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Authority: Subtitle G of Title VIII of Pub. L. 107–296, 116 Stat. 2238 (6 U.S.C. 441–444).

§ 25.1 Purpose.

This part implements the Support Anti-terrorism by Fostering Effective Technologies Act of 2002, Subtitle G of Title VIII of Public Law 107–296 (“the SAFETY Act” or “the Act”).

§ 25.2 Delegation.

All of the Secretary’s responsibilities, powers, and functions under the SAFETY Act may be exercised by the Under Secretary for Science and Technology of the Department of Homeland Security (“the Under Secretary”) or the Under Secretary’s designees.

§ 25.3 Designation of qualified anti-terrorism technologies.

(a) *General.* The Under Secretary may designate as a qualified anti-terrorism technology for purposes of protections set forth in Subtitle G of Title VIII of Public Law 107–296 any qualifying product, equipment, service (including support services), device, or technology (including information technology) designed, developed, modified, or procured for the specific purpose of preventing, detecting, identifying, or deterring acts of terrorism or limiting the harm such acts might otherwise cause.

(b) *Criteria to be considered.* In determining whether to grant the designation under paragraph (a) of this section (a “Designation”), the Under Secretary may exercise discretion and judgment in interpreting and weighting the various criteria in each case in determining whether to grant a Designation:

- (1) Prior United States Government use or demonstrated substantial utility and effectiveness.
- (2) Availability of the technology for immediate deployment in public and private settings.
- (3) Existence of extraordinarily large or extraordinarily unquantifiable potential third party liability risk exposure to the Seller or other provider of such anti-terrorism technology.
- (4) Substantial likelihood that such anti-terrorism technology will not be

deployed unless protections under the system of risk management provided under Subtitle G of Title VIII of Public Law 107–296 are extended.

(5) Magnitude of risk exposure to the public if such anti-terrorism technology is not deployed.

(6) Evaluation of all scientific studies that can be feasibly conducted in order to assess the capability of the technology to substantially reduce risks of harm.

(7) Anti-terrorism technology that would be effective in facilitating the defense against acts of terrorism, including technologies that prevent, defeat or respond to such acts.

(8) Any other factor that the Under Secretary may consider to be relevant to the determination or to the homeland security of the United States.

(c) *Use of standards.* From time to time the Under Secretary may develop, issue, revise, and adopt safety and effectiveness standards for various categories of anti-terrorism technologies. Such standards will be published by the Department at <http://www.dhs.gov>, and copies may also be obtained by mail by sending a request to: Directorate of Science and Technology, SAFETY Act/ room 4320, Department of Homeland Security, Washington, DC 20528. Compliance with any such standards that are applicable to a particular anti-terrorism technology may be considered before any Designation will be granted for such technology under paragraph (a) of this section; in such cases, the Under Secretary may consider test results produced by an independent laboratory or other entity engaged to test or verify the safety, utility, performance, or effectiveness of such technology.

(d) *Consideration of substantial equivalence.* In determining whether a particular technology satisfies the criteria in paragraph (b) of this section and complies with any applicable standards referenced in paragraph (c) of this section, the Under Secretary may take into consideration evidence that the technology is substantially equivalent to other, similar technologies (“predicate technologies”) that have been previously designated as “qualified anti-terrorism technologies” under the SAFETY Act. A technology may be deemed to be substantially equivalent to a predicate technology if:

- (1) It has the same intended use as the predicate technology; and
- (2) It has the same or substantially similar technological characteristics as the predicate technology.

(e) *Duration and depth of review.* Recognizing the urgency of certain security measures, the Under Secretary will make a judgment regarding the

duration and depth of review appropriate for a particular technology. This review will include submissions by the applicant for SAFETY Act coverage, along with information that the Under Secretary can feasibly gather from other sources. For technologies with which the Federal Government or other governmental entity already has substantial experience or data (through the procurement process or through prior use or review), the review may rely in part upon that prior experience and, thus, may be expedited. The Under Secretary may consider any scientific studies, testing, field studies, or other experience with the technology that he deems appropriate and that are available or can be feasibly conducted or obtained in order to assess the capability of the technology to substantially reduce risks of harm. Such studies may, in the Under Secretary’s discretion, include:

- (1) Public source studies;
- (2) Classified and otherwise confidential studies;
- (3) Studies, tests, or other performance records or data provided by or available to the producer of the specific technology; and
- (4) Proprietary studies that are available to the Under Secretary.

In considering whether or the extent to which it is feasible to defer a decision on a Designation until additional scientific studies can be conducted on a particular technology, the Under Secretary will bring to bear his or her expertise concerning the protection of the security of the American homeland and will consider the urgency of the need for the technology.

(f) *Content of designation.* A Designation shall specify the technology and the Seller(s) of the technology. The Designation may, but need not, also specify others who are required to be covered by the liability insurance required to be purchased by the Seller. The Designation shall include the Under Secretary’s certification required by § 25.4(h). The Designation may also include such other specifications as the Under Secretary may deem to be appropriate. Failure to specify a covered person or entity in a Designation will not preclude application of the Act’s protections to that person or entity.

(g) *Government procurements.* The Under Secretary may coordinate a SAFETY Act review in connection with an agency procurement of an anti-terrorism technology in any manner he or she deems appropriate and consistent with the Act and other applicable laws.

(h) *Pre-application consultations.* To the extent that he or she deems it appropriate, the Under Secretary may consult with potential SAFETY Act