

# STINFO

Scientific and Technical Information

## Background

The Air Force STINFO program dates back at least to 1964, when Lt Gen James Ferguson, DCS/Research and Development, issued the "Plan for Scientific and Technical Information (STINFO) Program."

The objective of the STINFO program in 1964 was "to assist Air Force R&D [Research and Development] agencies to carry out their responsibilities for making maximum contribution toward the advancement of Air Force, Department of Defense and National RDT&E [Research, Development, Test and Evaluation] effort through an effective and balanced Scientific and Technical Information Program."

Today, the mission is much the same. However, to emphasize that the current program applies not just to Science and Technology (S&T), but to all of RDT&E, the name has been changed to the Scientific Technical Information (STINFO) program.

This program is implemented by DoDI 3200.12, DoDM 3200.14, DoDI 5230.24, DoDD 5230.25, DoDI 5230.27, AFD 61-2 and AFI 61-201, among others.

## What is STINFO?

Information that can be used, or adapted for use, to design, produce, manufacture, assemble, test, operate, maintain, repair, overhaul, or reproduce any United States military system equipment or software or technology concerning such equipment (AFI 61-201). It may be classified, controlled unclassified, or even publicly releasable.

## Why STINFO?

Sharing and leveraging of the substantial investment in Air Force RDT&E will lead to:

- *Effective use of the results of RDT&E investment*
- *Reduced duplication of research*
- *Enhanced industrial base*

Effective control of RDT&E information will:

- *Strengthen US national security*
- *Increase US technological advantage*
- *Uphold public law*
- *Protect intellectual property*

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## Does your Data Need to be Marked?

If your **data** contains STINFO and you answer yes to any of the following questions, then you need to use a distribution statement:

- Is the technology or information associated with it on the **U.S.** Munitions List or the Commerce Control List?
- Was the information provided to the Department of Defense by a Foreign Government?
- Is there a specific authority (Executive Order, statutes, Federal Regulations, etc.) governing this information that restricts its distribution?
- Does the information contain evaluations of a contractor derived from a management review of a program, contractor performance records, or other advisory documents?
- Is the information (1) owned by a non-government entity and (2) protected by a contractor's Limited Rights Statement (LRS) or other agreement?
- Does the information relate to patentable military systems or processes in the developmental stage?
- Does the license for this software limit its distribution?
- Does the information result from test and evaluation of commercial products or military hardware produced by a nongovernment entity?
- Does the information describe administrative procedures or operations with technical content (such as equipment maintenance or weapons operations manuals)?

## Your local STINFO Officers:

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**It is the responsibility of all Air Force Unit Personnel to be able to properly identify STINFO and to understand and comply with distribution control markings and procedures. A solid comprehension of STINFO is key to control, judiciously disseminate, and properly dispose of DoD-managed scientific and engineering data that in the hands of adversaries *and* competitors may jeopardize our national security and U.S. military advantage.**

**Who is responsible for STINFO?**

Everyone creating, handling, storing, or working with STINFO is responsible for ensuring its proper dissemination control.

The Controlling DoD Office (CDO) is the DoD activity that sponsored the work that generated the technical data or received the technical data on behalf of the DoD. The CDO is responsible for:

- assigning a distribution statement to all scientific and technical documents/data whether classified or unclassified
- determining whether the technical data are export controlled
- reviewing and changing the distribution statement as necessary
- ensuring noncommercial scientific and technical documents or software/documentation that include a contractor-imposed limited/restricted rights statement are marked and controlled in accordance with DFARS 252.227-7013 or DFARS 252.227-7014, as applicable.
- determining whether the document contains export-controlled technical data. The US Munitions List of the ITAR and the Commerce Control List of the EAR provide guidance for making this determination. DoDD 5230.25 specifically addresses conditions for the dissemination and withholding of militarily critical technology data, which is inherently export-controlled.
- ensuring technical documents in preliminary or working draft form are not disseminated without review and determination of reasons for control and selection and assignment of the distribution statement in addition to security classification review.
- establishing and maintaining a procedure to review technical documents for which it is responsible to increase their availability when conditions permit
- making a public release determination and ensuring the proper review and clearance in accordance with AFI 35-102 and DoDI 5230.09 and DoDI 5230.29
- notifying the Defense Technical Information Center or applicable technical data repository if the CDO designation or address changes
- notifying all known holders of the technical document when the distribution statement is changed

**Distribution Statements**

**A.** Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited. (Must be approved by technical leadership, then cleared by Public Affairs security & policy review).

**B.** Distribution authorized to U.S. Government Agencies only; (fill in reason); (date of determination). Other requests for this document shall be referred to (insert controlling DoD office).

**C.** Distribution authorized to U.S. Government Agencies and their contractors; (fill in reason); (date of determination). Other requests for this document shall be referred to (insert controlling DoD office).

**D.** Distribution authorized to the Department of Defense and U.S. DoD contractors only; (fill in reason); (date of determination). Other requests shall be referred to (insert controlling DoD office).

**E.** Distribution authorized to DoD Components only; (fill in reason); (date of determination). Other requests shall be referred to (insert controlling DoD office).

**F.** Further dissemination only as directed by (inserting controlling DoD office); (date of determination) or higher DoD authority.

**X.** Obsolete as of DoDI 5230.24 23 August 2012. Technical data previously marked Distribution Statement X shall be changed to Distribution Statement C and cite "export controlled" as a reason for control.

**Reasons:**

Foreign Government Information  
Test and Evaluation  
Critical Technology  
Software Documentation  
Specific Authority  
Proprietary Information  
Contractor Performance Evaluation  
Premature Dissemination  
Administrative or Operational Use  
Direct Military Support  
Export Controlled  
Operations Security  
Vulnerability Information

*Note: Documents that are declassified and have no distribution statement assigned shall be **handled** as "Distribution Statement E" until reviewed by the Controlling DoD office and assigned the appropriate secondary dissemination control markings.*

**Other Markings**

Other markings, in addition to the distribution statement, that may be required to be placed on STINFO documents include the following:

**Export Control Warning** – All documents that contain export-controlled technical data, classified or controlled-unclassified, must be marked with the Export Control Warning provided as Figure 1 in DoDI 5230.24.

**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.**

**Intellectual Property** – Marking a document as "Proprietary Data" is not enough. They must be marked with one of the six types of Intellectual Property rights per the DFARS:

1. Unlimited Rights
2. Limited Rights
3. Government Purpose Rights
4. Restricted Rights
5. Small Business Innovation Research
6. Specially Negotiated Rights

**Freedom of Information Act** – states that the public has a right to information concerning the activities of its Government. When scientific or technical data is exempt by law from automatic release under the FOIA, mark the document "For Official Use Only (FOUO)" in addition to applying the proper distribution statement per DoDM 5200.01 Vol 4

**Destruction Notice** – for Controlled, Unclassified technical data:-Destroy by any method that will prevent disclosure of contents or reconstruction of the document.

**Destruction Notice** – for Classified technical data: DESTRUCTION NOTICE—Follow the procedures in DoD 5220.22-M, *National Industrial Security Program Operating Manual (NISPOM)*, section 5-705, or DoDM 5200.01 Vol 3, *Information Security Program: Protection of Classified Information, Enclosure 3, Paragraph 17.*