

How Can American Business Help?

Shield America is not intended to restrict or discourage legitimate U.S. exports in any way. It is designed to protect the technical accomplishments resulting from American ingenuity and labor and to prevent our adversaries from achieving technological parity or gaining a military advantage through illegal acquisition of U.S. technology. To achieve success in this endeavor, the cooperation of U.S. industry with ICE is essential.

It should be strongly emphasized that all businesses who are involved in any aspect of high-technology research, development, and/or production are potential acquisition targets. ICE solicits your assistance in providing information relating to any suspicious circumstances surrounding export transactions of high-technology items or services.

There are four major areas in which U.S. businesses can assist the Government in stemming the illegal flow of equipment, technology, and munitions to unauthorized destinations:

1. By identifying inquiries and orders for production parts, or technology, which are likely to be shipped outside the United States, and ensuring that these transactions are reviewed by export specialists;
2. By ensuring that your export specialists are knowledgeable about export controls and that appropriate screening and licensing procedures are followed;
3. By making certain that employees—whether they live, travel or transmit information abroad, or merely come in contact with foreigners visiting the United States—fully understand that the U.S. Government restricts the flow of certain technical data or know-how, whether it be written, oral or visual; and
4. By identifying all suspicious or unusual inquiries and orders for sensitive technology and notifying ICE as soon as possible without informing the suspect party.

Indicators Of Potential Illegal Exports

- The customer is willing to pay cash for a high-value order rather than use a standard method of payment, which usually involves a letter of credit.
- The customer is willing to pay well in excess of market value for the commodities.
- The purchaser is reluctant to provide information on the end-use, or end-user, of the product.
- The end-use information provided is incompatible with the customary purpose for which the product is designed.
- The final consignee is a trading company, freight forwarder, export company or other entity with no apparent connection to the purchaser.
- The customer appears unfamiliar with the product, its application, support equipment or performance.
- The packaging requirements are inconsistent with the shipping mode or destination.
- The customer orders products or options that do not correspond with their line of business.
- The customer has little or no business background.
- The order is placed by firms or individuals from foreign countries other than the country of the stated end-user.
- The order is being shipped via circuitous or economically illogical routing, such as through Canada to a non-Canadian end-user.
- The customer declines the normal service, training or installation contracts.
- The product is inappropriately or unprofessionally packaged (e.g., odd sized/re-taped boxes, hand lettering in lieu of printing, altered labels, or labels that cover old ones).
- The size or weight of the package does not fit the product described.
- "Fragile" or other special markings on the package are inconsistent with the commodity described.

Report Suspicious Activity
Toll-Free ICE Tip Line
1-866-DHS-2ICE
www.ice.gov



**U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement**



SHIELD
America

Shield America
America's First Defense
Against Terrorism



**U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement**

What Is It And What Are Its Goals?

Shield America is one of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) priority enforcement programs. Shield America was designed to stop the illegal movement of U.S. munitions list items and strategic technology having sensitive civil and military applications to proscribed destinations and international terrorist organizations throughout the world.

ICE and the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) are the first line of defense at our Nation's borders to protect the American public from international terrorism. Our mission in combating international terrorism includes:

1. Protect the American public from the introduction of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and other instruments of terror into the U.S. from abroad;
2. Prevent hostile nations and international criminal groups from obtaining WMD materials and technologies, arms, funds, and other support from U.S. and foreign sources; and
3. Prevent foreign nationals from illegally accessing controlled U.S.-origin technology from within the U.S. (deemed export)

Why Is This Program Considered Necessary?

Adversaries of the United States have acquired large quantities of U.S. and Western technology since World War II by various means, both legal and illegal. Such acquisitions have provided these countries with the fruits of Western research and strategic technology largely without cost, and have permitted those countries to channel their resources for other purposes. U.S. goods and technology have also assisted our adversaries in harming U.S. soldiers, citizens, and allies. Additionally, nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons and material are more widely available to terrorists and rogue nations than at any other time in our history.

How Much Material Is Being Exported Illegally?

As with any illegal trade, the exact volume is difficult to measure or even to estimate. However, ICE criminal investigations and seizures indicate that such trade can be valued in the tens of millions of dollars annually.

The monetary value of the illegal exports discovered by ICE is often secondary to the strategic and potential military value of these products. For example, in one investigation a sophisticated military aviation guidance system was seized by ICE as it was exported from the United States. While the value of this system was only a few thousand dollars, its acquisition by our adversaries could have jeopardized the security of the United States and its allies.

Some of the strategic technology most urgently needed by certain proscribed countries includes:

- modern manufacturing technology, for the production of microelectronics, computers, digital electronic components, and signal processing systems;
- technology necessary for the development of aircraft, missile, and other tactical weapon delivery systems;
- all types of advanced signal and weapons detection, tracking, and weapons monitoring systems;
- technology and equipment used in the construction of nuclear weapons and materials; and
- biological, chemical warfare agents and precursors.

How Has The Program Been Implemented?

ICE, together with CBP, designed a three-pronged effort to implement its program:

1. Inspection/interdiction;
2. Investigations; and
3. International cooperation.

The inspection/interdiction effort uses specially-trained CBP Officers to selectively inspect suspect exports.

The investigations effort involves ICE special agents deployed throughout the country to initiate and pursue investigations leading to seizures and the arrest and conviction of offenders of U.S. export laws. ICE uses proactive investigative techniques to detect and seize illegal exports before they can damage U.S. interests.

The international cooperation effort focuses on the use of ICE Attachés stationed in foreign countries to enlist the support of their host governments to initiate investigative leads and to develop information in support of ongoing domestic investigations.

These efforts are all supported by the Exodus Command Center located in Washington, D.C. The center maintains contacts with the U.S. Departments of Commerce, State, Defense, and other agencies concerned with the export of strategic U.S. materials, technologies and services.

America's First Defense
Against Terrorism www.ice.gov