

Security Risks of SRB's tritium traffic

- Tritium is required in all modern nuclear weapons programs. It is used as an essential nuclear explosive material.
- A so-called "tritium sparkplug" inserted into a plutonium-based bomb can more than double the force of the resulting nuclear explosion.
- The Warsaw Guidelines, developed by the International Atomic Energy Agency, classify tritium as a "dual-use" substance (civilian + military) and are intended to restrict its international movement. They require tritium exporters:
 - to obtain a statement from the end-user specifying the precise uses and the end-use locations of any proposed transfers of tritium; and
 - to obtain an assurance explicitly stating that the proposed transfer (or any replica thereof) will not be used in any nuclear explosive activity.
- Canada's regulatory agencies have not implemented these Guidelines for tritium exports. This has blurred the line between civilian and military uses of tritium, and has created security and weapons proliferation risks.
- For example, SRB Technologies (Canada) Inc. in Pembroke routinely applies for and receives permits to ship extremely large quantities of tritium to countries around the world, some of them with questionable nuclear ambitions.
- In 2005, SRB received several permits to export over a kilogram of tritium (370 PBq) at a time – each shipment enough to service dozens of nuclear bombs.
- Also in 2005, SRB received a permit to export tritium to Iran