

EXPORT CONTROLS POLICY

QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

Q1. Why does Canada export military equipment?

A. Canada produces military equipment in order to meet our defence needs and our obligations under NATO and NORAD. We have some 300 companies and 35,000 persons involved in the manufacture of defence and civilian products. Few companies produce defence equipment exclusively and few products of the Canadian defence sector are classed as offensive military equipment. Exports to the USA and Europe are necessary to reduce overall cost and to keep our industry innovative and competitive.

Q2. How has the new policy changed from the previous one?

A. The new policy clarifies the focus of the old policy and improves certain definitions.

Under the previous policy, both military and civilian strategic goods were considered together, particularly when it came to denying exports of these goods to certain classes of countries. The new policy focuses on military equipment. This means that civilian strategic goods may be exported to a wider number of countries than before.

Military goods are designated clearly, and these goods are to be closely controlled to four groups of countries. While three of these groups are unchanged, the definition of the fourth group is considerably refined, to allow the policy to be put into effect with no doubts about its intent.

Particular arrangements are made for joint ventures, as this is an area where Canadian policy did not reflect the changes in industrial structure over the years.

Q3. Why does the definition of military equipment make no reference to the End User?

A. Our concern is with military equipment itself. In addition to military goods, armies and other paramilitary forces currently require a variety of non-military equipment