



Ministry
of Defence

Industry Security Notice

Number 2017/07

**Subject: RELEASE OF UK OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE AND EQUIVALENT
THIRD PARTY CLASSIFIED MATERIAL TO FOREIGN NON-GOVERNMENT
RECIPIENTS**

Introduction

1. The information contained in this Industry Security Notice (ISN) is to advise UK Defence Contractors of the process to be followed to obtain Facility Security Clearance (FSC) confirmation for the release of UK material (information and equipment) classified UK OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE (including third party material classified RESTRICTED or equivalent) to non-Government recipients in those nations where it is known have national requirements for FSC at the UK OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE/RESTRICTED or equivalent level.

Issue

2. As identified in the UK Government Security Policy Framework – Contractual Process document (see [link](#)¹), the UK are aware that some nations² security regulations require non-Government recipients to have a valid FSC prior to the receipt, processing or handling of material classified at the level of UK OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE (including third party material classified RESTRICTED or equivalent).

¹ https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/367491/Contractual_Process.pdf

² Check the Contractual Process document for the latest list, however, paragraph 100 currently identifies them as: Australia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Luxembourg, Romania and the Slovak Republic.

3. In order for the UK Government to comply with bi-lateral security obligations, it is therefore necessary for confirmation of the FSC to be obtained from the MOD prior to the transfer, transmission or provision of any UK OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE/RESTRICTED or equivalent material to these foreign non-Government facilities.

Action by Industry

4. For the release of UK OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE/RESTRICTED or equivalent material from UK contractors being sent to overseas non-Government or contractor recipients prior approval must have been granted by the relevant MOD authority either directly from the MOD Project team or in the form of MOD Form 680 or F1686 approval letters³.

5. The UK contractor must provide the full name and address of the overseas recipient in the form of Annex A to this ISN, emailed to the DES PSyA-Security Advice Centre (SAC) and receive written confirmation from the SAC that the proposed recipient has been granted an appropriate FSC by its National/Designated Security Authority (NSA/DSA) to receive the classified material. Some overseas NSAs/DSAs take a long time to respond to the FSC assurance requests, so the FSC enquiry sent to the SAC must be sent well in advance of the anticipated date of transmission in order to meet the company's planned first information transfer date. No classified information may be sent until the written confirmation of the overseas facility's FSC has been received from the SAC.

6. If the contractor has received any necessary export control approval, and the relevant approval, as stated in para 4 above, to release the classified material to the overseas recipient, and has written FSC confirmation from the SAC, the following transmission requirements must be applied:

- a. MOD classified material at the level of UK OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE and third party RESTRICTED or equivalent may be physically transmitted overseas via international postal services or Commercial Courier companies, or hand carried.

³ As required in accordance with Security Conditions - Guidance for UK Contractors on the Protection of UK Assets marked as UK OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE.

b. UK OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE and third party RESTRICTED or equivalent information shall normally only be transmitted over the internet encrypted. For UK OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE this encryption can be undertaken by using either a CESC Commercial Product Assurance (CPA) cryptographic product or a MOD approved cryptographic technique such as Transmission Layer Security (TLS). In the case of TLS both the sender and recipient organisations must have TLS enabled. Details of the required TLS implementation are available at the following Link: <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/tls-external-facing-services>. Details of the CPA scheme are available at: <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/scheme/commercial-product-assurance-cpa>.

c. UK OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE information shall only be sent when it is known that the recipient has been made aware of and can comply with the requirements of these Security Conditions and subject to any explicit limitations that the authority shall require. Such limitations, including any regarding publication, further circulation or other handling instructions shall be clearly identified in the email sent with the material.

Validity / Expiry Date

7. The requirements detailed in this ISN apply with immediate effect and until it may be replaced.

MOD Point of Contact Details

Ministry of Defence
Defence Equipment and Support
PSyA - Security Advice Centre
Poplar 1, #2004
Abbey Wood South
Bristol, BS34 8JH
Email: DESPSyA-SecurityAdviceCentre@mod.gov.uk

FACILITY SECURITY CLEARANCE (FSC) ENQUIRY BY A UK MOD CONTRACTOR FOR AN OVERSEAS CONTRACTOR

To be emailed to the DES PSyA Security Advice Centre at: DESPSyA-SecurityAdviceCentre@mod.gov.uk

1. Details of UK Contractor

Full Name of UK Contractor:

Full Address of UK Contractor:

Name of Security Controller/Officer:

Email Address:

Telephone No:

2. Details of Overseas Contractor which is the subject of the FSC Enquiry

Full Name of Overseas Contractor:

Full Address of Overseas Contractor:

3. MOD DES PSyA – Security Advice Centre Replyⁱ:

i. The facility identified at paragraph 2 above has been granted an FSC by its respective security authority to handle and receive data at UK OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE which expires on:.....

ii. The facility identified at paragraph 2 above has NOT been granted an FSC:

☐

Name:

Date:.....

ⁱ Only either 3(i) or 3(ii) to be completed.