

UK Introduces Export Controls for Emerging Technologies

March 21, 2024

On 12 March 2024, the UK Export Control Joint Unit (ECJU) [announced that UK export control regulations would be amended](#) to introduce new controls on the export of emerging technologies and provide a number of technical updates. Implemented through the Export Control (Amendment) Regulations 2024, the amendments are set to come into force on 1 April 2024.

The Export Control Order 2008

The regulations introduce new export controls on military goods and dual-use emerging technologies. They include a prohibition on the export to any country of:

- Certain types of semiconductors, equipment designed for dry etching, scanning electron microscope equipment, integrated circuits, parametric signal amplifiers, cryogenic cooling systems and components, extreme ultraviolet masks, cryogenic wafer probing equipment and certain advanced materials. The export or transfer by electronic means of software and technology designed for the use, development or production of these items also is subject to export controls.
- Quantum computers and components, as well as software and technology for the development or production of quantum computing.
- Additive manufacturing equipment, as well as software and technology designed for the development or production of such equipment.

The export of these items from the UK to any country will now require an export licence.

The dual-use regulation

The new regulations also amend Annex I of Council Regulation (EC) 428/2009 of 5 May 2009 (the retained European Union dual-use regulation), which lists dual-use goods, software and technology that are subject to export controls in the UK for which an export licence is required. These changes include editorial amendments to the technical notes and definitions in certain entries, amendments to the control parameters for some items, and modifications to the decontrol note for commercial cryptography applications. As the UK is a member of the Wassenaar Arrangement¹ and other multilateral export control regimes, the amendments also seek to bring UK export controls in line with 'like-minded countries'.

Comments

These amendments demonstrate the UK's alignment with other countries – such as the US – insofar as the export restrictions that are being applied to emerging technologies can have dual-use applications. Businesses developing these technologies and operating in this space should ensure they follow robust compliance processes.

If you have any questions, please contact the Cooley authors listed below, who can advise you on the applicable export controls

and how they affect you and your business.

Notes

1. The Wassenaar Arrangement is a voluntary export control regime comprised of 42 member states, which seeks to contribute to regional and international security and stability by promoting transparency and greater responsibility in transfers of conventional arms and dual-use goods and technologies.

This content is provided for general informational purposes only, and your access or use of the content does not create an attorney-client relationship between you or your organization and Cooley LLP, Cooley (UK) LLP, or any other affiliated practice or entity (collectively referred to as "Cooley"). By accessing this content, you agree that the information provided does not constitute legal or other professional advice. This content is not a substitute for obtaining legal advice from a qualified attorney licensed in your jurisdiction and you should not act or refrain from acting based on this content. This content may be changed without notice. It is not guaranteed to be complete, correct or up to date, and it may not reflect the most current legal developments. Prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome. Do not send any confidential information to Cooley, as we do not have any duty to keep any information you provide to us confidential. This content may be considered **Attorney Advertising** and is subject to our [legal notices](#).

Key Contacts

Caroline Hobson London	chobson@cooley.com +44 20 7556 4522
Victoria Barlow London	vbarlow@cooley.com +44 20 7556 4583
Juan Nascimbene London	jnascimbene@cooley.com +44 (0) 20 7556 4558

This information is a general description of the law; it is not intended to provide specific legal advice nor is it intended to create an attorney-client relationship with Cooley LLP. Before taking any action on this information you should seek professional counsel.

Copyright © 2023 Cooley LLP, 3175 Hanover Street, Palo Alto, CA 94304; Cooley (UK) LLP, 22 Bishopsgate, London, UK EC2N 4BQ. Permission is granted to make and redistribute, without charge, copies of this entire document provided that such copies are complete and unaltered and identify Cooley LLP as the author. All other rights reserved.