

**Transcript – Webinar “Defense Export Control and Compliance System (DECCS) Release
- Registration and Licensing”
January 14, 2020**

Coordinator: Good afternoon and thank you for standing by. I'd like to inform all participants that your lines have been placed on a listen-only mode until the question-and-answer session of today's call. Today's call is also being recorded. If anyone has any objections, you may disconnect at this time. I would now like to turn the call over to Ms. Wendy Peebles. Thank you. You may begin.

Wendy Peebles: Thank you, operator. Good afternoon, everyone. My name is Wendy Peebles, Lead Outreach Coordinator, Census Bureau, Economic Management Division. With me today is Karen Wrege with the State Department Directorate Defense Trade Controls Chief Information Officer who will be discussing their IT modernization efforts to replace Legacy systems with modern cloud technologies.

The Census team is happy to collaborate with the State Department to provide you this IT modernization overview. I'd like to thank everyone for joining today's Webinar. We have an informative Webinar plan and I'd like to go over a few items before we start.

The Webinar is being recorded and for confidentiality reasons, we ask that during the question-and-answer period that will occur at the end of today's Webinar that you only provide your first name and do not disclose your company's name or any sensitive information. You may submit your questions via chat. We do have the chat feature available as well.

The presenter will address as many questions as possible during the Webinar. The contact information will be provided for further follow-up. A few days following the Webinar, the transcript, recording and presentation will be posted to the Census Web site. Now we're ready to begin with the subject matter for today.

Karen Wrege: Thank you so much, Wendy, I really appreciate it and thank you Census Bureau for all of your help in orchestrating this Webinar. Thank you all for joining in. I know this is a long time coming and I'm going to go through a lot of what is gonna happen in the next few weeks before we go and launch DECCS.

So just before I begin with the DECCS presentation, you know, we have a little introductory slide. For those of you that don't know what our mission is, we ensure commercial exports of defense articles and defense services, advance U.S. national security and foreign policy objectives.

This is a fairly new mission statement. We changed a couple of words to make it more impactful. We went from in support of U.S. national security and foreign policy objectives, to advancing U.S. national security and foreign policy objectives. So we have four different offices within the Directorate of Defense Trade Controls.

Our key functions are to establish and maintain the defense export regulations that the Policy Office is responsible for that, registering entities and individuals. That's our compliance office. Adjudicating export licenses is our licensing office.

Responding to inquiries is a role that we all play but it mostly resides in the management office for industry, and then promoting and enforcing compliance which was the compliance office and there's a little bit about me.

I've been in and out of government, spent the last five years here at the Directorate of Defense Trade Controls doing my one sole mission was to move you know, off of the Legacy systems and it has taken all of five years and we are just at the cusp of deploying DECCS so this is a really historic moment in my life in particular and everybody else who's helped along the way including a lot of people from industry.

So what we're going to do this afternoon is we're going to go through a little bit about the DDC IT modernization. I have talked a lot about this and I'm sure that most of you on this Webinar have heard me speak at least once about what we're trying to accomplish.

That'll be very brief. We're going to explain what is in this release of DECCS which is the registration, licensing. And we're also going to explain some of the system-wide improvements that we've made. We're going to talk a little bit about how we've most recently engaged with industry.

We're going to talk about how to prepare for the DECCS' launch and I'm going to give you a very short demo of our enrollment process. And then we're going to have enough time left over to answer all of your questions, which I think there's going to be a lot of, so I want to leave plenty of time for that.

So the IT modernization we're using a new platform and we've deployed several applications already on this platform and it's the Defense Export Control and Compliance System or the short version the acronym is DECCS,

D-E-C-C-S and what it will do is it's all native cloud applications and it will provide industry with access to all the applications through a single online portal.

So one of the main applications that's being released in this final DECCS release is registration. So, it's going to feature an updated DS-2032 form that has been authorized by OMB through the you know, through that process. The new application is going to include up-to-the-minute status feedback and a direct connection to electronic payments through the United States Treasury.

So using pay.gov so you'll have a lot of different opportunities to a lot of different ways that you'll be able to pay for your application for your registration application and what's important about up-to-the-minute status feedback is you know, in our Legacy system about half of our calls coming to the response team were questions about whether the registration had been received by the directorate and so this is going to be a lot easier.

You won't have to make that phone call because you'll know that your application has been received. And then the existing registrations that all of you have with the directorate are going to be migrated over so when it comes time for renewal or if you need to amend your registration, all that data will be in the new system so you'll just need to make updates and confirm that everything is right before submitting and then, you know, it'll be a much less intensive process.

So then in licensing we have no updates to the existing form so everything will be what the forms are now, the 5, the 6, 61, 62, 73, 74, all of those forms are going to remain the same and we have a couple of new forms that were before general correspondence so there's the DS-4294 which is the brokering

license and then the DS-6004 which is the request to change End User, End Use, or Destination of Hardware.

And we commonly refer to that application as a re-transfer application so those will also be online where before industry would need to submit a letter and then it would be up, you know, it would be data entered by us to be put into the system so this'll make things a lot quicker and a lot easier than those mailings.

So just a reminder that of course you have to have a registration before you submit a new license and that is actually not the case with the DS-6004 so to do a re-transfer application you might not be registered and you would be able to do that as an unregistered entity.

All right, and then the new application also includes, you know, the ability to see all of your data in one place so right now industry participants often have to request that our help desk repost the licenses because, you know, they're not available to you and that is no longer going to be part of it so you won't have to make those calls and request that we repost information about your licenses.

You'll be able to get those any time you want to, 24/7. All right so just across the board on the system you know, I think what we need to think about is that throughout this process there's going to be more transparency so that's one of the big things that's really different about DECCS versus our Legacy system.

We also are going to make available at the launch more security certificate options so you'll have a variety of different options when you want to go ahead and purchase digital certificates for use when you apply for a license.

All right so for the last two or three months we've been really actively engaging with industry. We've done two functional testing rounds.

We've also tested our batch application processing with many entities and we're in this week Wednesday, Thursday and Friday we're going to be doing some data validation with a few companies to make sure that our migration is correct. And we've also done a series of presentations and outreach.

Early in 2019 we did another Webinar like this and we're going to do another Webinar two, we're planning, we're hoping to do two more Webinars, one post-launch and one for a very specific topic, you know, around the security of your data and how a corporate administrator will need to participate with the system and get users and licenses in what we call access groups.

And so that's a really, that's going to be a very interesting Webinar I think. It's very new to DECCS. It does not exist in any way shape or form in the Legacy system and so I would encourage all of you to tune-in to those Webinars, one more general post-launch and then one very specific about you know, just kind of getting setup in DECCS for success.

So I'm just going to describe a couple of things that you can do to prepare for the DECCS launch. One of the things, DECCS has been around, you know, this is not a brand new system. We currently have advisory opinions, commodity jurisdiction applications, you know, other internal things we are already using.

We'll eventually put disclosures in this. All applications will go through DECCS so this isn't the initial launch. This is one of the final launches of DECCS. So what we want you to do is ensure that you have a DECCS

account, that you've enrolled and as I show you the enrollment, I think you'll remember whether you enrolled or not.

Very important to that's your first step. We also want you, we're going to be using our Web site as a principal means of communicating with you about the steps that you need to take. We'll have a lot of documentation. We're producing a lot of very short videos to help you through this journey of getting into DECCS.

We also if you know your if you can find out when your company's registration expiration date, that's handy to know because that'll be for some of you the first time that you need to engage with the DECCS system.

And then the other thing that's going to be really important and I'll talk about this, we will talk about this in the next Webinar at length but identifying the team members that you want to fill all the necessary roles in the DECCS system. So the corporate administrator has full system access.

It is similar but different to what we now what we call the super-user in our Legacy systems. But the corporate administrator's going to have even more responsibility in terms of allowing different users access points but also if it's right for your company, actually partitioning-out different licenses and different users and so assigning people and licenses to groups.

And so you're going to want to really get a handle on all the people that are going to be involved in this and try to determine what roles they should really play in the new DECCS system. So there's a registration drafter role that generates the registration. There's these license groups.

There's also, you know, read-only access. There's access for third parties and all of that sort of needs to be coordinated so that you're ready to enjoy the benefits of the DECCS system. And I guess before we move on to the demo, I can talk a little bit about the timeline. Our plan currently is to deploy DECCS on December 3, the Monday, December 3.

Yes, FEBRUARY 3, sorry about that. Yea, November 3, that would be good, yes, so we're going to, the plan is February 3, Monday, February 3. There is some chance in this final round of testing, you know, that we may decide that we need to you know, deploy on the 10th, or, but at the very, very latest we will be deploying on the 17th.

But our plan right now, everything is system go at this point for February 3. All right, so what we're going to do is I'm just going to show you a very quick demo of enrolling in DECCS. And for some of you this screen should be, you should remember this screen because you're already in DECCS and you're doing things in DECCS.

So the very first thing that you do is you click-on the enroll button as a new user. Okay, and then there's a user ID, an e-mail, first name, last name that you need to enter in and then you click-on the enroll button. And then to continue with the enrollment process, you have to, you'll get an e-mail on the e-mail that you put-in as your user ID e-mail.

So this user used a Gmail so now we're in their Gmail account and you see that there's an e-mail from Okta. And Okta is the platform that we use for user authentication and so we're just going to click-on that and you see that there's an activation link and that the link will expire in 10 days until you click on the activate Okta account. And here you can enter your password and repeat your password and choose a forgot password option.

What's the name of your first stuffed animal and the answer is Bernie. Okay, so then you can add-in an optional phone number for unlocking your password using SMS or you can add a phone number if you want to unlock your account using a voice call.

So we're going to skip that step. And then we're going to do, you can click a picture to choose a security image. So we're going to choose the bridge and we're going to go ahead and create the account in Okta by clicking on create my account.

All right, so then we're going to go into the DECCS public beta portal by clicking DECCS. And this is exactly the steps that you're going to take in order to get to the portal. But before we do that, we're going to enroll in DECCS with the multi-factor authentication and there's two ways to do this.

There's the Okta Verify that goes through a mobile app and we can start by setting that up. So we click-on next. Now what we have to do is download the Okta Verify from the app store onto your mobile phone and then you click next and then what you can do is you can scan with the camera feature of your iPhone or your Android device to scan to setup the Okta Verify.

And it's a very simple process and I'm told that it's the most secure way of doing this but there's another option for those of you that don't want to use your cellphone or can't use your cellphone at work and that would be with the voice call authentication. So we can set that up really simply in Okta and you basically put your phone number in there and you click call.

And then you enter the code that comes-on the speaker, you know, it'll basically once you do the call, it'll call you back and you enter-in I think it's a six-digit code, you enter it right into this box and you click verify.

And then you're into the industry portal. And so you'll see on the left-hand top corner that has the little yellow box around it that there's Applications. So you're going to click on that and now you'll have access, new access, to Licensing, Licensing Empowered Official, and Registration.

So the system is already live and up and running so if you were to do those steps now before licensing and registration launches, you would through the Advisory Opinions, Commodity Jurisdiction, and the User Management.

Okay, so it's only 2:20, that's all I have to say and I did want to leave a lot of time for some questions and answers because I think that's the most important part here is that you get your questions answered as we move toward the February 3 or November 20 deployment date.

Lisa Parker: Sure, so Karen we have a few questions from the chat box so far and for everyone who is listening on the line, feel free to enter in the chat box or we will also be opening-up the line for questions. So one of questions we have is if their expiration date is the end of February, 2/29 should they renew through DECCS or should they continue with the paper renewal process.

Karen Wrege: That is a great question and what I have been telling people is that they should proceed with the paper process of registering for the February 29 expiration date.

Lisa Parker: Great, thank you. How far back will the system allow for when you're saying that it's going to import your old licenses and registrations, how far back with that go?

Karen Wrege: That's a great question too, and on the licensing side, so I don't know if, I'm not exactly sure, our system only captures and retains your last registration so your last registration or your active registration is what is going to be migrated into DECCS. On the licensing side, we are migrating all of the active licenses into DECCS for you to see.

Lisa Parker: Thank you, Karen. We have a few questions about certificates, so the first one would be if someone needs to review or renew their certificate, do they know which certificates have purchased and would their current ACES certificate work for DECCS?

Karen Wrege: Yes, that's a really good question so the good news is your ACES certificate is going to work in DECCS and so when your ACES certificate expires then you'll have the choice of what certificate you want to purchase for the next renewal period.

Lisa Parker: Wonderful.

Karen Wrege: And one thing I want to say too is that you really want to keep your ACES certificate until we deploy in DECCS because the new certificates will not work in D-Trade. So, be sure to, don't jump the gun and get a new certificate because then you're going to be on the line with the help desk unraveling things.

Lisa Parker: Wonderful, let's see here, does the DECCS implementation launch date also apply to batch submission dates?

Karen Wrege: Yes, yes.

Lisa Parker: Okay.

Karen Wrege: The plan is that the batch submissions and all the features of licensing and registrations will be made available and we will, you know, no longer accept batch submissions through D-trade.

Lisa Parker: And along those lines, will the new system work with the OCR platform?

Karen Wrege: Yes, yes, the new system will work as it's always worked with the OCR platform. What will be different is the URL will be different so there will be some configuration changes that you need to make but they should be very minimal and we have worked with a number of organizations and have successfully -- those filers have successfully been able to submit their batches.

Lisa Parker: Great, give you an easier question for a moment. Will this PowerPoint and Webinar be available to everyone offline?

Karen Wrege: Yes, the Webinar will be available on both on our Web site and probably on the Census Web site as well, yes.

Lisa Parker: Great. Can you explain a little bit more about the transition period between D-Trade and DECCS, when will people stop using D-Trade?

Karen Wrege: People will stop using D-Trade the weekend so our plan is to stop D-Trade on a Thursday night and so let's see, what is that, January 31st or, you know, so 30th, on that Thursday night people will stop being able to use D-Trade or EFS and then we will on Monday morning, we will open-up DECCS as a,

live, and all the Web site changes will be made so that it will be a clean cut over and it'll be a three-day weekend.

Lisa Parker: Great, would it be possible for industry to see the DS-4294 and 6004 forms prior to DECCS launch to see the information?

Karen Wrege: Yes, those applications should be on our Web site because they were approved under the Paperwork Reduction Act through OMB but we can send a link through our frequently-asked questions so that, you know, you're sure to know where those can be seen.

Lisa Parker: Great, do you still want just one registration per company or all subsidiaries under the parent company with separate registrations?

Karen Wrege: No, nothing has changed about the policy. It continues to be one registration for each company with all of its subsidiaries and all of its -- so nothing has changed from a policy perspective in doing things with DECCS versus submitting your application through EFS.

Lisa Parker: Great. Where in DECCS can the response to CJ requests be found? Commodity jurisdictions? Are those available within DECCS?

Karen Wrege: Yea, I'm not exactly sure how that works for the commodity jurisdictions. I know that you can submit your commodity jurisdiction applications in DECCS but I believe that those end-up being letters that get sent-out as a response to that request.

And then my understanding is that we have some of that information about CJs on our public Web site but that's in a different format than the actual letter and my understanding is that the reason why we don't have those letters

as public information is that there can be sometimes some very sensitive information that's business sensitive that we wouldn't want to put those online.

Lisa Parker: Great.

Karen Wrege: Yea, and the status of a CJ request is available on DECCS.

Lisa Parker: Awesome, how does the State Department determine which licenses are active -- so for what you're migrating over active licenses, how do they know if it's an active license?

Karen Wrege: Well, for purposes of the migration, we are taking all those that are unexpired so that is how we are determining so you might have an inactive license that's unexpired, because it's been you know, it's been shipped against but we're using the expiration date in the migration.

Lisa Parker: Great. All right, so we have a few people are asking about more questions about the certificates. So, if their users renewed ACES certificates from January 1st, 2020 to July 30th, 2020, can their users keep using the existing certificates?

Karen Wrege: I'm not sure I understand that. Can you just repeat the question?

Charlie Liebetrau: The question is specifically they just want to make sure that the ACES certificate is still available and that as long as they are licensed for that through July, that it will still operate they could still use it to access DECCS.

Karen Wrege: Yes, the ACES certificate will continue to work until it expires in July. So do you think maybe we should go to the live questions?

Wendy Peebles: Yes, operator, can you check to see if there are any questions over the phone, please?

Coordinator: Thank you. To ask a question, please press star followed by 1. Please ensure that your phone is unmuted and record your name clearly when prompted. Again star followed by 1 to ask a question. One moment while we wait for questions to come in.

Karen Wrege: Okay, and while we're waiting, I think there's another text question.

Lisa Parker: Yes, yes, so, will people in the corporate administrator role, we understand that they will have visibility into the entire system, however, will they be able to see information such as the director and officers personal details such as Social Security Number, date of birth, in the registration application?

Karen Wrege: That's a great question. The new registration form does not ask for that information and so we have not migrated that information over into the new system.

Lisa Parker: Great.

Karen Wrege: So the answer is you won't be able to see people's Social Security Numbers and personal information so what you will be able to see is anything that we could have migrated that would be relevant to the new form so since those Social Security Numbers were outside of the new form, we just left them over in EFS.

Lisa Parker: Great, thank you.

- Coordinator: So we do have a question over the phone. We have quite a few actually. The first one comes from (Doug). Your line is now open.
- (Doug): Yes, hi, Karen, thanks for doing the Webinar. Can you just explain the process for third-party service providers such as law firms or consulting firms to access DECCS and also to be able to submit authorizations and other information on their clients' behalf?
- Karen Wrege: Yes, so the process is that the corporate administrator from the company will need to authorize the third part as a user, as a person that's going to be drafting these applications.
- (Doug): Okay.
- Karen Wrege: So a third party of course can't be a signature authority or any of that but can do everything up to that point provided that they have the authorization from the corporate administrator.
- (Doug): But how about a GC so for example right now I can submit a GC on a client's behalf, you know, and because it's done through hard copy. That is not possible under DECCS?
- Karen Wrege: Well, it depends on what you mean by a GC. There's lots of varieties of GCs so a retransfer request, you know, goes through DECCS so what are you specifically talking about with the GC?
- (Doug): Well, that's one of them as well as just other types of advisory opinion requests for example.

Karen Wrege: Yes, so the advisory opinions, you can do that and you can actually do that now, DECCS has already been, you know, launched for advisory opinions so you can actually do that on behalf of a, you know, of a client currently in DECCS.

(Doug): Okay, great, and then the other just follow-up question is for a non-U.S. company who's currently not registered with (DDTC) because they can't be registered, if they want to submit a retransfer authorization for example they then would just go through the registration process in DECCS and then that would give them the authorization and ability to submit their own retransfer request as well as the new forms? Is that a good summary or ...

Karen Wrege: Yes, I'm just going to change one word in what you said. They would have to enroll in DECCS, not register, because we're using register to mean submitting a registration application which (unintelligible) so they enroll and then they can go ahead and submit the retransfer application.

(Doug): Excellent, thank you so much, Karen.

Karen Wrege: You're welcome, thank you, great questions.

Coordinator: Our next question comes from (Judy). Your line is now open.

(Judy): Hi, thank you for taking my call. I currently do not have access to the Webinar itself online but I did have a couple of questions that I need some clarification on. We are registered in the State Department and I'm currently using D-Trade, etc, for some license applications.

Once I register for submit for the DECCS through the industry portal, will that negate my current user role, I mean, will I be able to still continue until

February 3, to use the D-Trade system even if I'm in the process of applying (unintelligible)?

Karen Wrege: Yes, that's such a great question so you can enroll currently. It's not going to affect anything that you do in D-Trade.

(Judy): Okay.

Karen Wrege: Yes, yes, great question, thank you so much for that.

(Judy): You're welcome, thank you.

Coordinator: Our next question comes from (Rob). Your line is now open.

(Rob): Yes, thank you very much, Karen. Our company already uses the Okta Verify app for a secure access to Web site. Can that can the DECCS access be added to that or how would that happen?

Karen Wrege: Yes, I don't think that that actually works because this is a special application. I think you actually have to enroll in Okta our instance of Okta in order to do this unfortunately.

(Rob): Thank you.

Karen Wrege: Thank you.

Coordinator: Our next question comes from (Judy). Your line is now open.

(Judy): Actually the question has been asked and answered for me, thank you.

Karen Wrege: Thank you.

Coordinator: Yes, our next question comes from (Phyllis). Your line is now open.

(Phyllis): Yes, and excuse me if you've already answered this question also but I need clarification. We are currently registered in D-Trade and I understood you to say that the existing accounts will be migrated over to DECCS. Is that correct?

Karen Wrege: Yes, that's correct but you will access DECCS differently than you do D-Trade.

(Phyllis): So will I have to go in and create an account?

Karen Wrege: Yes, you will have to enroll in DECCS and you know, this Webinar will be posted so you can see the steps and there's also a video right on the homepage that shows you how to enroll and then depending are you the corporate administrator for your account? I mean, are you the super-user now ...

(Phyllis): I am.

Karen Wrege: ... yes, and so what'll happen is that we are migrating all of those accounts and we're going to be sending you'll get an e-mail from Okta and you'll have to push that link. You may have already gotten that but you might not have noticed it so it'll be a pretty seamless process for you as a super-user to be setup in DECCS because those were the types of users that we actually had a lot of information about and had e-mails and so we're able to do that pretty seamlessly.

(Phyllis): Okay, but I will have to go-in and enroll?

Karen Wrege: Yea, the thing about it is that, you know, what you might want to do is check your e-mail and see if you got an e-mail and it may have expired already but you will get another e-mail closer to launch so be on the lookout for an e-mail from Okta O-K-T-A Okta and it'll have the Department of State and then you'll be able to click-on that to it'll be a shorter renewal process for you.

(Phyllis): Okay, all right, thank you. I don't recall receiving one but I'm not familiar with Okta so it may have been kicked-back from, you know, through our firewall or something, I don't know, maybe it's in Spam but if I don't get anything before I guess February the 3, what do I need to do?

Karen Wrege: Well, my suggestion if you don't get anything, you should probably call the help desk since you're a super-user and we want to make sure that you end-up being a corporate administrator from the get-go.

(Phyllis): Okay, and I would call the Detroit number?

Karen Wrege: Correct, yes.

(Phyllis): Okay, okay, thank you.

Karen Wrege: Thank you.

Coordinator: Our next question comes from (Don). Your line is now open.

(Don): Many small companies need to concentrate their time on earning enough money in order to pay the registration, etcetera, and they're experimenting with international trade. Will consultants or attorneys be able to register a

company and how will that differ from because when you answered (Doug)'s question, it was more in the licensing area, etc, after you had registered?

Karen Wrege: Yes, you can have a consultant do your registration. They could be the drafter and then you would, you know, someone from the company would actually have to sign it as an empowered official.

(Don): Okay, but then we would submit the application the DS-2032 or whatever it ends-up after they've signed it?

Karen Wrege: Yes, so after they draft it, after the consultant drafts it, you would either have the consultant be, you know, you have to have a corporate administrator and so you have the corporate administrator, the super-user and then you have the registration drafter draft it and get it completely ready for signature and so they basically submit it for signature and then the person from the company who is authorized to sign it goes in and signs the application.

(Don): Okay, similar to what we're doing now but slightly different, okay.

Karen Wrege: Yes, because it's online and people have to, you know, you're doing it you know, trading a PDF file before it gets submitted but we're trying to replicate that process as much as possible for small companies so that you don't have to take-on that burden as you said earlier in your, you know, in our conversation.

(Don): Separate question, I have a lot of companies that are working in Categories 1, 2 and 3 and they're basically doing it as a hobby and the registration costs, almost, well frequently exceeds the amount of money that they get as a hobby. Are they going to adjust that?

Karen Wrege: Well, I can tell you that we are looking at our at registration fees, you know, internally. We always do. It's part of our process but I can't really speak to any kind of specifics when it comes to that or about Cats 1, 2 and 3. You know, that's something that you could contact the response team, you know, and talk to them about just so that they can, you know, record your concerns but that's not something that I can address here.

(Don): Okay, I might comment because I'm on a federal advisory committee that both Commerce and State Department did an excellent job in that area and when the deadline for public comment had passed and I asked the Commerce Department's BIS Administrator and he said it just overwhelmed us I guess between the gun lobby and the anti-gun lobby and so probably not going to make much progress in that area. Okay, thank you.

Karen Wrege: Thank you.

Coordinator: Our next question comes from (Laurie). Your line is now open.

(Laurie): Yes, previously when submitting renewal registration, we did not need a digital certificate because it was paper in essence so are you going to need a digital certificate just to submit your (unintelligible) renewal?

Karen Wrege: So if all you're doing is renewing a registration, you do not need a digital certificate. The digital certificate is for submitting a license.

(Laurie): Okay, just wanted to verify that.

Karen Wrege: That's a great question. Thank you for asking it. I really appreciate that because I wasn't clear in my remarks about how that would work, thank you.

(Laurie): Okay, thanks.

Coordinator: Our next question comes from (Juan). Your line is now open.

(Juan): Hey Karen, how's it going?

Karen Wrege: Good, how are you doing?

(Juan): Good, good. A quick question. With this new system will the turnaround time for these registrations get approved more expeditiously? Historically for example we've submitted our DS-2032 like almost two months before our renewal date and yes, I'm just curious if this is going to help speed that process up?

Karen Wrege: Well, I think that there's a couple of things that are going to make that easier potentially for our analysts to review. We have the pay.gov where the fees will be coming from that and that's sort of a process that was very cumbersome for our analysts to marry-up those payments so I should think that that would help.

I think that like with anything when it's new I don't think you're going to see much of a difference in the amount of time that it takes for our analysts to review and approve those registrations but I believe over time that there will be time savings with all of this and that's part of why you do these IT modernizations is to you know, is to try and be more efficient with these types of applications and I think that, you know, that could be true you know, I don't know what the statistics are.

I do think we're doing advisory opinions more rapidly and those were some of the very first applications that we put in DECCS and I think that may be true

and will continue potentially with CJs and I expect it will be the same with other applications like registration renewals and amendments and that sort of thing.

(Juan): Sure, sure, fantastic, and a last question and I think I don't know if I'm the only one but I'm sure other users might have had the same issue, yea, I was unable to login using the link. I tried different browsers. You said you will have this up on the site sometime this afternoon or tomorrow, the WebEx?

Wendy Peebles: Yes, thank you for your question. The presentation recording and transcript will be available in about a week, and you're certainly welcome to visit the Census Web site, if you go to our trade outreach page, we'll have the information there and it'll also be on the State Department Web site.

(Juan): Okay, fantastic, thank you.

Coordinator: Our next question comes from (Liz), your line is now open.

(Liz): Thank you. My company's registration DTC registration expires on the end of March and I was just wondering can we still use the EFS portal?

Karen Wrege: You can use the EFS portal through the end of January and so I would suggest...

(Liz): I'm sorry?

Karen Wrege: I'm sorry?

(Liz): I'm not, so it's only through the end of January because I thought there'd be a longer transition period?

Karen Wrege: No, our plan is to have the one system go away and the new system, you know, take its place and that is the reason for that is that the data migration of keeping two systems alive at the same time gets very complicated.

(Liz): So it's going to be at the end, and the other question I have is what about the uh... we file our registration statement is a consolidated broker and exporter registration.

Karen Wrege: Right. Yes.

(Liz): Is that still available?

Karen Wrege: It is.

(Liz): Oh, okay, but I'm a little bit concerned about, I won't be submitting it until, I won't be ready to submit until mid-February.

Karen Wrege: Right, and so what you'll do is you'll submit it in the new system. If you're planning to submit it in the middle of February and we go live on the 3rd of February, then you'll be using the new system.

(Liz): Okay, but the other issue is do we have to use pay.gov because I'm not sure we're setup for that. In the past we've used ACH. (unintelligible)

Karen Wrege: Yea, and there's an ACH option under pay.gov.

(Liz): Oh, okay.

Karen Wrege: So you'll be able to use ACH and it's probably the only thing you'll be able to use if your registration is more than like \$25,000. There's a lot of options on pay.gov. There's credit cards, there's I think Amazon Pay, there's PayPal, they all have different limits but, you know, for anything over \$24,999 you have to use ACH.

(Liz): But we it's I'm anticipating that we'll have it'll be our registration fee will be in the less than \$10,000 ...

Karen Wrege: Yes, you can still use ACH.

(Liz): ... oh, okay, okay.

Karen Wrege: You're welcome to use ACH, you can use a credit card, you can use any of those options.

(Liz): Okay, and the other thing is we also do licensing but our super-user, I'm in the legal department of our company but our super-user is in a business department and he's not I only found out about this Webinar you know, recently and he's not even on the call but ...

Karen Wrege: Yea, so you know, what I would recommend is giving the call over to the help desk and asking these kinds of questions and they'll be able to really help you, you know, sort of get familiar because you're having, you know, I mean, it's a scary thought that, you know, you'll be one of the first users in DECCS and I can completely understand why you have some concerns. But we'll walk you through the whole process so that you're sure to get your registration in on time.

(Liz): Yes, but we also have separately we have a few DSP 5 licenses that we've applied for in a year so...

Karen Wrege: Yep, yep.

(Liz): okay.

Karen Wrege: Yea, and I would call the Detroit help desk and have a conversation with them and let them know that you're concerned about it and they can walk you through it and provide you with all sorts of information by e-mail and you know, get you squared away. It's great that you're I have to say it's great that you're on this Webinar because you are ahead of the game way more ahead of the game than a lot of people who aren't on the Webinar, right?

(Liz): And also by the way I could also not access the link that you've provided on either on Internet Explorer or on Chrome.

Karen Wrege: Well, I'm very sorry about that and we are going to what we'll do is we'll go back to our office and post the slides up on our Web site later on today. We can get that done.

(Liz): Okay. All right, well thank you very much.

Karen Wrege: Thank you.

Coordinator: Our next question comes from (Jackie). Your line is now open.

(Jackie): Thank you for taking my call and my question. My ACES business associate certificate expires on March 4th so do you recommend that I, you know,

renew my ACES and let it run-out in July or shall I wait and apply under the new system?

Karen Wrege: Yes, that's a great question. I wouldn't, I don't think I would renew your, I wouldn't renew your ACES cert because it's only going to be good until July and we are going to have deployed DECCS and so you would be able to use a newer cert and that could be from IdenTrust but I wouldn't buy it yet so you know, stay tuned.

If it goes beyond February 3 then I would, you know, I would probably advise you to potentially renew your ACES cert, because you're right on the cusp, you know, and our plan is to not go past February 18th so you should be okay, but you know, if you had to do something on, you know, on March 5th, it takes time as you know to get that certification. How long, do you remember how long it took the last time you renewed to get the cert?

(Jackie): I do not but I do know that it took some time and obviously my concern is the continuity of my certificate so I would (unintelligible)...

Karen Wrege: Well, if you're comfortable renewing it with, you know, the shortened timeframe, that's the safest way to go. Absolutely the safest way to go.

(Jackie): Okay, all right, I appreciate your input, thank you.

Karen Wrege: Thank you.

Coordinator: Our next question comes from (Gustaf). Your line is now open.

(Gustaf): Hi, thanks for holding this today. That was a great (unintelligible) us right now and I do see that July 31st, 2020, I guess my question (unintelligible) ...

- Karen Wrege: Okay, can you hear me because you're breaking-up a little bit. I didn't actually hear your question.
- (Gustaf): ... better? (Unintelligible).
- Karen Wrege: Yes, you're breaking-up, I'm sorry. I think you were asking about the digital certificate ...
- (Gustaf): Person. Okay, we can just go to the next (unintelligible).
- Karen Wrege: Yes, let's go to the next. How many more questions are there in queue?
- Coordinator: Thirteen.
- Karen Wrege: Thirteen, okay, let's do it.
- Coordinator: All right, our next question comes from (Kateia). Your line is now open.
- (Kateia): Hi Karen. My question is regarding the company official so we I prepare the registration for my company and I just wanted to know if anyone besides me should register for the (unintelligible) in Okta in order to sign the registration or have access to the registration?
- Karen Wrege: Yes, so the empowered official has to be enrolled in order to sign. If you're the one that's preparing it and there's someone else that signs it, that signer has to be enrolled in Okta.
- (Kateia): Oh, I see, okay, thank you.

Karen Wrege: Yes, you're welcome.

Coordinator: Our next question comes from (Candie). Your line is now open.

(Candie): Yes, Karen, how are you?

Karen Wrege: Good, how are you doing?

(Candie): You did mention and answered most of the question as far as my ACES certificate was renewed in November. I am the super-user. My question is to you is if I have an application between now and the end of January, it goes through the old system as it is with the Department of the State which is the D-trade which would be the DSP 5 application.

Karen Wrege: Yes.

(Candie): Now, if I have to wait as the gentleman did ask you earlier, would they get done a lot quicker because it takes 4-6 weeks to get our approved license? How would that be transferred from the Department of the State, the old D-Trade into DECCS when we look it up?

Karen Wrege: Yes, so what's going to happen is you're going to apply and it's going to go over to U.S. exports. It's going to be in D-Trade. It's going to be migrated over to DECCS when we go live with DECCS and you're going to see that application, okay, (unintelligible) ...

(Candie): Okay, then I have to go into DECCS when it's live as you had mentioned in order to see the status of it and so forth?

Karen Wrege: That's right.

(Candie): Tracking it.

Karen Wrege: Yes, and you can also look you're still going to be able to look in ELISA which is, you know, a Department of Defense (DTSA) system as well to see status information but we'll have very similar status information in DECCS and ELISA but that's ...

(Candie): Okay, and when will we be able to login to get a better understanding of the DECCS system and be able to register? How soon will that be?

Karen Wrege: That's going to be when we launch is when you're going to have an opportunity.

(Candie): So it's not till February 3? We're not able to look at it before to get through all the steps of registering through DECCS or can we register at least now?

Karen Wrege: Yes, you can enroll now for your DECCS account and if you're a super-user, we can, you know, you should call the help desk and get that Okta e-mail so that you can enroll as a super-user.

(Candie): When you say the help desk, is that the general inquiries ending with 1282 or technical support ending with 2838?

Karen Wrege: It's the 2838.

(Candie): Perfect.

Karen Wrege: Yes.

- (Candie): Okay, that should answer the questions for right now, thank you so much, Karen. It was a pleasure.
- Karen Wrege: You're welcome, thank you.
- Coordinator: Our next question comes from (Lisa). Your line is now open.
- (Lisa): Hi, Karen, thank you for the Webinar. I have a couple of really quick questions. I just want to confirm that once DECCS is up and running that it will allow you to access any previous licenses you've gotten approval for? I just wanted to get clarification on that because I know as of today I tried to, I was in D-Trade and I couldn't pull-up an export license I think that I applied for and got approval for over a year ago so I just want to ...
- Karen Wrege: Yes, yes, so this is the question of the reposting so because of the way that the Legacy architecture was, we would take down any licenses that were up on our portal after about two weeks.
- (Lisa): Okay.
- Karen Wrege: And so that's why you know, people would call-in to that DDTC help desk and ask for a repost and you won't have to do that anymore. Anything that any active license should be able to be seen through the DECCS portal.
- (Lisa): Oh, great. Okay, another quick question. We had a super-user but he's no longer employed with our company. What I need to from our understanding up to this point is contact the help desk and get a little instruction and direction how to remove that super-user who's no longer with our company and I'm going to be the new super-user so would I need to go through the help desk to do that?

Karen Wrege: Yes, and you're going to have to have a letter on your corporate letterhead and the empowered official sign it because we don't want to give super-user access to people that, you know, fraudulently or whatever, so would definitely either send an e-mail. You can send an e-mail. They do those requests all the time. I would try doing that sooner rather than later because I think the phone lines are going to be very busy when we deploy DECCS so I would suggest ...

(Lisa): Okay, so you're saying submit a letter on letterhead to ...

Karen Wrege: Yes, I would e-mail the help desk. I would say what's the process for switching-out a super-user that's left the company. They'll provide you with a temp..., you know, with specific information about how to do the letter.

(Lisa): Okay, great, and then one more question. Now, I am also the person that is responsible for renewing our registration and my boss who is the president of the company does the signature piece so I just want to be clear she needs to be enrolled or registered for Okta also?

Karen Wrege: She needs to be enrolled in DECCS in order to do the signature piece, yes.

(Lisa): Okay, DECCS, okay, great. Okay, thank you so much for answering all my questions. I really appreciate it.

Karen Wrege: Thank you.

Coordinator: Our next question comes from (Barbara). Your line is now open.

(Barbara): Thank you. I think you've already answered my question but it's regarding the ACES digital certificate. All the transfers will be done completed by July 2020, correct?

Karen Wrege: That's correct. Yes.

(Barbara): Okay, so anybody who's got a license that's due - or not a license, I'm sorry - an ACES certificate that they need to reapply that's due in January, it's suggested to go through who we've been using for now until and then let it transfer over until 2020 or July of 2020 and then everybody has to be registering through the DECCS system, correct for certificates?

Karen Wrege: Yes, I mean, the certificate, your ACES certificate you're going to need to renew it through July and then you're going to have to renew it again in July.

(Barbara): In July, okay, so you're going to have a mad dash for everybody ... redoing it in July, right?

Karen Wrege: Yes, so basically you can use digital certs from a number of different companies. It's not going to be an ACES cert. It's going to be a different product because GSA is sunsetting that particular contract and IdenTrust is sunsetting that particular product and so they have a different product that they're going to sell that they sell now but that won't work with D-Trade that will work with DECCS.

So if anybody is smart, April, May, June, you know, if you have a renewal then, you can buy the new product and you don't have to wait until July.

(Barbara): Oh, okay, so you could still buy the new product through IdenTrust and it works through and then we can apply for licensing through DECCS? I mean,

it's obviously in February, it's going to take effect but we don't have to necessarily use our certificate through I think D-Trade was offering something as well, right?

Karen Wrege: Yea, you don't have to continue to use the ACES cert after we deploy DECCS. You can get a different cert that will go for two years.

(Barbara): That works with (unintelligible), okay, okay, I got it.

Karen Wrege: All right.

(Barbara): Very good, thank you.

Karen Wrege: Yes, okay, so it is it's 3:00 now and I'm sorry for the questions that I was not able to address. I would say please go to the DDTC IT project team e-mail if you have questions that weren't answered and we will be having a couple more Webinars in the coming weeks and thank you again everyone for participating. Do you want to...

Wendy Peebles: Oh yes, just want to say thank you again for your participation in today's Webinar and thank you Karen for an excellent presentation, a lot of great questions were received so hopefully it has increased your information and you'll be better equipped to begin registering.

So once again please visit the Census Web site if you have for additional Webinars and outreach information and that can be located at census.gov/foreign-trade and once again we will post the transcript, the presentation and the recording on the Census Web site and the State Department Web site so once again thank you for joining today's Webinar. This completes the Webinar for today.

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