

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS & INTERNATIONAL TRADE CANADA

EXPORT CONTROLS DIVISION

If you export high technology, military or atomic energy products then chances are an export permit is required, by law, before goods may be exported from Canada. The Export Controls Division is responsible for the administration of export controls under the Export and Import Permits Act. Permits are required for a wide range of strategic goods and technologies as defined in the Export Control List (ECL). Goods identified on the ECL require permits for export from Canada to all destinations (except the USA in most instances). In addition, permits are required for the shipment of all goods whether appearing on the ECL or not to Area Control List (ACL) countries. The ACL includes Libya, South Africa, Haiti, Yugoslavia, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia.

The controls that apply to exports of strategic goods are based on national security considerations and are actually implemented on a multilateral basis. Canada, along with its NATO partners (except Iceland), plus Australia and Japan, participates in the Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Strategic Export Controls (COCOM) the purpose of which is to maintain export controls on the shipment of military and strategic goods and technologies to COCOM proscribed destinations (Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Byelarus, The People's Republic of China, the Czech and Slovak Federal Republics, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Mongolia, The Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Poland, Romania, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan and Vietnam).

Within COCOM, International Control Lists (industrial, munitions and atomic energy) are established that define goods and technologies considered to be strategic. In addition to COCOM, Canada also participates in various non-proliferation regimes including the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR), the Australia Group, and various nuclear non-proliferation regimes. Under the MTCR, goods are controlled in order to reduce proliferation of missile systems capable of delivering nuclear, biological and chemical weapons. The Australia Group establishes controls over certain chemicals, biological agents and related dual-use equipment which could be used in chemical and biological weapons systems. Finally, the nuclear and atomic energy controls regulate the export of nuclear/atomic energy goods to prevent international proliferation of nuclear weapons. All goods identified by these various non-proliferation regimes are controlled under Canada's Export Control List.