

ANNOUNCEMENT 2021-02:

ENCOURAGING STMA - COVERED PERSONS TO APPLY FOR EXPORT AUTHORIZATION

The Strategic Trade Management Office (STMO) is encouraging all persons engaged or intend to engage in the export of strategic goods to register and apply for authorization.

Strategic goods are products that, for security reasons or due to international agreements, are considered to be of such military importance that their export is either prohibited altogether or subject to specific conditions. These are goods listed in the National Strategic Goods List (NSGL).

The STMO began accepting applications for registration and authorization last October 2019 and July 2020, respectively. To date, the STMO has 23 registered entities and 2 issued authorizations.

Non-registration and non-authorization are punishable under Article 1(a), Rule VIII of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the Strategic Trade Management Act (STMA). Penalties include imprisonment lasting up to twelve (12) years and fines amounting to up to five million pesos (P 5,000,000.00).

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, administrative penalties are temporarily suspended under MC No. 20-27. Notwithstanding, the STMO will still be issuing warning letters to violators, per MC No. 20-60.

The STMO will also soon be lifting the said suspension as the country's economy continues to reopen.

Thus, all covered persons must comply with the law to avoid penalties and shipment delays. Compliance will also primarily boost the country's reputation as compliant with global standards in the trade of strategic goods - attracting foreign investments and generating jobs.

The STMO is more than willing to extend assistance to the industry in adhering to the STMA. Our issuances and information materials are available through our website, <https://www.dti.gov.ph/trabaho/strategic-trade-management/>. Our team of technical experts may also be contacted through stmo_rad@dti.gov.ph for further concerns/clarifications.

Let us work together towards the maintenance of global peace and national security.

STRATEGIC TRADE MANAGEMENT OFFICE