



STMO partners with **US PNNL** on Strategic Trade Licensing's Risk Assessment Training for PNP-FEO

The Department of Trade and Industry-Strategic Trade Management Office (DTI-STMO), with the support from the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), conducted the "Philippine Strategic Trade Licensing Program: An Introduction to Risk Assessment" last 14 December 2021 through the Zoom platform.

The first of the series of seminars, the one-day event was an introduction to risk assessment for strategic goods in preparation for a more in-depth training on end-use and end-user analysis course in the coming months. The event was attended by the licensing officers and technical experts from the STMO and Philippine National Police – Firearms and Explosives Office (PNP-FEO).

During the event proper, the attendees shared their knowledge on the topic as well as their experiences and best practices in conducting license review. To start the discussion, Ms. Heidi Hamling from the PNNL provided a background on strategic trade controls and the role of licensing. This was inclusive of a brief introduction on WMDs and dual use goods, foundation and national systems for STCs, as well as the responsibilities of licensing officers.

Additionally, Ms. Julie Carrera from the Argonne National Laboratory (ANL) covered risk assessment, commodity assessment, and end-use assessment in her presentation. On the other hand, Mr. Dan Johnson from US Department of Energy (DOE) focused on end-user assessment and delved in deeper into the more comprehensive discussion on risk assessment process.

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Further, Engr. Lorenz Fernando of the STMO presented the STMO's Authorization and Risk Assessment Process. This showcased how the Philippines conducts its own license review and the regulatory process along with it. Engr. Fernando also introduced the Risk Assessment Criteria, Matrix, and Tools used by the team in assessing and evaluating authorization applications.

The Philippine Strategic Trade Licensing Program aims to instill the importance of risk assessment to nonproliferation and the value of national collaboration and partnerships in the effort to combat the illicit cross-border movement of strategic goods and materials.

With the valuable takeaways from the event, through the support of partner countries, and the strong coordination between the STMO and PNP, a more developed risk assessment process for strategic trade licensing will be formed for a well-established strategic trade control system in the Philippines.
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