

EGADD “Information Pod” at DSEI 2021

Members are informed that, once again, it is planned for EGADD to have an information “pod” at the biennial DSEI 2021 exhibition, which is due to take place at the ExCeL Exhibition Centre in London Docklands, on Tuesday 14th to Friday 17th September. The pod at H2-583, close to the ECJU’s own stand (H2-535), and it is planned to be manned throughout the exhibition by export control experts; if any EGADD Members are planning on attending DSEI 2021, they are warmly encouraged to pop by the stand and pose any queries that they may have with the experts who will be on duty at the event. Also in attendance at DSEI 2021 will be the redoubtable George Grammas, Partner at leading US legal firm Squire Patton Boggs, who can also be contacted on any US export control issues, at george.grammas@squirepb.com and will also be assisting on the EGADD stand on the afternoon of Thursday 16th.

EGADD Main Meeting

This year’s annual Main Meeting will be taking place in a virtual form on **Wednesday 29th September**. Delegates will have the opportunity to discuss the latest topical news on export and trade control issues with subject matter experts, covering key subjects such as:

- Overview of EGADD’s activities over the last 12 months, and plans for 2022;
- Update on the ECJU and the proposed Transformation Programme;
- An Overview of UK Export Controls, Update and roll-out of the new LITE;
- Update on the Consolidated Criteria and the UN Arms Trade Treaty;
- The new EU Dual-Use controls, and their associated human rights catch-all;
- Sanctions, including humanitarian sanctions;
- The EU’s Rules of Origin and Preference;
- The perceived impact of human rights issues on our sectors, and the responsibility of defence companies for any subsequent human rights abuses which might take place using the material that they have provided;
- The Franco-German Trade Agreement; and
- What NGOs want to see in terms of further development of the ATT, as well as other “up and coming” issues from their viewpoint

Further details of this event are to be found at:

<https://www.adsgroup.org.uk/events-list/egadd-annual-main-meeting-2021/>.

Employment Opportunities in the Strategic Export Controls Arena

Members are reminded that EGADD offers a service whereby anyone with any vacancies within the discipline of export and trade controls can advertise any potential employment opportunities on the EGADD website, at: <https://www.egad.org.uk/news/job-opportunities/>.

Useful Websites:

www.pmdtc.state.gov/
www.davidhayes-exportcontrols.com
www.importexportsolutions.co.uk
www.adsgroup.org.uk
www.strongandherd.co.uk
www.gov.uk/government/organisations/export-control-organisation
www.gov.uk/browse/business/imports-exports/import-and-export-controls

www.strategicexportcontrols.org/
www.export-consultancy.co.uk
www.techuk.org/
www.siaed.org
www.export-controls.co.uk

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NEWS LETTER



www.egad.org.uk

News: UK Government Announces Export Control “Transformation Programme”

The British Government published its long-awaited, 112-page *Defence & Security Industrial Strategy* document on Tuesday 23rd March 2021. This is at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/971983/Defence_and_Security_Industrial_Strategy_-_FINAL.pdf. The DSIS contains the following specific comments related to export controls:

- A transformation programme by the Export Control Joint Unit to improve transparency and the customer experience for exporters.
- The UK operates one of the most robust export licensing regimes in the world and this will remain the case. The ECJU is running a Transformation Programme to improve transparency and customer experience for exporters and to identify specific bottlenecks where a lack of resource or expertise causes delays. Working with experts, industry and allies, the UK will maintain an efficient export control system on weapons and dual-use technology that adapts with technological change.
- The Defence Trade Task Force (DTTF) is the bilateral UK/US forum in which export control issues and reforms are pursued to reduce the time and financial cost of transferring and managing export controlled information and material. The focus of both the NTIB and DTTF is on greater ambition for technology-sharing, alongside more robust technology protection.

The reference to the ECJU “... running a Transformation Programme to improve transparency and customer experience for exporters and to identify specific bottlenecks where a lack of resource or expertise causes delays.” has generated a lot of interest within UK Industry.

ADS has subsequently been informed that this involves a number of proposed changes to the way that the ECJU functions, including ensuring that lessons have been learnt from the cases in late-2019 when it was subsequently found that a small number of cases which should have been put on hold by the June 2019 Appeal Court ruling had been inadvertently processed by mistake.

The “Transformation Programme” should be about more than just the introduction of the new LITE electronic licensing system, and it should involve clearer communications on what was needed, a change of the internal culture and organisation. It is hoped that a more constructive dialogue between the ECJU and its exporters should result. There are understood to be an on-going effort to build up the resources of the Transformation Team, and, in due course, they will consult with industry. ADS will be inputting and working with the ECJU moving forward, as this progresses.

Electronic Licensing and Customs – Major Changes Ahead

Over the course of 2021 UK Industry has been experiencing the phased introduction of the new LITE (Licensing for International Trade & Enterprise) electronic licensing system which started to be rolled out in a targeted way, starting with some specific sectors, from May, leading (if this introduction is successful) to full implementation across the whole of Industry by before the end of the year.

LITE will be replacing the existing SPIRE (Shared Primary Information Resource Environment) system, which was introduced in September 2007. Whilst SPIRE, when it was introduced, reflected a major evolution in export licensing terms, as well as an almost unique success story for a Government IT project in that it did exactly what was needed, and was delivered on time and within budget, it is clearly now in need of replacement with a more modern system.

ADS has assisted the ECJU throughout the development programme for LITE, since its inception back at the start of 2016, and there have been a number of ADS-organised consultation sessions to enable the teams developing LITE to seek out the views of Industry (ie the actual users) on what they would be seeking to replace the existing, tried and proven SPIRE system. Now that this is actually seemingly close to realisation and implementation, naturally companies have more than a passing interest in the final shape of the new system, and the ECJU has held a number of demonstration sessions to get industry practitioners as familiar as possible to how to get the best out of it.

In parallel, HMRC's CHIEF (Customs Handling of Import & Export Freight) system, which dates back to 1994, is also due to be replaced over the coming months by the new CDS (Customs Declaration System), which has been being developed over the last few years.

The introduction of these two new systems should revolutionise the way that the UK's trading systems operate, and all UK exporters will need to be aware of these changes as they come into force.

ADS will be working with both the ECJU and HMRC to try to ensure that the introduction of these two new systems is as smooth as possible, and it will regularly update Members on this work as it progresses through the year.

Training

EGADD is continuing to work with Content Enablers (<https://www.contentenablers.com/site/>), the global leader in trade compliance training, to help Member Companies meet these challenges. Content Enablers' unique, web-based training can be used for all employees, but is also available in function-specific modules for HR, Engineering, and Sales and Marketing professionals – all presented in an intuitive process that helps learners understand the regulations regarding:

- Who is involved in their transactions,
- What goods or services are the subject of their transactions, and
- How their transactions are being conducted.

The content is presented in clear, easy-to-understand microlearning elements that highlight key compliance concepts relevant to each job function, offer engaging scenarios that illustrate how these concepts can impact day-to-day job situations, and provide additional resources to reinforce learning. Further details can be found at: <https://egadd.tradecompliance.courses/>

Meanwhile, sight must not be lost of EGADD's relationship with Cranfield University (<https://www.cranfield.ac.uk/>) in the development of their joint training courses – details available at: <https://www.strategicexportcontrols.org/>. Also, full details of the ECJU's own highly respected training offerings are available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/export-control-training-bulletin/export-control-training-bulletin-has-been-temporarily-deleted-due-to-courses-cancelled-in-april-may-and-june-2020>.

Baker McKenzie's Annual Compliance Conferences

Baker McKenzie LLP is organising an extensive and ambitious series of free-to-participate on-line Compliance Conferences during the period 6th September to 8th October. These are due to cover a highly diverse range of compliance-related topics, including:

- Anti-Bribery and Corruption (6-10 September);
- Anti-Trust (13-17 September);
- Customs, Brexit and Beyond (20-24 September);
- Supply Chain, Product and ESG Compliance and Liability (27 September to 1 October); and
- Export Controls & Sanctions (4-8 October).

Further details of all of the above are to be found at:

<https://www.bakermckenzie.com/en/insight/events/2021/10/annual-compliance-conference-2021>.

Licensing Status Report

The ECJU's processing performance has improved markedly over recent months, and the latest figures showed that 75% of SIEL applications were being within 20 working days. However, the long-term cases to be processed in 60 working days were still lagging somewhat behind their stated targets. These relate to a number of nations, including (amongst others): India, Pakistan, China, Taiwan, Israel, UAE, Egypt, and Turkey, but it is hoped that many of these cases may be able to be resolved over the coming weeks

In Memoriam: Barry Fletcher



It is with the very deepest of regret that we have to report the sudden death of Mr Barry Fletcher, of Fletcher International Export Consultancy, on 16th August 2021.

Barry, who was well known and highly regarded across the Industry, as well as within Government, had a long and distinguished career in the civil service, with his extensive time working within the UK MoD (1985 to 2001) and then the Technical Assessment Unit at the ECJU (2001-2006), before then leaving to set up his own consultancy.

He served as an Executive Committee Member of EGADD for a long time, during which his willingness to share his views, experiences and comments helped enormously in the development of EGADD.

He will be deeply missed by his many friends and colleagues, and we would like to pass on our deepest sympathies to his family.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Defence Exports
London, 15-16 September
joverell@smi-online.co.uk

US Export Control Workshops
Stratford-upon-Avon, 20-22 September
Laura.Normandale@adsgroup.org.uk

Intermediate and Foundation Workshops
Southampton, 28 and 29 September
denise.carter@trade.gov.uk

Licenses Workshop
Southampton, 29 September
denise.carter@trade.gov.uk

EGADD Annual Main Meeting
On-Line, 29 September
Claire.Parsons@adsgroup.org.uk

Global Trade Controls
On-Line, 29-30 October
imea.registrations@informa.com

Export Controls & Sanctions Conferences
On-Line, 4-8 October
Kate.Bullard@bakermckenzie.com

Intermediate and Foundation Workshops
Manchester, 12 and 13 October
denise.carter@trade.gov.uk

Licenses Workshop
Manchester, 13 October
denise.carter@trade.gov.uk

SIA's Fall Advanced Conference
Washington DC, 25-26 October
www.siaed.org/events

Intermediate and Foundation Workshops
Edinburgh, 1 and 2 November
denise.carter@trade.gov.uk

Licenses Workshop
Edinburgh, 2 November
denise.carter@trade.gov.uk

Intermediate and Foundation Workshops
London, 30 November and 1 December
denise.carter@trade.gov.uk

Licenses Workshop
London, 1 December
denise.carter@trade.gov.uk

2022
Intermediate and Are my Items Controlled Workshops
Bristol, 25 and 26 January
denise.carter@trade.gov.uk

Licenses Workshop
Bristol, 26 January
denise.carter@trade.gov.uk

Intermediate and Are my Items Controlled Workshops
Plymouth, 22 and 23 February
denise.carter@trade.gov.uk

Licenses Workshop
Plymouth, 23 February
denise.carter@trade.gov.uk