

Protection of Intellectual Property on portable storage devices

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For the attention of the Managing Director and Quality Manager.

Dear Sir or Madam

Scope:

Applicable to all travellers carrying data on laptops, portable hard disks, memory sticks, PDAs, mobile phones etc.

Background:

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in late April that U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officials can search laptop computers and other electronic devices at U.S. borders without suspicion or probable cause, as permitted under existing authority. The court ruling allows CBP to access and copy information stored on these devices and seize the devices themselves.

The ramifications could include the exposure of proprietary and confidential information and trade secrets to customs agents with no limit on what they can do with it.

Furthermore, CBP has not made clear what policies it has in place concerning what is done with the information it obtains from these searches, raising fears that it could find its way into the hands of competitors.

Action Required:

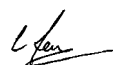
Suppliers are reminded that they have a responsibility to protect the Intellectual Property and confidential information of Rolls-Royce and its customers and partners (SABRe Business Requirements 12.1) and comply with export control legislation when carrying/transferring data across national borders

**Yours faithfully
for Rolls-Royce plc**



**Dawn Appleby
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Authorised by:



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