

L. How do I Use the ECL and Find Information in the Guide?

Most of this Guide consists of the Export Control List, a lengthy and very technical list of goods that require Federal permits if they are exported. Novice users can find themselves swamped in so much information they lose sight of what they are looking for. Because of this, understanding how to read the ECL and how to find information in it is vital. This section will help explain how the ECL is organized, and how to find specific information in it.

Reading the ECL

1. The ECL is divided into eight different chapters, known as **Groups**. These Groups each consist of items that in many ways appear similar to each other. The following is a list of all of the Groups, and the items that they control:

Group 1: Dual Use List*	Group 5: Miscellaneous Goods
Group 2: Munitions List	Group 6: Missile Technology Control Regime List
Group 3: Nuclear Non-Proliferation List	Group 7: Chemical and Biological Weapons Non-Proliferation List
Group 4: Nuclear-Related Dual Use List*	Group 8: Chemicals for the Production of Illicit Drugs.

* "Dual Use" items are industrial products with a civilian/military or nuclear/non-nuclear use.

2. The text of each Group reflects the international agreement(s) that Canada has entered into concerning the items controlled in that Group. For example, the text of Group 7, which deals with chemical and biological weapons, is very similar to the texts of the Australia Group arrangement on chemical and biological weapons and the Chemical Weapons Convention Treaty.
3. Each portion of distinct information in the ECL is known as an **Item**. Items are the bits of information that make up the ECL, and are collected into the Groups. Items are numbered to make it easier to find the information.
4. Numbering of Items reflects the Group that contains that Item. For example, in Group 2 (the Group concerning Munitions) all of its Items' numbering starts with the number "2". So, for example, bombs, torpedoes and rockets are Item 2004. Item 2005 discusses fire control systems, such as bomb sights. All of the Items in Group 4 begin with the number 4, Group 6's begin with the number 6, and so on. This is important to remember, and makes it easier to find a listed good or technology: if you know the good's Item number, you will automatically know which Group contains it.
5. **Sub-Items** are also given unique numbers. Numbers for sub-items are based upon the main Item number the sub-item refers to: for example, Item 2004.1 is a sub-item of Item 2004. When there are many sub-items, the numbering can become complicated. Consider, for example, Item 1061: it has dozens of sub-items, one of them being 1061.5.c.2.b).(1), which discusses Q-switched lasers.
6. As evidenced by the example above, the number of sub-items alternates between number and letter. Thus, in 1061.5.c.2.b).(1):
 - 1061. is the main Item
 - 5. is the first level of sub-item
 - c. is the second level of sub-item
 - 2. is the third level
 - ... etc.
7. In addition to numbering, sub-items are identified by indentations into the text.