

FAQS ON THE UPDATES TO THE STRATEGIC GOODS (CONTROL) ORDER, STRATEGIC GOODS (CONTROL) (BROKERING) ORDER AND STRATEGIC GOODS (CONTROL) REGULATIONS

1) Why the recurrent updating of the strategic goods control list?

In line with international practices, Singapore adopts the Wassenaar Arrangement Munitions List, and the European Union's List of Dual-Use Items ("EUDL") as the basis for our strategic goods control list. The EUDL is an amalgamation of dual-use items controlled by the four multilateral export control regimes (the Wassenaar Arrangement, the Missile Control Technology Regime, the Australia Group, and the Nuclear Suppliers Group). We continuously review and update our control list to reflect changes to the four regimes' lists.

When there are changes to the strategic goods control list, Singapore Customs will issue Circulars and conducts Awareness Briefings for the trading and business community. You are encouraged to join the strategic goods mailing list to receive updates on Singapore's strategic goods control regime (click [here](#) to subscribe).

2) How can we use the strategic goods control list for automated screening to detect if a transaction involves strategic goods?

In line with international practices, Singapore's strategic goods control list is based on the four multilateral export control regimes, namely the Wassenaar Arrangement, the Nuclear Suppliers Group, the Missile Technology Control Regime, and the Australia Group. In these lists, strategic goods, which include technologies, are defined by the technical specifications of those goods. Singapore's strategic goods control list is updated regularly to reflect changes to the four regimes' lists.

The Harmonised System (HS) codes used internationally to classify goods are insufficient to conclusively determine if a particular product falls under the strategic goods control list. In the determination of whether a product is strategic goods, factors such as the end-use and technical specifications of the product need to be taken into consideration. Any person dealing in related goods are required to screen if their goods meet the specifications listed in the strategic goods control list and comply with the requirements under the Strategic Goods (Control) Act. Parties who do not possess full knowledge of the specifications of a product are encouraged to seek advice from relevant parties such as the exporter or manufacturer where necessary. You may wish to refer to Customs' [guidebook](#) on the determination of strategic goods for more information.

All parties in a transaction are strongly urged to implement a robust Internal Compliance Programme (ICP) to perform due diligence checks in the course of their business, so as to ensure that they do not inadvertently violate any domestic laws. In addition to product screening, essential elements of an ICP include customer and end-user screenings. You may wish to refer to Customs website for more information on the essential elements of an [ICP](#) and "[red flags](#)" that businesses should take note of.

3) When will the Strategic Goods (Control) Order 2015 be implemented?

The Strategic Goods (Control) Order 2015 will be effective from **2 November 2015**. This will give the trading and business community time to make necessary adjustments to their business operations.

4) What are the implications on my business with the enactment of the Strategic Goods (Control) Order 2015 ("SGCO 2015")?

Possible business implications include, but not limited to: –

- (a) Unless exemption applies, you will be required to apply for a strategic goods permit if you transfer strategic goods or strategic goods technology, which are **listed in the new SGCO 2015**.

You will **not** be required to apply for a strategic goods permit if the goods or technology that you are transferring are **not listed in SGCO 2015**. However, a strategic goods permit will be required, if you have been notified, are aware, or have reasonable grounds to suspect that such goods and technology are intended or likely to be used wholly or in part, for or in connection with an activity relating to nuclear, chemical or biological weapons, or missiles capable of delivering these weapons.

While certain goods and technology may not be controlled under the Strategic Goods (Control) Act (“SGCA”), they may be controlled by other Competent Authorities. You are advised to also seek clarifications from the relevant Competent Authorities on their licence or permit requirements.

[For the purposes of the SGCA, transfer means the following:

- (i) export, tranship or bring in transit any strategic goods;
- (ii) export any document in which any strategic goods technology is recorded, stored or embodied; or
- (iii) transmit any strategic goods technology.]

- (b) For exports of goods and technology newly listed in SGCO 2015, bulk permit holders may apply for a ‘Product Inclusion’ to their existing bulk permits. For goods and technology that are no longer controlled under the SGCA (i.e. not listed in SGCO 2015), bulk permit holders may request for the removal of such goods and technology from their bulk permits. Please email your requests to customs_schemes@customs.gov.sg.
- (c) Past advisories from Singapore Customs on the classification of certain strategic goods and strategic goods technology may be outdated. With the enactment of SGCO 2015, you are advised to self-classify by comparing the descriptions and specifications of your goods and technology against those specified in the new strategic goods control list. If there is doubt, you may email your enquiries to customs_classification@customs.gov.sg or submit a new application for the determination of strategic goods and strategic goods technology classification. More information on our classification advisories can be found [here](#).
- (d) For brokers who are registered with Singapore Customs, there will be no changes to your existing registrations as the scope of items subject to brokering controls **remains unchanged**. Registered brokers who require further clarifications may write in to customs_stgc@customs.gov.sg with your enquiries.
- (e) The 4th and 5th Schedules to the Strategic Goods (Control) Regulations (“SGCR”) will be amended to take into account the updates to the strategic goods control list. A strategic goods permit will be required for the transshipment and transit of strategic goods listed in the amended 4th and 5th Schedules to the SGCR respectively.

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