end-item or component. Firmware includes but is not limited to circuits into which software has been programmed.

(f) Software includes but is not limited to the system functional design, logic flow, algorithms, application programs, operating systems, and support software for design, implementation, test, operation, diagnosis and repair. A person who intends to export only software should, unless it is specifically enumerated in § 121.1 of this subchapter (e.g., USML Category XIII(b)), apply for a technical data license pursuant to part 125 of this subchapter.

(g) A system is a combination of parts, components, accessories, attachments, firmware, software, equipment, or end-items that operate together to perform a function.

Note to paragraph (g): The industrial standards established by INCOSE and NASA provide examples for when commodities and software operate together to perform a function as a system. References to these standards are included in this note to provide examples for when commodities or software operate together to perform a function as a system. See the INCOSE standards for what constitutes a system at: http://g2sebok.incose.org/app/mss/asset.cfm?ID=INCOSE%20G2SEBOK%202.00&ST=F, and in INCOSE SE Handbook v3.1 2007; ISO/IEC 15288:2008. See the NASA standards for examples of what constitutes a system in NASA SE Handbook SP-2007-6105 Rev 1.

(h) Equipment is a combination of parts, components, accessories, attachments, firmware, or software that operate together to perform a function of, as, or for an end-item or system. Equipment may be a subset of an end-item based on the characteristics of the equipment. Equipment that meets the definition of an end-item is an end-item. Equipment that does not meet
the definition of an end-item is a component, accessory, attachment, firmware, or software.

[79 FR 61228, Oct. 10, 2014]

PART 121—THE UNITED STATES MUNITIONS LIST

ENUMERATION OF ARTICLES

Sec. 121.1 The United States Munitions List.
121.2–121.15 [Reserved]
121.16 Missile Technology Control Regime Annex.


SOURCE: 58 FR 39287, July 22, 1993, unless otherwise noted.

ENUMERATION OF ARTICLES

§ 121.1 The United States Munitions List.

(a) The following articles, services, and related technical data are designated as defense articles and defense services pursuant to sections 38 and 47(7) of the Arms Export Control Act. Changes in designations will be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER. Information and clarifications on whether specific items are defense articles and defense services under this subchapter may appear periodically through the Internet Web site of the Directorate of Defense Trade Controls.

(b)(1) Order of review. In order to classify your article on the U.S. Munitions List, you should begin with a review of the general characteristics of your item. This will usually guide you to the appropriate category on the U.S. Munitions List. Once the appropriate category is identified, you should match the particular characteristics and functions of your article to a specific entry within the appropriate category.

(2) Composition of an entry. Within each U.S. Munitions List category, defense articles are described by an alpha paragraph designation. These designations may include subparagraph(s) to further define the described defense article. Each U.S. Munitions List category starts with end-platform designations followed by major systems and equipment, and parts, components, accessories, and attachments. Most U.S. Munitions List categories contain an entry on technical data (see §120.10 of this subchapter) and defense services (see §120.9 of this subchapter) related to the defense articles described in that U.S. Munitions List category.

(3) Significant military equipment. An asterisk may precede an entry in a U.S. Munitions List category. The asterisk means the enumerated defense article is deemed to be “Significant Military Equipment” to the extent specified in §120.7 of this subchapter. Note that technical data directly related to the manufacture or production of any defense articles enumerated in any category designated as Significant Military Equipment (SME) is also designated as SME.

(c) Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) Annex. Inclusion in §121.16 of this subchapter, or annotation with the parenthetical “(MT)” at the end of a U.S. Munitions List paragraph, indicates those defense articles and defense services that are on the MTCR Annex. See §120.29 of this subchapter.

(d) Specially designed. When applying the definition of specially designed (see §120.41 of this subchapter), follow the sequential analysis set forth as follows:

(1) if your commodity or software is controlled for reasons other than having a specially designed control parameter on the U.S. Munitions List, no further review of the definition of specially designed is required.

(2) if your commodity or software is not enumerated on the U.S. Munitions List, it may be controlled because of a specially designed control parameter. If so, begin any analysis with §120.41(a) and proceed through each subsequent paragraph. If a commodity or software would not be controlled as a result of the application of the standards in §120.41(a), then it is not necessary to work through §120.41(b).

(3) if a commodity or software is controlled as a result of §120.41(a), then it is necessary to continue the analysis and to work through each of the elements of §120.41(b).

(4) commodities or software described in any §120.41(b) subparagraph are not