

ASSIGNING DISTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

The Department of Defense asks contributors to use a document classification system outlined in DoD Instruction (DoDI) 5230.24, *Distribution Statements on Technical Documents*, dated 23 August 2012, to indicate how broadly their documents should be distributed based on defined criteria. The information contained below was adapted for NPS thesis use from [DOD Instruction 5230.24](#).

Choose one statement below for your document. If you choose a restricted statement (B through E), choose a “reason” from the list below. The only acceptable reasons are those listed. Include only the reason; do not include the explainer paragraph that accompanies the reason. If your document contains export-controlled technical data, see page 5.

STATEMENT A

Approved for public release. Distribution is unlimited.

This statement may be used only on unclassified technical documents that have been cleared for public release by competent authority in accordance with DoD Directive 5230.9. Technical documents resulting from contracted fundamental research efforts will normally be assigned Distribution Statement A, except for those rare and exceptional circumstances where there is a high likelihood of disclosing performance characteristics of military systems, or of manufacturing technologies that are unique and critical to Defense, and agreement on this situation has been recorded in the contract or grant.

Technical documents with this statement may be made available or sold to the public and foreign nationals, companies, and governments, including adversary governments, and may be exported.

This statement may not be used on technical documents that formerly were classified unless such documents are cleared for public release in accordance with [DoD Directive 5230.9](#).

This statement shall not be used on classified technical documents or documents containing export-controlled technical data as provided in [DoD Directive 5230.25](#).

STATEMENT B — To U.S. Government Agencies Only

Distribution authorized to U.S. Government Agencies only (fill in reason) (date of determination). Other requests for this document must be referred to President, Code 261, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA 93943-5000 <<or sponsor, as appropriate>> via the Defense Technical Information Center, 8725 John J. Kingman Rd., STE 0944, Ft. Belvoir, VA 22060-6218.

This statement may be used on unclassified and classified technical documents.

Reasons for assigning statement B include:

Foreign Government Information – To protect and limit distribution in accordance with the desires of the foreign government that furnished the technical information. Information of this type normally is classified at the CONFIDENTIAL level or higher in accordance with [DoD 5200.1-R](#).

Proprietary Information – To protect information not owned by the U.S. Government and protected by a contractors "limited rights" statement, or received with the understanding that it not be routinely transmitted outside the U.S. Government.

Critical Technology – *If using this reason, paste "export control warning" on page 5 of this document onto your cover page.* To protect information and technical data that advance current technology or describe new technology in an area of significant or potentially significant military application or that relate to a specific military deficiency of a potential adversary. Information of this type may be classified or unclassified; when unclassified, it is export- controlled and subject to the provisions of DoD Directive 5230.25.

Test and Evaluation – To protect results of test and evaluation of commercial products or military hardware when such disclosure may cause unfair advantage or disadvantage to the manufacturer of the product.

Export Controlled – To protect information subject to the provisions of [DoD Directive 5230.25](#), Withholding of Unclassified Technical Data from Public Disclosure.

Contractor Performance Evaluation – To protect information in management reviews, records of contract performance evaluation, or other advisory documents evaluating programs of contractors.

Premature Dissemination – To protect patentable information on systems or processes in the developmental or conceptual stage from premature dissemination.

Administrative or Operational Use – To protect technical or operational data or information from automatic dissemination under the International Exchange Program or by other means. This protection covers publications required solely for official use or strictly for administrative or operational purposes. This statement may be applied to manuals, pamphlets, technical orders, technical reports, and other publications containing valuable technical or operational data.

Software Documentation – Releasable only in accordance with software license.

Specific Authority, <identification of valid documented authority> – To protect information not specifically included in the above reasons and discussions, but which requires protection in accordance with valid documented authority such as

Executive Orders, classification guidelines, DoD or DoD Component regulatory documents. When filling in the reason, cite "Specific Authority <identification of valid documented authority>."

Operations Security – To protect information and technical data that may be observed by adversary intelligence systems and determining what indicators hostile intelligence systems may obtain that could be interpreted or pieced together to derive critical information in time to be useful to adversaries.

Vulnerability Information – To protect information and technical data that provides insight into vulnerabilities of U.S. critical infrastructure, including DoD warfighting infrastructure, vital to National Security that are otherwise not publicly available.

STATEMENT C — To U.S. Government Agencies and their Contractors

Distribution authorized to U.S. Government Agencies and their Contractors (fill in reason) (date of determination). Other requests for this document must be referred to President, Code 261, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA 93943-5000 <<or sponsor, as appropriate>> via the Defense Technical Information Center, 8725 John J. Kingman Rd., STE 0944, Ft. Belvoir, VA 22060-6218.

Distribution statement C may be used on unclassified and classified technical documents.

Reasons for assigning statement C include:

Foreign Government Information	Same as distribution statement B.
Critical Technology	Same as distribution statement B.
Software Documentation	Same as distribution statement B.
Administrative or Operational Use	Same as distribution statement B.
Specific Authority	Same as distribution statement B.
Vulnerability Information	Same as distribution statement B.
Export Controlled	Same as distribution statement B.

STATEMENT D — To DoD and DoD Contractors Only

Distribution authorized to Department of Defense and U.S. DoD Contractors only (fill in reason) (date of determination). Other requests for this document must be referred to President, Code 261, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA 93943-5000 <<or sponsor, as appropriate>> via the Defense Technical Information Center, 8725 John J. Kingman Rd., STE 0944, Ft. Belvoir, VA 22060- 6218.

Distribution statement D may be used on unclassified and classified technical documents.

Reasons for statement D include:

Foreign Government Information	Same as distribution statement B.
Administrative or Operational Use	Same as distribution statement B.
Software Documentation	Same as distribution statement B.
Critical Technology	Same as distribution statement B.
Specific Authority	Same as distribution statement B.
Vulnerability Information	Same as distribution statement B.
Export Controlled	Same as distribution statement B.

STATEMENT E — To DoD Components Only

Distribution authorized to DoD Components only (**fill in reason**) (**date of determination**). Other requests for this document must be referred to President, Code 261, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA 93943-5000 <<or sponsor, as appropriate>> via the Defense Technical Information Center, 8725 John J. Kingman Rd., STE 0944, Ft. Belvoir, VA 22060-6218.

Distribution statement E may be used on unclassified and classified technical documents.

Reasons for assigning statement E include:

Direct Military Support – *If using this reason, paste “export control warning” on page 5 of this document onto your cover page.* The document contains export-controlled technical data of such military significance that release for purposes other than direct support of DoD approved activities may jeopardize an important technological or operational military advantage of the United States. Designation of such data is made by competent authority in accordance with [DoD Directive 5230.25](#).

Foreign Government Information	Same as distribution statement B.
Proprietary Information	Same as distribution statement B.
Premature Dissemination	Same as distribution statement B.
Test and Evaluation	Same as distribution statement B.
Software Documentation	Same as distribution statement B.
Contractor Performance Evaluation	Same as distribution statement B.
Critical Technology	Same as distribution statement B.
Administrative/Operational Use	Same as distribution statement B.
Specific Authority	Same as distribution statement B.
Operations Security	Same as distribution statement B.
Vulnerability Information	Same as distribution statement B.
Export Controlled	Same as distribution statement B.

STATEMENT F — Used under rare and exceptional circumstances

Further dissemination only as directed by President, Code 261, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA 93943-5000 <<or sponsor, as appropriate>> (date of determination) or higher DoD authority.

Distribution Statement F may be applied under rare and exceptional circumstances when specific authority exists or when need-to-know must be verified.

(1) To promote the free flow of information within DoD, Distribution Statement F will not be used on classified or unclassified scientific and technical documents governed by the DoD Scientific and Technical Information Program described in [Instruction 3200.12](#), *DoD Scientific and Technical Information Program (STIP)*.

(2) Other technical documents (e.g., technical manuals and orders or weapons and munitions documents) may be assigned Distribution Statement F under the condition that the documents will be reviewed on a 5-year cycle to consider a wider secondary distribution audience.

(3) The controlling DoD office must respond within 30 days to a request for release of documents marked with Distribution Statement F. If there is no response, or if the controlling DoD office agrees, the document may be released to any DoD Component as Distribution Statement E.

Distribution statement F is also used when the DoD originator determines that information is subject to special dissemination limitation specified by paragraph 5-208, DoD 5200.1-R.

EXPORT CONTROL WARNING

All technical documents that are determined to contain export-controlled technical data shall be marked as follows, in addition to restricted statements B, C, D, or E:

WARNING – This document contains technical data whose export is restricted by the Arms Export Control Act (Title 22, U.S.C., Sec 2751, et seq.) or the Export Administration Act of 1979 (Title 50, U.S.C., App. 2401 et seq), as amended. Violations of these export laws are subject to severe criminal penalties. Disseminate in accordance with provisions of DoD Directive 5230.25.

When it is technically not feasible to use the entire statement, an abbreviated marking may be used, and a copy of the full statement added to the "Notice To Accompany Release of Export Controlled Data" required by [DoD Directive 5230.25](#).

HANDLING AND DESTROYING UNCLASSIFIED/LIMITED DISTRIBUTION DOCUMENTS:

Unclassified/Limited Distribution documents shall be handled using the same standard as "For Official Use Only (FOUO)" material, and will be destroyed by any method that will prevent disclosure of contents or reconstruction of the document. When local circumstances or experience indicates that this destruction method is not sufficiently protective of unclassified limited information, local authorities may prescribe other methods but must give due consideration to the additional expense balanced against the degree of sensitivity.

Table 5. Distribution Statements and Their Corresponding Reasons for Use

DISTRIBUTION A. Approved for public release: distribution unlimited.					
DISTRIBUTION B. Distribution authorized to U.S. Government agencies (reason) (date of determination). Other requests for this document shall be referred to (controlling DoD office).					
DISTRIBUTION C. Distribution authorized to U.S. Government agencies and their contractors (reason) (date of determination). Other requests for this document shall be referred to (controlling DoD office).					
DISTRIBUTION D. Distribution authorized to Department of Defense and U.S. DoD contractors only (reason) (date of determination). Other requests for this document shall be referred to (controlling DoD office).					
DISTRIBUTION E. Distribution authorized to DoD Components only (reason) (date of determination). Other requests for this document shall be referred to (controlling DoD office).					
DISTRIBUTION F. Further dissemination only as directed by (controlling office) (date of determination) or higher DoD authority.					
REASON	A	B	C	D	E
PUBLIC RELEASE.	X				
ADMINISTRATIVE OR OPERATIONAL USE: To protect technical or operational data or information from automatic dissemination under the International Exchange Program or by other means. This protection covers publications required solely for official use or strictly for administrative or operational purposes. This statement may apply to manuals, pamphlets, technical orders, technical reports, and other publications containing valuable technical or operational data.		X	X	X	X
CONTRACTOR PERFORMANCE EVALUATION: To protect information in management reviews, records of contract performance evaluation, or other advisory documents evaluating programs of contractors.		X			X
CRITICAL TECHNOLOGY: To protect information and technical data that advance current technology or describe new technology in an area of significant or potentially significant military application or that relate to a specific military deficiency of a potential adversary. Information of this type may be classified or unclassified.		X	X	X	X
DIRECT MILITARY SUPPORT: The document contains export-controlled technical data of such military significance that release for purposes other than direct support of DoD-approved activities may jeopardize an important technological or operational military advantage of the United States, another country, or a joint U.S.-foreign program. Designation of such data is made by competent authority in accordance with Reference (d).					X
EXPORT CONTROLLED: To protect information subject to the provisions of Reference (d).		X	X	X	X
FOREIGN GOVERNMENT INFORMATION: To protect and limit distribution in accordance with the desires of and agreements with the foreign government that furnished the technical information.		X	X	X	X
OPERATIONS SECURITY: To protect information and technical data that may be observed by adversary intelligence systems and determining what indicators hostile intelligence systems may obtain that could be interpreted or pieced together to derive critical information in time to be useful to adversaries.		X			X
PREMATURE DISSEMINATION: To protect patentable information on systems or processes in the development or concept stage from premature dissemination.		X			X
PROPRIETARY INFORMATION: To protect information not owned by the U.S. Government and marked with a statement of a legal property right. This information is received with the understanding that it will not be routinely transmitted outside the U.S. Government.		X			X
TEST AND EVALUATION: To protect results of test and evaluation of commercial products or military hardware when disclosure may cause unfair advantage or disadvantage to the manufacturer of the product.		X			X
SOFTWARE DOCUMENTATION: To protect technical data relating to computer software that is releasable only in accordance with the software license in subpart 227.72 of Reference (s). It includes documentation such as user or owner manuals, installation instructions, operating instructions, and other information that explains the capabilities of or provides instructions for using or maintaining computer software.		X	X	X	X
SPECIFIC AUTHORITY: To protect information not specifically included in the above reasons, but which requires protection in accordance with valid documented authority (e.g., Executive orders, statutes such as Atomic Energy Federal regulation). When filling in the reason, cite "Specific Authority (identification of valid documented authority)."		X	X	X	X
VULNERABILITY INFORMATION: To protect information and technical data that provides insight into vulnerabilities of U.S. critical infrastructure, including DoD warfighting infrastructure, vital to National Security that are otherwise not publicly available.		X	X	X	X