



Export Council of Australia

The Voice for Australia's Exporters

STRENGTHENING AUSTRALIA'S EXISTING EXPORT CONTROLS IS A GOOD ACT TO FOLLOW

Thursday 26 March 2015

The Export Council of Australia supports the amendments, passed by Parliament last week, made to the Defence Trade Controls Act 2012, although says it is imperative that the Government finds the appropriate balance so that Australian exporters are not overburdened with regulation and costs that impede on their international competitiveness.

The amendments to the Act have introduced new regulations affecting the defence industry, dual-use industries and the science and research sector. The amendments will strengthen export controls around the supply, publication and brokering of items listed in the Defence and Strategic Goods List.

Export Council of Australia's CEO Lisa McAuley says that we understand the previous legislation did not adequately address new security threats that stem from modern communication methods and the non-physical export of controlled goods and technology.

"Australia has a significant and growing defence industry and many companies in the defence industry, dual-use industries and the science and research sector may be impacted by the amendment of the Act."

"The ECA is pleased Defence will be working closely with stakeholders as they establish internal compliance arrangements by providing significant implementation support through outreach and engagement sessions. Detailed guidance, tools and training will be available on [DECO's website](#) shortly", Ms McAuley said.

The offence provisions of the [Defence Trade Controls Act 2012](#) – for supplying and publishing the Defence and Strategic Goods List (DSGL) technology and for brokering DSGL goods and technology – will not come into force until the end of a 12-month implementation period that will run from the date the DTC Amendment Bill receives Royal Assent, due to occur in the coming weeks. Individuals and organisations do not need to seek permits for any activities that will occur during this implementation period. To be prepared for the introduction of the offence provisions, individuals and organisations will be able to apply for permits from 16 May 2015.

A summary of the key changes to the DTC Act that will be introduced by the DTC Amendment Bill is available [here](#).

For comment please contact:

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About the Export Council of Australia The Export Council of Australia is the peak Industry body for the Australian export community. The ECA is the next exciting step in the evolution of the Australian Institute of Export (AIE) which, for over 50 years, has had the interests of Australian exporters at heart.