



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

# Defence Security

## Scientific, Technical and Industrial Security Guidance

### How to obtain a security grading for defence related technology not funded by the MoD

The DefSy(S&T/Ind) are the lead for the development of Technical and Industrial security policy within the MoD. It is the **only** department that can provide formal security grading advice for Private Venture (PV) funded (i.e. not MoD funded) defence related technology.

To obtain a security grading it is necessary to apply in writing to DefSy(S&T/Ind) and include the following:

- Your name and address and the address of the security controller for where you work.
- A clear statement that a PV Grading is being requested with details of relevant previous security grading received and an explanation of what has changed between then and now.
- Definitive technical documentation (including datasheets) for grading purposes that enables us to determine: the capability the technology would provide; its level of technical equivalency with equipment in-service with the UK Armed Forces or the UK Government and any potential vulnerability a release of this technology would reveal about that in-service equipment.
- If the technology is a derivative or variant of a MoD funded project, details of what changes have been made under PV funding must be declared.
- Any security advice you may have received from other MoD departments and their contact details. If available, please attach copies of this advice to the application.
- Any other evidence or examples of what might be going on elsewhere in the world that you feel may assist our assessment.

**The address to send your applications to is:**

DefSy (S&T/Ind) Coord  
DBR Defence Security  
Ministry of Defence  
1st Floor Zone I  
Main Building, Whitehall  
London SW1A 2HB  
Tel: 0207 218 4295

**Please note:**

- We do not accept applications for PV grading by email. This is because your application may contain information not releasable across the internet.
- We cannot grade technology funded and developed overseas. However, we can grade or provide advice on overseas technology modified/enhanced under UK PV funding, technology developed in the UK with overseas funding and that developed overseas with UK PV funding.
- This is not the same as obtaining exhibition clearances. The aim of exhibition clearances is to clear publicity material at an UNCLASSIFIED level for technology that could have a higher protective marking. The process for obtaining exhibition clearances is set out in guidance which your security controller will have access to and is able to advise on.

**Remember obtaining a grading does not replace the requirement to obtain an Export Licence or, where necessary, a MoD Form 680 clearance.**

Our mission is to enable the Department to operate securely