

Are you in compliance with US Trade Regulations?

Important changes in the availability of export related regulations information

The Export Administration Regulations (EAR) are issued by the United States Department of Commerce, **Bureau of Industry and Security** (BIS) under laws relating to the control of certain exports, reexports, and other activities.

The export control provisions of the EAR are intended to serve the national security, foreign policy, nonproliferation, and short supply interests of the United States and, in some cases, to carry out its international obligations. Some controls are designed to restrict access to dual use items by countries or persons that might apply such items to uses inimical to U.S. interests. The EAR also includes some export controls to protect the United States from the adverse impact of the unrestricted export of commodities in short supply.

The EAR offers authoritative guidance on issues such as:

- When is an export license necessary and when is it not?
- How do you obtain an export license?
- What policies are followed in considering license applications?
- How do you know when the policies change?
- What are the latest restrictions on exports to certain countries and certain types of goods and services?
- Where are restrictive trade practices and boycotts prohibited?
- If necessary, where can you obtain further help?

The problem is that the regulations are continually changing as the EAR is updated to reflect changed circumstances. In addition, other US government agencies have their own changing regulations and lists of ever-changing prohibited parties with whom it is forbidden to do business.

To help you stay in compliance with all these continually changing restrictions, the National Technical Information Service of the U.S. Department of Commerce makes the full EAR available online with added value features, namely:

- The ability to search all eight prohibited parties databases in one search; and
- An e-mail update service to inform subscribers of changes to the EAR, prohibited parties, and other regulations as soon as they occur.

The e-mail update service is also available separately to subscribers. Without the e-mail update service, to learn of the changes, you would have to check the *Federal Register* and prohibited parties lists daily. NTIS does the checking for you. NTIS will send you an e-mail with the complete text of the *Federal Register* notice or prohibited parties change as soon as they occur.

NTIS also offers quarterly subscriptions to the paper copy EAR. New this year, NTIS is working on an arrangement with the Government Printing Office to reduce costs to

subscribers by printing only one U.S. government version instead of each agency printing its own version as before. In addition, starting this year a CD-ROM will be shipped with the paper copy EAR to make searching the EAR simpler.

The CD-ROM EAR will still be available as a separate subscription.

NTIS offers other export-related products as well, such as:

- United States Customs Regulations (USCR)
- Commerce Export Controls Handbook (CECH)
- Defense Trade Control Handbook (DTCH)
- Multilateral Export Controls (MEC)
- International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR)

Visit the NTIS website at <http://www.ntis.gov/products/export-regs.aspx> and <https://bxa.ntis.gov/> to learn more about the enhanced availability of the EAR.