

34986, has been determined to be related to Piquet by affiliation, ownership, control, or position of responsibility in the conduct of trade or related services, and it has been deemed necessary to make the Order denying the export privileges of Piquet applicable to Alphantronx in order to prevent evasion of the Piquet Denial Order.

Second, that the denial of export privileges described in the Piquet Denial Order, which was published in the **Federal Register** on June 9, 2010 at 75 FR 32742, shall be made applicable to Alphantronx until its expiration on May 14, 2019, as follows:

I. Alphantronx, with a last known address at 1258 SW. Maplewood Dr., Port St. Lucie, FL, 34986, and when acting for or on behalf of Alphantronx, its successors or assigns, employees or agents (collectively, "Related Person") may not participate, directly or indirectly, in any way in any transaction involving any commodity, software or technology (hereinafter collectively referred to as "item") exported or to be exported from the United States that is subject to the Regulations, or in any other activity subject to the Regulations, including, but not limited to:

A. Applying for, obtaining, or using any license, License Exception, or export control document;

B. Carrying on negotiations concerning, or ordering, buying, receiving, using, selling, delivering, storing, disposing of, forwarding, transporting, financing, or otherwise servicing in any way, any transaction involving any item exported or to be exported from the United States that is subject to the Regulations, or in any other activity subject to the Regulations; or

C. Benefiting in any way from any transaction involving any item exported or to be exported from the United States that is subject to the Regulations, or in any other activity subject to the Regulations.

II. No person may, directly or indirectly, do any of the following:

A. Export or reexport to or on behalf of the Related Person any item subject to the Regulations;

B. Take any action that facilitates the acquisition or attempted acquisition by the Related Person of the ownership, possession, or control of any item subject to the Regulations that has been or will be exported from the United States, including financing or other support activities related to a transaction whereby the Related Person acquires or attempts to acquire such ownership, possession or control;

C. Take any action to acquire from or to facilitate the acquisition or attempted acquisition from the Related Person of any item subject to the Regulations that has been exported from the United States;

D. Obtain from the Related Person in the United States any item subject to the Regulations with knowledge or reason to know that the item will be, or is intended to be, exported from the United States; or

E. Engage in any transaction to service any item subject to the Regulations that has been or will be exported from the United States and which is owned, possessed or controlled by the Related Person, or service any item, of whatever origin, that is owned, possessed or controlled by the Related Person if such service involves the use of any item subject to the Regulations that has been or will be exported from the United States. For purposes of this paragraph, servicing means installation, maintenance, repair, modification or testing.

Third, that in accordance with the provisions of Section 766.23(c) of the Regulations, the Related Person may, at any time, make an appeal related to this Order by filing a full written statement in support of the appeal with the Office of the Administrative Law Judge, U.S. Coast Guard ALJ Docketing Center, 40 South Gay Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202-4022.

Fourth, that this Order does not prohibit any export, reexport, or other transaction subject to the Regulations where the only items involved that are subject to the Regulations are the foreign-produced direct product of U.S.-origin technology.

Fifth, that this Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until May 14, 2019.

Sixth, that this Order shall be published in the **Federal Register** and a copy served on the Related Person.

Issued this 7th day of October 2010.

**Bernard Kritzer,**

*Director, Office of Exporter Services.*

[FR Doc. 2010-26118 Filed 10-15-10; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-DT-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Bureau of Industry and Security

#### Action Affecting Export Privileges; Parto Abgardan Cooling Towers Co.

Parto Abgardan Cooling Towers Co., P.O. Box 966, Folsom, CA 95763; and P.O. Box 19395/5478, Tehran, Iran; and No. 56 Shaydaee St., Yakhchal St., Shariati Ave., Tehran 19497, Iran; and

No. 56 Sheidaei St., Yakhchal St., Dr. Shariati Ave., Tehran 19497, Iran; and No. 56 Corner of Noushin Blind Alley, Sheidaei St., Yakhchal St., Dr. Shariati Ave., Tehran (19497), Iran; and No. 56 Next to Noushin Blind Alley, Sheidaei St., Yakhchal St., Dr. Shariati Ave., Tehran (19497), Iran; and No. 56, Corner of Noushin Dd. End, Sheidaei St., Yakhchal St., Shariati St., 19497, Tehran, Iran.

#### Order Making Denial of Export Privileges of Aqua-Loop Cooling Towers, Co. Applicable to Parto Abgardan Cooling Towers Co.

Pursuant to Section 766.23 of the Export Administration Regulations ("EAR" or "Regulations"), the Bureau of Industry and Security ("BIS"), U.S. Department of Commerce, through its Office of Export Enforcement ("OEE"), has requested that I make the denial order that was issued against Aqua-Loop Cooling Towers, Co. ("Aqua-Loop") on March 25, 2010 ("Denial Order"), applicable to the following entity, as a person related to Aqua-Loop:

Parto Abgardan Cooling Towers Co., P.O. Box 966, Folsom, CA 95763; and P.O. Box 19395/5478, Tehran, Iran; and No. 56 Shaydaee St., Yakhchal St., Shariati Ave., Tehran 19497, Iran; and No. 56 Sheidaei St., Yakhchal St., Dr. Shariati Ave., Tehran 19497, Iran; and No. 56 Corner of Noushin Blind Alley, Sheidaei St., Yakhchal St., Dr. Shariati Ave., Tehran (19497), Iran; and No. 56 Next to Noushin Blind Alley, Sheidaei St., Yakhchal St., Dr. Shariati Ave., Tehran (19497), Iran; and No. 56, Corner of Noushin Dd. End, Sheidaei St., Yakhchal St., Shariati St., 19497, Tehran, Iran.

The Denial Order was effective upon issuance, was published in the **Federal Register** on April 2, 2010 (see 75 FR 16732 (April 2, 2010)), and will remain in effect until March 25, 2020.

#### I. Background

##### A. The Denial Order

The Denial Order denies the export privileges of Aqua-Loop until March 25, 2020, pursuant to Section 764.3(a)(2) of the Regulations, and was issued based upon my approval of a settlement agreement entered into by BIS and Aqua-Loop. Specifically, in July 2009, BIS filed a Charging Letter against Aqua-Loop for violating the Regulations by causing unlicensed exports to Parto Abgardan in Iran of items subject to the Regulations, knowingly violating the Regulations in connection with the export of those items, and conspiring with Parto Abgardan and others, known

and unknown, to violate the Regulations in connection with the export of those items and other items that Aqua-Loop, Parto Abgardan and their co-conspirators sought to export to Iran without the required U.S. Government authorization.

BIS alleged, *inter alia*, that in furtherance of the conspiracy, Aqua-Loop and Parto Abgardan participated in a scheme to have Aqua-Loop source or obtain items from U.S. distributors and then have the items exported to Parto Abgardan in Iran, via a United Arab Emirates (“U.A.E.”) entity identified by Parto Abgardan. The charges referenced, *inter alia*, documentary evidence in which Parto Abgardan told Aqua-Loop: “Since [the U.S. company] can’t sell directly to Iran, they are OK with selling it domestically and then we can transfer it from US to Dubai and then to Iran. With your permission, we are going to give Aqua-Loop’s information to them so they can send you their offer” based on the technical information provided to the U.S. company by Parto Abgardan. The charging letter provided additional details concerning the long-running conspiracy between Aqua-Loop and Parto Abgardan, which continued from at least in or about June 2004, through at least in or about April 2005.<sup>1</sup>

Aqua-Loop settled these charges with BIS in March 2010, agreeing to the imposition of the Denial Order and to a \$100,000 monetary penalty, with the monetary penalty suspended for a period of ten years. At the same time, Aqua-Loop’s co-owner and president, Bob Rahimzadeh, settled with BIS on the same terms regarding charges that he caused unlicensed exports and committed knowing violations of the Regulations relating to the same transactions.<sup>2</sup>

#### B. BIS’s Related Person’s Notice Letter and Request

On May 21, 2010, pursuant to Section 766.23 of the Regulations, BIS notified Parto Abgardan of its intent to add the company as a person related to Aqua-Loop by ownership, control, position of responsibility, affiliation, or other connection in the conduct of trade or business, by letter sent in accordance with Sections 766.5(b) and 766.23(b). The letter also requested that Parto Abgardan provide additional

information to BIS concerning the company’s structure, affiliates and major shareholder(s).

As part of its request, BIS presented evidence of conspiracy between Aqua-Loop and Parto Abgardan to violate the Regulations. BIS also has evidence indicating, *inter alia*, that Parto Abgardan’s Web site identifies a “sister factory” in the United States. For contacts relating to the United States, Parto Abgardan’s Web site provides contact information that includes Aqua-Loop’s California mailing address, phone number, and fax number, without identifying Aqua-Loop separately by name. In contrast, Parto Abgardan’s Web site provides Iranian mailing address, phone number, and fax number as contact information for “all countries except U.S.”

BIS’s submission also included evidence that the owner and managing director of Parto Abgardan in Iran, Mahmoud Lazemizadeh, also is a co-owner of Aqua-Loop.<sup>3</sup> Moreover, Mahmoud Lazemizadeh’s nephew, Behzad Lazemizadeh, was a mechanical engineer and manager of Parto Abgardan’s technical office before he was transferred to Aqua-Loop in California for five years.

#### C. Parto Abgardan’s Response

Mahmoud Lazemizadeh responded by email on Parto Abgardan’s behalf on June 14, 2010. He asserted that Parto Abgardan is an Iranian company and that there was “no connection of any kind between this company and Aqua-Loop cooling towers Co. [sic].” He also asserted that Parto Abgardan and Aqua-Loop had the same dealings with each other as between Parto Abgardan and any “other representative of other European or Asian companies \* \* \*.”

#### II. Related Persons Under Section 766.23

Section 766.23(a) of the Regulations provides that:

In order to prevent evasion, certain types of orders under [Part 766] may be made applicable not only to the respondent, but also to other persons then or thereafter related to the respondent by ownership, control, position of responsibility, affiliation, or other connection in the conduct of trade or business. Orders that may be made applicable to related persons include those that deny or affect export privileges, including temporary denial orders, and those that exclude a respondent from practice before BIS.

15 CFR 766.23(a).

Section 766.23(b) provides, in pertinent part, that upon a finding by

<sup>3</sup> Mahmoud Lazemizadeh is a U.S. citizen who resides in Iran.

the Assistant Secretary for Export Enforcement that a denial order should be made applicable to a related person or persons in order to prevent evasion of that denial order, the Assistant Secretary shall issue or amend the order accordingly. 15 CFR 766.23(b).

#### III. Findings

BIS notified Parto Abgardan of its intent to add the company as a related person in accordance with Section 766.23(b) of the Regulations. As indicated by BIS, with regard to the United States market, Parto Abgardan’s Web site directs its (potential) customers and others to make U.S.-related contacts using Aqua-Loop’s address in Folsom, California, and Aqua-Loop’s phone number and fax number there, whereas all contacts elsewhere in the world are to be made directly to Parto Abgardan in Iran. Parto Abgardan’s Web site also discusses a “sister factory” in the United States, in further apparent reference to Aqua-Loop. Moreover, the record also shows that Parto Abgardan’s owner and managing director, Mahmoud Lazemizadeh, is a co-owner of Aqua-Loop, while his nephew, Behzad Lazemizadeh, is an employee of Parto Abgardan and a former employee of Aqua-Loop. The record thus amply shows that Parto Abgardan is related to Aqua-Loop.

The record similarly demonstrates that adding Parto Abgardan to the Denial Order is justified in order to prevent evasion of that Order. I find that BIS has presented evidence showing that Parto Abgardan and Aqua-Loop participated in a long-running conspiracy to violate the Regulations. That evidence shows, *inter alia*, that acting in concert with Parto Abgardan, Aqua-Loop sourced or obtained items in the United States and then exported them or caused their export to Parto Abgardan in Iran, via a U.A.E. middleman identified by Parto Abgardan, without the required U.S. Government licenses. These actions included Parto Abgardan’s efforts to obtain a filament winding machine from a U.S. supplier, during which Parto Abgardan told Aqua-Loop: “Since they [the U.S. supplier] can’t sell directly to Iran, they are OK with selling it domestically and then we can transfer it from U.S. to Dubai and then to Iran. With your permission we are going to give Aqua-Loop’s information to them so they can send you their offer” based on the technical information provided to the U.S. company by Parto Abgardan.

This long-running collaboration points to a substantial continued risk of diversion and evasion presented by the

<sup>1</sup> The charges filed against Aqua-Loop are contained in the Order issued upon settlement, which was subsequently published in the **Federal Register**, 75 FR 16,732 (April 2, 2010).

<sup>2</sup> The charges filed against Bob Rahimzadeh are contained in the Order issued upon settlement, which was subsequently published in the **Federal Register**, 75 FR 16,735 (April 2, 2010).

ongoing business relationship between Parto Abgardan and Aqua-Loop, which is highlighted by Parto Abgardan's own Web site, and Mahmoud Lazemizadeh's control of Parto Abgardan and his ownership interest in Aqua-Loop. These concerns are only heightened by Parto Abgardan's assertions that there is no connection between the two entities, when, in fact, its owner is a co-owner of Aqua-Loop and its Web site, references a "sister factory" in the United States and lists Aqua-Loop's mailing address and contact information in California.

Based on the foregoing and the record as a whole, I find that Parto Abgardan is a person related to Aqua-Loop by "ownership, control, position of responsibility, affiliation, or other connection in the conduct of trade or business" pursuant to Section 766.23 of the Regulations, and that the Denial Order issued against Aqua-Loop should be made applicable to Parto Abgardan in order to prevent evasion of that Order.

#### IV. Order

*It is therefore ordered:*

First, that Parto Abgardan Cooling Towers Co. ("Parto Abgardan"), located at the following addresses: P.O. Box 966, Folsom, CA 95763; and P.O. Box 19395/5478, Tehran, Iran; and No. 56 Shaydaee St., Yakhchal St., Shariati Ave., Tehran (19497), Iran; and No. 56 Sheidaei St., Yakhchal St., Dr. Shariati Ave., Tehran (19497), Iran; and No. 56 Corner of Noushin Blind Alley, Sheidaei St., Yakhchal St., Dr. Shariati Ave., Tehran (19497), Iran; and No. 56 Next to Noushin Blind Alley, Sheidaei St., Yakhchal St., Dr. Shariati Ave., Tehran (19497), Iran; and No. 56, Corner of Noushin Dd. End, Sheidaei St., Yakhchal St., Shariati St., (19497), Tehran, Iran, and Parto Abgardan's successors or assigns and, when acting for or on behalf of the Parto Abgardan, its officers, representatives, agents, or employees (Parto Abgardan and each of the foregoing as stated, a "Denied Person"), may not, directly or indirectly, participate in any way in any transaction involving any commodity, software or technology (hereinafter collectively referred to as "item") exported or to be exported from the United States that is subject to the Regulations, or in any other activity subject to the Regulations, including, but not limited to:

A. Applying for, obtaining, or using any license, License Exception, or export control document;

B. Carrying on negotiations concerning, or ordering, buying, receiving, using, selling, delivering, storing, disposing of, forwarding,

transporting, financing, or otherwise servicing in any way, any transaction involving any item exported or to be exported from the United States that is subject to the Regulations, or in any other activity subject to the Regulations; or

C. Benefiting in any way from any transaction involving any item exported or to be exported from the United States that is subject to the Regulations, or in any other activity subject to the Regulations.

Second, no person may, directly or indirectly, do any of the following:

A. Export or reexport to or on behalf of the Denied Person any item subject to the Regulations;

B. Take any action that facilitates the acquisition or attempted acquisition by the Denied Person of the ownership, possession, or control of any item subject to the Regulations that has been or will be exported from the United States, including financing or other support activities related to a transaction whereby the Denied Person acquires or attempts to acquire such ownership, possession or control;

C. Take any action to acquire from or to facilitate the acquisition or attempted acquisition from the Denied Person of any item subject to the Regulations that has been exported from the United States;

D. Obtain from the Denied Person in the United States any item subject to the Regulations with knowledge or reason to know that the item will be, or is intended to be, exported from the United States; or

E. Engage in any transaction to service any item subject to the Regulations that has been or will be exported from the United States and which is owned, possessed or controlled by the Denied Person, or service any item, of whatever origin, that is owned, possessed or controlled by the Denied Person if such service involves the use of any item subject to the Regulations that has been or will be exported from the United States. For purposes of this paragraph, servicing means installation, maintenance, repair, modification or testing.

Third, that in accordance with the provisions of Section 766.23(c) of the Regulations, the Denied Person may, at any time, make an appeal related to this Order by filing a full written statement in support of the appeal with the Office of the Administrative Law Judge, U.S. Coast Guard ALJ Docketing Center, 40 South Gay Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202-4022.

This Order shall be published in the **Federal Register** and a copy provided to the denied person.

This Order is effective upon issuance and shall remain in effect until March 25, 2020.

Entered this 6th day of October 2010.

**David W. Mills,**

*Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Export Enforcement.*

[FR Doc. 2010-26117 Filed 10-15-10; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-DT-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Bureau of the Census

[Docket Number 100921463-0460-01]

#### Annual Retail Trade Survey

**AGENCY:** Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of determination.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Department of Commerce's Bureau of the Census (Census Bureau) publishes this notice to announce that the Director of the Census Bureau has determined the need to conduct the 2010 Annual Retail Trade Survey (ARTS). ARTS covers employer firms with establishments located in the United States and classified in the Retail Trade and/or Accommodation and Food Services sectors as defined by the 2002 North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Through this survey, the Census Bureau will collect data covering annual sales, annual e-commerce sales, year-end inventories held inside and outside the United States, total operating expenses, purchases, accounts receivables, and, for selected industries, merchandise line sales, percent of sales by class of customer, and percent of e-commerce sales to customers located outside the United States. These data are collected to provide a sound statistical basis for the formation of policy by various government agencies. Results will be available for use for a variety of public and business needs such as economic and market analysis, company performance, and forecasting future demand.

**ADDRESSES:** The Census Bureau will provide report forms to businesses included in the survey. Additional copies are available upon written request to the Director, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC 20233-0101.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Aneta Erdie, Service Sector Statistics Division, at (301) 763-4841 or by e-mail at [aneta.erdie@census.gov](mailto:aneta.erdie@census.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Sections 182, 224, and 225 of Title 13 of the United States Code authorize the Census