



Defence & Security Organisation

COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN HM GOVERNMENT AND RISC ON THE RISC INTERNATIONAL WORKING GROUP

STATEMENT

The UK's Security and Resilience Industry Suppliers Community (RISC) and the Department for International Trade's Defence and Security Organisation (DIT DSO) commit to work together to promote UK security exports and implement the UK's Security Export Strategy through the new RISC International working group. In doing so, the participants will work according to the terms laid out in the RISC International working group's Terms of Reference – copies of this are available on request from the RISC Secretariat.

THE PARTICIPANTS

RISC is an inclusive alliance of trade associations, suppliers and other organisations which represent the UK's security and resilience sector. Established in 2007, RISC is the UK's leading security industry alliance which serves as the principal channel of communication between the UK security and resilience industry, the Office for Security and Counter-Terrorism (OSCT) within the Home Office, and other government departments and agencies on security-related requirements and policy issues. RISC represents around 6, 000 companies by virtue of the representative organisations which participate.

DIT DSO helps the UK defence and security industries to export. It does this by building strong relationships with industry and overseas governments. It provides specialist export advice and practical assistance, working closely with industry and government departments including the Ministry of Defence (MOD) and the Home Office. The Department for International Trade Defence and Security Organisation (DIT DSO) has around 80 staff in London and another 27 members in its Export Support Team. DIT DSO also has a small number of diplomatic posts overseas.

PRINCIPLES

RISC and DIT DSO will work together according to a set of shared high-level principles, as outlined below:

- a. Open and inclusive partnership between Government and industry;
- b. Commitment to work with, and support, the diverse UK security and resilience sector;
- c. Shared determination to deliver and support a 'whole of Government' approach, harnessing the positive and respected UK security brand;
- d. Commitment to supporting SMEs, given their prevalence in the sector;
- e. Maximising synergies between UK national security and the economic objective of growing UK exports.

THE PERIOD

In line with the RISC International working group's Terms of Reference, this Memorandum of Understanding will operate on a rolling yearly basis, subject to renewal each year at the last RISC Council meeting of each calendar year. If the two participants are willing, the period of the arrangement may be extended to a two-year rolling period.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The RISC International working group will be supported primarily by the RISC Secretariat on a day-to-day basis. However, DIT DSO will endeavour to offer appropriate assistance to enable RISC International to effectively support the implementation of the Security Export Strategy, and the Government's wider support for the UK's security industry's international activities. RISC will also work to secure secondees from industry to support DIT DSO's programmes.

DISCLAIMERS

This Memorandum is not legally binding nor does it constrain the policy making or other legal powers of either participant. Neither participant commits indefinitely to this arrangement. Furthermore, either participant has the right at any stage to cancel its participation in the arrangement with one month's notice. Finally, neither participant will hold any powers over, or responsibilities for, for the staff employed by the other participant.

SIGNATURES

Chairman of RISC

Secretary of State for International Trade and President of the Board of Trade

5 March 2019