



ARL continues to receive strong support from our sponsors and several current programs have major procurements in process. We want your feedback and invite you to email SupplierRelations@arl.psu.edu with any questions, suggested topics, or areas of interest. We appreciate your partnership as you play a vital role in helping ARL and our sponsors achieve our collective mission.

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT: SHIELD AMERICA *Homeland Security Investigations*

A PARTNERSHIP TO PROTECT AMERICA

Shield America is an outreach initiative designed by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) that seeks the partnership, cooperation, and assistance of private industry and the academic community in preventing the illegal foreign procurement of export-controlled commodities, technology, and information. The primary objective of the Shield America initiative is to increase public awareness of export controls and assist in understanding the current U.S. export control laws, sanctions, and embargoes. Shield America is also designed to aid private industry and the academic community in the recognition, detection, and resolution of attempted illegal acquisition of military products and controlled dual-use commodities, technology and technical data.

HOW SHIELD AMERICA WORKS:

All U.S. businesses and academic institutions involved in high-technology research, development, or production are potential targets for exploitation. Working in partnership with U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), private industry and the academic community, ICE-HSI uses Shield America as the first line of defense against those who seek to compromise U.S. national security by violating our export control laws.

"RED FLAG" INDICATORS OF POTENTIAL ILLEGAL EXPORT ACTIVITY:

The following activities are some indicators ("red flag") that someone may not be authorized to acquire your commodities, technology, and information because of the U.S. export control laws:

- Customer makes payment in excess of market value
- Purchaser is reluctant to provide end-use information
- Item is incompatible with stated end-use or end-user
- Item does not correspond with customer's line of business
- Customer provides vague end-user and end-use information
- Shipping route is abnormal for the product and destination
- Freight forwarding or trading company is listed as final end-user or destination
- Customer declines routine installation, training, and maintenance services
- Customer has little or no business background or is unfamiliar with product
- Order placed by individual or entity in a country other than country of stated end-use
- Packaging is inconsistent with shipping mode, destination, or product description
- Troubleshooting inquires by different end-user, end-use location, or in wrong language
- Request for replacement parts or warranty service to wrong customer location
- Faculty or students working on projects outside the scope of academic program
- Solicitations from foreign students for employment or research on export-controlled projects
- Inquiries on export-controlled technology outside scope of employment or academic program



Red flag indicators should alert businesses and academic institutions that their commodities, technology, or information may be destined for an inappropriate end-use, end-user, or destination. In such situations, businesses and academic institutions should conduct due diligence and additional inquiries into the transaction to prevent an unauthorized export. If the red flag indicators cannot be explained or justified, please contact HSI Special Agents for follow up and further inquiry.

All content was directly quoted from "Homeland Security Investigations, Project Shield America" flyer, Draft v1.1.

Report all suspicious export inquiries to ICE-HSI at:
1-866-DHS-2ICE | 1-866-347-2423 www.ice.gov/webform/hsi-tip-form