

**Northrop Grumman Corporation**

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**Subject: Joint Certification Program Awareness**

Northrop Grumman encourages our Suppliers and Other Trading Partners (SOTPs) in the United States and Canada to be aware of the [Joint Certification Program \(JCP\)](#) requirements for receiving and sharing certain categories of technical information in support of the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD). The JCP provides guidelines for the proper marking, dissemination, and control of Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI), including Controlled Technical Information (CTI), within the DoD community and Defense Industrial Base to prevent unauthorized access, disclosure, or loss. See [DoD Instruction 5230.24](#). CTI is technical information with a space or military application that is subject to DoD Instruction 5230.24, and when unclassified, is a subcategory of CUI subject to specific handling and dissemination controls. Within DoD, the controlling DoD office (CDO) can restrict secondary distribution of CTI by applying one of six qualified distribution statements A through F ([Qualified Distribution Statement](#)), in addition to other markings that may apply when the CTI is CUI or classified.

The Joint Certification Program (JCP) allows U.S. and Canadian entities to apply for a JCP Certificate granting access to unclassified CTI marked with Qualified Distribution Statement as part of a contract. Until a JCP Certificate has been received, CTI marked with a Qualified Distribution Statement cannot be shared. As such, Northrop Grumman has added a field in the online Supplier profile for Suppliers to indicate whether it holds a current JCP Certificate.

Prior to Northrop Grumman sharing such information with a U.S. or Canadian Supplier that has a legitimate business need, the Northrop Grumman Buyer reviews the Supplier's profile information to verify that the Supplier holds a current JCP Certificate (DD Form 2345).

If the Supplier's profile indicates they have a current JCP Certificate with a copy uploaded in the profile, the Buyer may proceed with sharing the CTI marked with a Qualified Distribution Statement, provided that the exchange is 1) required to perform the contract, and 2) consistent with the markings and distribution statement appearing on the information. Where the markings or distribution statement are inconsistent, Northrop Grumman requires approval from the CDO.

If the Supplier's profile indicates they do not have a current JCP Certificate, the Buyer will inform the Supplier of its obligation to obtain/renew a JCP Certificate prior to sharing the technical information marked with a Qualified Distribution Statement. Until the Supplier's new or updated JCP Certificate is received by the Northrop Grumman Buyer or uploaded in Supplier's profile, the Buyer is not authorized to share the information.

As a reminder, JCP Certificates are available only to Suppliers located in the U.S. and Canada. Northrop Grumman will never share CTI marked with a Qualified Distribution Statement with any Supplier, entity, or individual outside of the U.S. or Canada.

If your company has a need to receive these types of technical documents or information in support of Northrop Grumman solicitations, purchase orders, or subcontracts, please take the time now to apply for a JCP Certificate or verify your JCP Certificate is current.

The following resources provide additional information about the JCP Certificate:

- [Joint Certification Program \(JCP\) Website](#)
- [Defense Logistics Agency \(DLA\) JCP Brochure](#)
- [DLA JCP PowerPoint Presentation](#)
- [DoD CUI Program > Distribution Statements](#)

Please contact your Northrop Grumman Buyer for questions related to specific procurements or the Corporate Global Supply Chain Compliance Office at [NorthropGrummanSupplyChain@ngc.com](mailto:NorthropGrummanSupplyChain@ngc.com) for general questions.