

Global Export Protection

US export checklist

CHUBB®



For companies exporting products to the United States it is important that a product integrity programme is in place combined with a defensive strategy to deal with any potential lawsuits. Key features of such a strategy could include the following:

- ✓ Research all relevant standards and have documented compliance or (perhaps more importantly) reasons for any necessary non-compliance.
- ✓ Document all in-house risk assessments and test results for the products, in a clear, concise manner free of opinion.
- ✓ Try to ensure that the safety functions on a product are common, regardless of the territory in which it is being marketed. Omitting safety functions on US exports in order to comply with US standards is not an acceptable practice.
- ✓ Obtain specialist US legal advice relating to your product and product development system. Retain the services of a US based attorney who understands your products and review your advice every six months.
- ✓ Adhere strictly to your specifications during the manufacturing process.
- ✓ Where the most appropriate control is deemed to be a warning/label (i.e. where the risk cannot be designed out or guarded against), ensure that the labels used clearly indicate:
 - The nature of the hazard
 - The level of seriousness of the hazard
 - The likelihood of the hazard resulting in harm
 - How to avoid the hazard
 - The consequences of the hazard if the warning is not heeded
- ✓ Ensure that appropriate warning labels are provided on products and conform to the regulatory or industry standard.
 - Important voluntary standards would include ANSI Z 535.4.
 - The selected standard and the associated decision making process should be fully documented (particularly where labelling is not provided or is not in accordance with the ANSI standard).
 - You are strongly recommended to seek expert advice with regard to the process of ensuring that warnings and labels used are of sufficient standard.

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- ✓ Ensure that the product/user instruction manuals are kept up to date and documented. Place your up to date manuals online.

 - ✓ Ensure that advertising material is consistent with other documentation such as instruction manuals, and there is no contradiction within the literature on issues relating to safety.

 - ✓ Consider how you may fulfil your post-sale duty in respect of:
 - Complaints monitoring
 - Configuration control
 - Use of warranty data, customer databases, online solutions etc.
 - Communication with vendors and customers

To discover more

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To stay up to date with our Brexit preparations and for more information about what it means for you, refer to our website at chubb.com/brexit

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