DON’T LET THIS HAPPEN TO YOU

The U.S. Department of Commerce’s Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) Office of Export Enforcement recently released the "Don’t Let This Happen To You" report of actual investigations of export control and antiboycott violations.

This publication is intended to highlight the seriousness of the administrative and criminal enforcement results as a way to remind the exporting community of what can happen when there’s a failure to comply with BIS rules.

U.S. PLANS TO HELP UNIVERSITIES PROTECT SECURITY OF RESEARCH

The U.S. Department of Commerce on Tuesday announced a new effort aimed at working with universities to protect potentially sensitive research products from theft by foreign agents.

The so-called Academic Outreach Initiative was announced by the Commerce Department’s assistant secretary for export enforcement, Matthew S. Axelrod.

NEW GAO REPORT ON EXPORT CONTROLS AT U.S. UNIVERSITIES

Millions of foreign students and scholars study at U.S. universities, and many contribute to U.S. research. But, there’s a risk that some may illegally access and share sensitive information, such as data or technology, with their home countries. Agencies involved in addressing this threat said that outreach and education increases university officials’ awareness of research security threats and builds stronger relationships with university officials.

GAO was asked to review agencies’ efforts to address risks associated with foreign students and scholars who may seek to evade export control regulations. This report examines the extent to which agencies are assessing universities’ risk of unauthorized deemed exports to prioritize outreach and provides eight recommendations to strengthen the agencies’ ability to prioritize outreach to at-risk universities.

Full details of the review can be found here: Export Controls: Enforcement Agencies Should Better Leverage Information to Target Efforts Involving U.S. Universities
"TALENT PROGRAM" FAQS

What is a foreign “TALENTS” program?

Any foreign state sponsored attempt to acquire U.S.-funded scientific research through recruitment programs that target scientists, engineers, academics, researchers, and entrepreneurs of all nationalities working or educated in the United States.

These recruitment programs are often part of broader whole-of-government strategies to reduce costs associated with basic research while focusing investment on military development or dominance in emerging technology sectors. The Department of Energy issued an order on 7 July 2019 with fairly clear explanations of Talents programs [DOE O 486.1].

How does this affect SIU and me?

Association with a Talents Program can lead to ineligibility to receive Federal funding for your research. Currently there is no due process to challenge such a determination or limit to the time interval over which it is imposed. Past associations may also be concerning to the US Government.

CHINA DEFENSE UNIVERSITIES TRACKER

The Tracker is a tool created by ASPI’s International Cyber Policy Centre to inform universities, governments and scholars as they engage with the entities from the People’s Republic of China. It aims to build understanding of the expansion of military-civil fusion—the Chinese government’s policy of integrating military and civilian efforts—into the education sector. The Tracker should be used to inform due diligence of Chinese institutions.

EQUIPMENT USED IN RESEARCH

If you use the following equipment/goods in your research or the below is your area of research, please call the Director of Export Controls at 618-650-2476.

Rift Valley fever virus ............ 1C351.a.41
Rinderpest virus .................... 1C351.a.42
Ring laser gyro mirror characterizing equipment ........................................ 7B002
Ring Magnets .......................... 0A999
Riot control agents and tear gases .............................................................. 1C607.a
Robot end-effectors ................. 2B207
Robot end-effectors ................. 2B007
Robot controllers for high explosive handling ......................................... 2B207
Robot controllers ..................... 2B007
Robots not controlled by 2B007 or 2B207 ............................................. 2B997
Robots, specially designed to operate at high altitudes ............................ 2B007.d
Robots, explosive/munitions environment handling ............................... 2B007.b
Robots, radiation hardened ...... 2B007.c
Robots with real time 3D image processing or scene analysis ........ 2B207
Robots specially designed for underwater use .................................... 8A002.h
Rocio virus ............................. 1C351.a.43
SIU CLEAN LAPTOP PROGRAM

All SIU travel to the below countries WILL REQUIRE that an Informational Technology Services clean laptop be used during SIU business travel to those countries. Your SIU issued laptop computer SHALL NOT be transported to any of the below countries.

- Iran
- Sudan
- Cuba
- Russia
- Syria
- North Korea
- Ukraine (Crimea Region)
- China
- Venezuela
- Cambodia
- Belarus

U.S. EXPORT CONTROL REGULATIONS

- EXPORT ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS (EAR) by the U.S. Department of Commerce Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS)

- INTERNATIONAL TRAFFIC IN ARMS REGULATIONS (ITAR) by the U.S. Department of State Directorate of Defense Trade Controls (DDTC)

- FOREIGN ASSETS CONTROL REGULATIONS (FACR) by the U.S. Department of Treasury Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC)

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SIU EXPORT CONTROLS WEBSITE

NEWSLETTER CONTENT REQUESTS

If you find any articles, research, or other information relevant to export controls, or have a specific topic you think would be a great addition to this newsletter, please submit your ideas to bjmartin@siu.edu.