

2025 Current Fiscal Year Report: Materials and Equipment Technical Advisory Committee

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1. Department or Agency

Department of Commerce

2. Fiscal Year

2025

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Materials and Equipment Technical
Advisory Committee

3b. GSA

Committee No.

360

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

10/19/2023 10/19/2025

6. Expected Renewal Date

7. Expected Term Date

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

8b. Specific Termination Authority

8c. Actual Term Date

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

Not Applicable

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority

Statutory (Congress Created)

12. Specific Establishment Authority

50 U.S.C. §§ 4601-4623
(Supp. III 2015) (the "Act")

13. Effective Date

07/12/1985 Continuing

14. Committee Type

14c. Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee

Scientific Technical Program
Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for
this Fiscal Year

17a. Open

0 17b. Closed0 17c. Partially Closed0 Other Activities0 17d. Total0

Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Administrative Costs (FRNs, contractor support, In-person/hybrid/virtual meetings)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18d. Other (all other funds not captured by any other cost category)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18e. Total Costs	\$0.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.00	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The Materials and Equipment Technical Advisory Committee (METAC or Committee) focused on the following topics in FY2025: current and emerging neurotechnology on the global bioeconomy; challenges and considerations with the export of alloyed materials; life sciences instruments and consumables used in the study of genes, proteins,

metabolites, and cells to understand the causes of disease, identify new therapies, and develop/provide new drugs and vaccines in a global environment; the landscape, challenges, and adoption of Additive Manufacturing; the National Foreign Trade Council's national security initiative to ensure that the U.S. considers critical infrastructure, supply chain, and foreign investment, in addition to new and emerging technologies; the modernization of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection export processes; BIS's role in Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS), export control challenges in the manufacture of Synthetic DNA, and the building of the U.S. bioindustrial manufacturing base. Primary recommendations included strategies to control the use of emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning to synthesize chemical/biological weapons and toxic agents; the evaluation of metal-organic frameworks used to bind chemicals and potential applicability in defensive chemical applications; continued discussions on leveling the playing field for licensing policy amongst signatories of the international control groups; and ongoing dialogue on guidelines for sanctioned parties on the entity list pertaining to export of items to hospitals and other humanitarian end users that may be subordinate to military end users. The METAC will maintain pre-scheduled meetings for FY2024 with the goal of maximizing the membership and official attendance. The dates for the METAC meetings will continue to be synchronized with the Transportation and Related Equipment Technical Advisory Committee to enable cross-TAC working groups on issues that impact Categories 1, 2, and 9. Members are encouraged to raise awareness/suggest members of the METAC to

appropriate representatives of suitable companies. Working groups for Hydrogels in Category 1 and Metal Organic Frameworks in Category 2 will continue to meet in addition to less formal working groups to support ongoing international control group proposals and provide industry perspective for U.S. Government discussions in support of overall improvement of export regime controls and on METAC related issues.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The METAC is composed of industry representatives and U.S. Government agencies with specific technical or export control expertise. The principal sources for industry members are large and small firms located throughout the country that produce materials, hardware and software, and design, develop and manufacture machine tools and equipment, as well as consultants and attorneys that represent these companies. The Committee's activities include evaluation and commentary on data and other evidence available from the Department of Commerce, other reliable sources, and its own experience.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

The METAC met four times during FY 2024. The Materials and Equipment Technical Advisory Committee (METAC) met four times during FY2024: November 16th, 2023; March 26th, 2024; May 30th, 2024; and September 12th, 2024. The METAC successfully addressed technical issues related to the commodities and technology within Control List Categories 1 and 2.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this

committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The METAC reviews proposals regarding Control List: Category 1 (materials, chemicals, microorganisms, and toxins); and Category 2 (automated manufacturing equipment). Through this Committee, the Department of Commerce can obtain the advice of otherwise unavailable individuals who possess a high quality of expertise in the areas of advanced materials. No other sources within the Government can advise on the technical parameters for export controls in these areas.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

Closed sessions are held to allow for discussion of information classified for reasons of national security, information the premature disclosure of which would be likely to significantly frustrate implementation of a proposed agency action, or information of a commercial or financial nature that is privileged or confidential.

21. Remarks

Authorized by the Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 U.S.C. app. 2401-2420) as amended by the Export Administration Amendments Act of 1985, P.L. 99-64, 99 Stat. 120 (July 12, 1985). Although the Export Administration Act of 1979 (EAA), as amended, has expired, its provisions and those of the Export Administration Regulations were continued in effect, and to the extent permitted by law, when the President by Executive Order invoked the International Emergency Economic Powers Act.

Designated Federal Officer

Betty Lee DFO

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
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Colon, Jose	06/18/2021	06/18/2025	Department of State	Regular Government Employee (RGE) Member
Diggans, James	06/18/2021	06/18/2025	Twist Bioscience/Veracyte, Inc.	Representative Member
Foot, Kenneth	06/18/2021	06/18/2025	Dow Corning Corporation	Representative Member
Keller, Brent	06/18/2021	06/18/2025	Five Cincinnati	Representative Member
Tibor, Tory	01/09/2021	01/09/2025	Olympus Corporation	Representative Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 5

Narrative Description

The Materials and Equipment Technical Advisory Committee provides the Department of Commerce with an extremely high level of technical and business expertise from a cross section of the biotechnology and materials industries. Its advice on the practicability and effectiveness of export controls on etiological agents, materials, and the related instrumentation and technology has been invaluable to the Department in developing export policy. The Committee is a readily available resource for the Department to call on in preparing for negotiations within the applicable multilateral regimes.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if
Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

NA

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cost Savings Comments

NA

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

22

Number of Recommendations Comments

The Committee met four times in FY 2024. There were six recommendations.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

N/A

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

2%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

The METAC discussed the following recommendations which are expected to continue

into FY2025: • Consider forming a working group to review ECCN 2B350 and upcoming changes. • Continued discussion on AI/Machine Learning driven strategies/controls relevant to the creation of chemical weapons/biologic agents vs. Dual Use applications. Consider built in safeguards to look for key words or patterns in questions that would indicate malicious intent and prohibit output. • Continued discussion on metal-organic frameworks that can be tuned to bind specific chemicals. Metal-organic frameworks have been explored for a variety of defense and dual use applications. • Continued discussion on leveling the playing field for licensing policy across all signatories of the international control groups (i.e., WA, NSG, AG, MTCR) or at least amongst the U.S. and EU. • Continue ongoing review and conversation of guidelines for sanctioned parties on the entity list specifically as it pertains to hospitals that are subordinate to military end users. Potentially consider if guidance like what is used for the BARC Hospital is possible for certain regions (e.g., China). • Continue ongoing review and conversation if it is possible to create a reference document (e.g., downloadable list) to identify which Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HS) codes are revised for restrictions to Russia.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

The agency involves the Materials and Equipment Technical Advisory Committee in the process of implementing the negotiated export controls through the Export Administration Regulations. The Public is informed through its website and the Federal Register. For additional information or comments, go to <https://tac.bis.doc.gov>.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

NA

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

NA

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

N/A