DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Bureau of Industry and Security

15 CFR Part 744

[Docket No. 121009527–2527–01]

RIN 0694–AF80

Addition of Certain Persons to the Entity List

AGENCY: Bureau of Industry and Security, Commerce.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This rule amends the Export Administration Regulations (EAR) by adding two persons to the Entity List and revising one existing entry. The persons who are added to the Entity List have been determined by the U.S. Government to be acting contrary to the national security or foreign policy interests of the United States. These persons will be listed on the Entity List under one destination. The two entries added to the Entity List consist of two entries in Pakistan. This rule is also revising one existing entry in the U.A.E. to clarify the scope of the entry by providing an additional alias and alternate address for this listed person.

The Entity List notifies the public that certain exports, reexports, and transfers (in-country) of items subject to the EAR to entities identified on the Entity List require licenses from the Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) and that in most instances license exceptions are unavailable for such transactions. BIS usually applies a license review policy of denial because it considers such entities to present significant risks of diversion to weapons of mass destruction (WMD) programs, terrorism, or other activities that are contrary to U.S. national security or foreign policy interests. By publicly listing such entities, BIS seeks to assist legitimate exporters, reexporters and transferors, and other parties participating in transactions that are subject to the EAR by providing them with information to detect and avoid high risk transactions with those entities, which in most cases means any transaction that involves items that are subject to the EAR.

DATES: Effective Date: This rule is effective November 29, 2012.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Karen Nies-Vogel, Chair, End-User Review Committee, Office of the Assistant Secretary, Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, Phone: (202) 482–5991, Fax: (202) 482–3911, Email: ERC@bis.doc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Entity List (Supplement No. 4 to Part 744) notifies the public about entities that have engaged in activities that could result in an increased risk of the diversion of exported, reexported or transferred (in-country) items to weapons of mass destruction (WMD) programs. Since its initial publication, grounds for inclusion on the Entity List have expanded to include activities sanctioned by the State Department and activities contrary to U.S. national security or foreign policy interests, including terrorism and export control violations involving abuse of human rights. Certain exports, reexports, and transfers (in-country) to entities identified on the Entity List require licenses from BIS and are usually subject to a policy of denial. The availability of license exceptions in such transactions is very limited. The license review policy for each entity is identified in the license review policy column on the Entity List and the availability of license exceptions is noted in the Federal Register notices adding persons to the Entity List. BIS places entities on the Entity List based on certain sections of part 744 (Control Policy: End-User and End-Use Based) of the EAR.

The End-user Review Committee (ERC), composed of representatives of the Departments of Commerce (Chair), State, Defense, Energy and, where appropriate, the Treasury, makes all decisions regarding additions to, removals from, or other modifications to the Entity List. The ERC makes all decisions to add an entry to the Entity List by majority vote and all decisions to remove or modify an entry by unanimous vote.

ERC Entity List Decisions

Additions to the Entity List

This rule implements the decision of the ERC to add two persons to the Entity List on the basis of § 744.11 (License requirements that apply to entities acting contrary to the national security or foreign policy interests of the United States) of the EAR. The two entries added to the Entity List consist of two entries in Pakistan.

The ERC reviewed § 744.11(b) (Criteria for revising the Entity List) in making the determination to add these two persons to the Entity List. Under that paragraph, persons for whom there is reasonable cause to believe, based on specific and articulable facts, that they have been involved, are involved, or pose a significant risk of being or becoming involved in, activities that are contrary to the national security or foreign policy interests of the United States may be added to the Entity List pursuant to § 744.11. Paragraphs (b)(1)–(b)(5) of § 744.11 include an illustrative list of activities that could be contrary to the national security or foreign policy interests of the United States.

The two persons being added under Pakistani law, Mohammad Azam and Azam Electronics, are believed to have been involved in activities described under paragraphs (b)(1) and (b)(2) of § 744.11.

Mohammad Azam owns and directs Azam Electronics in Chaman, Pakistan. There are entities operating in Chaman, Pakistan, that support violent extremist organizations that use Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) in Pakistan and Afghanistan to further their terrorist-related objectives. Electronic components sourced from Azam Electronics are used as triggering devices in IEDs that are being used in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

For the two persons added to the Entity List and the one modified entry described below, the ERC specified a license requirement for all items subject to the EAR, and established a license application review policy of a presumption of denial. The license requirement applies to any transaction in which items are to be exported, reexported, or transferred (in-country) to such persons or in which such persons act as purchaser, intermediate consignee, ultimate consignee, or end-user. In addition, no license exceptions are available for exports, reexports, or transfers (in-country) to those persons being added to the Entity List.

This final rule adds the following two persons to the Entity List:

Pakistan

(1) Azam Electronics, a.k.a., the following two aliases:

—Mohammad Azam Electronics, and

—Akram Dish TV Satellite Center, Chaman, Killa, Abdullah District, Baluchistan Province, Pakistan; and

(2) Mohammad Azam, a.k.a:

—Mohammad Akram, Chaman, Killa, Abdullah District, Baluchistan Province, Pakistan.

Modification to the Entity List

On the basis of a decision made by the ERC, in addition to the two Pakistani additions described above, this rule amends one entry currently on the Entity List under the U.A.E. The amendments provide one additional alias and one alternate address for this listed person, as follows:

[Continues with detailed information on the amendments to the Entity List entry for the U.A.E.]
United Arab Emirates

(1) Infotec, a.k.a., the following two aliases:
   — Info Tech, and
   — I. Tec Trading FZE, P.O Box 10559, Ras Al Khaimah, U.A.E.; and Ras Al Khaimah Free Trade Zone (RAKFTZ), U.A.E.

Revision of Authority Citation for Part 744

On November 14, 1994, by Executive Order 12938, the President declared a national emergency with respect to the unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States posed by the proliferation of nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons (weapons of mass destruction) and the means of delivering such weapons. The authority for authority for parts 730, 734, 736, 742, 744 and 745 of the Export Administration Regulations (15 CFR parts 730–774) rests in part on that executive order and the annual notices continuing the international emergency declared therein. This rule revises the authority citations paragraph to part 744 of the EAR (15 CFR part 730) to include citations to the President’s Notice of November 1, 2012—Continuation of the National Emergency With Respect to Weapons of Mass Destruction (77 FR 66513, November 5, 2012), which is the most recent such annual notice.

Savings Clause

Shipments of items removed from eligibility for a License Exception or export or reexport without a license (NLR) as a result of this regulatory action that were en route aboard a carrier to a port of export or reexport, on November 29, 2012, pursuant to actual orders for export or reexport to a foreign destination, may proceed to that destination under the previous eligibility for a License Exception or export or reexport without a license (NLR).

Although the Export Administration Act expired on August 20, 2001, the President, through Executive Order 13222 of August 17, 2001, 3 CFR, 2001 Comp., p. 783 (2002), as extended by the Notice of August 15, 2012, 77 FR 49699 (August 16, 2012), has continued the Export Administration Regulations in effect under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act. BIS continues to carry out the provisions of the Export Administration Act, as appropriate and to the extent permitted by law, pursuant to Executive Order 13222.

Rulemaking Requirements

1. Executive Orders 13563 and 12866 direct agencies to assess all costs and benefits of available regulatory alternatives and, if regulation is necessary, to select regulatory approaches that maximize net benefits (including potential economic, environmental, public health and safety effects, distributive impacts, and equity). Executive Order 13563 emphasizes the importance of quantifying both costs and benefits, of reducing costs, of harmonizing rules, and of promoting flexibility. This rule has been determined to be not significant for purposes of Executive Order 12866.

2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to nor be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information, subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.) (PRA), unless that collection of information displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Control Number. This regulation involves collections previously approved by the OMB under control numbers 0694–0088, “Multi-Purpose Application,” which carries a burden hour estimate of 43.8 minutes for a manual or electronic submission. Total burden hours associated with the PRA and OMB control number 0694–0088 are not expected to increase as a result of this rule. You may send comments regarding the collection of information associated with this rule, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to Jasmeet K. Seehra, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), by email to Jasmeet.K_Seehra@omb.eop.gov, or by fax to (202) 395–7285.

3. This rule does not contain policies that may have Federalism implications. Accordingly, Part 744 of the Export Administration Regulations (15 CFR parts 730–774) is amended as follows:

PART 744—[AMENDED]

■ 1. The authority citation for 15 CFR part 744 is revised to read as follows:


■ 2. Supplement No. 4 to part 744 is amended:

■ a. By adding under Pakistan, in alphabetical order, two Pakistani entities; and
b. By revising under the United Arab Emirates, the Emirati entity, Infotec, a.k.a., Info Tech, Ras Al Khaimah Free Trade Zone (RAKFTZ), U.A.E. The additions and revisions read as follows:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Entity</th>
<th>License requirement</th>
<th>License review policy</th>
<th>Federal Register citation</th>
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<td><strong>PAKISTAN</strong></td>
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<td>—Akram Dish TV Satellite Center, Chaman, Killa, Abdullah District,</td>
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<td>Mohammed Azam, a.k.a., Chaman, Killa, Abdullah District, Baluchistan</td>
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Dated: November 26, 2012.

Kevin J. Wolf,
Assistant Secretary for Export Administration.
[FR Doc. 2012–28919 Filed 11–28–12; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510–33–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

24 CFR Part 203
[Docket No. FR–5397–N–05]
RIN 2502–ZA05

Federal Housing Administration (FHA): Temporary Waiver of FHA’s Regulation on Property Flipping; Extension of Waiver

AGENCY: Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing—Federal Housing Commissioner, HUD.

ACTION: Notice of waiver extension.

SUMMARY: This notice of waiver extension announces that FHA is extending the availability of the temporary waiver of its regulation that prohibits the use of FHA financing to purchase single family properties that are being resold within 90 days of the previous acquisition, until December 31, 2014. This waiver, which was first issued in January 2010, took effect for all sales contracts executed on or after February 1, 2010. On January 28, 2011, FHA extended the waiver through calendar 2011. On December 28, 2011, FHA extended the waiver through calendar 2012. Prior to the waiver, a mortgage was not eligible for FHA insurance if the contract of sale for the purchase of the property that secured the mortgage was executed within 90 days of the prior acquisition by the seller, and the seller did not come under any of the exemptions to this 90-day period specified in the regulation.

Through the regulatory waiver, FHA encourages investors that specialize in acquiring and renovating properties to renovate foreclosed and abandoned homes, with the objective of increasing the availability of affordable homes for first-time and other purchasers, helping to stabilize real estate prices as well as neighborhoods and communities where foreclosure activity has been high. The waiver is applicable to all single family properties being resold within the 90-day period after prior acquisition, and is not limited to foreclosed properties. Additionally, the waiver is subject to certain conditions, and mortgages must meet these conditions to be eligible for the waiver. The waiver is not applicable to mortgages insured under HUD’s Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM) Program.

DATES: Effective Date: January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2014.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Karin B. Hill, Director, Office of Single Family Program Development, Office of Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street SW., Washington, DC 20410–8000; telephone number 202–708–2121 (this is not a toll-free number). Persons with hearing or speech impairments may access this number through TTY by calling the toll-free Federal Relay Service at 800–877–8339.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
I. Background

Section 203.37a(b)(2) of HUD’s regulations (24 CFR 203.37a(b)(2)) establishes FHA’s rule on recent resales