



**THE  
MILITARY  
VEHICLE  
TRUST**

## **OCEL for Military Vehicles – Annual Return Requirement Update 06/12/2015**

Some members who have registered for an Open General Export Licence (OCEL) for taking their military vehicles to the Continent may have received an email from [eco.spire@berr.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:eco.spire@berr.gsi.gov.uk) requesting them to provide a report on their annual usage.

The Export Control Office (ECO) advise that holders of the OCEL for Historic Military Vehicles and Artillery are **not** required to submit a return and are exempt. However it is possible that those people receiving the eco.spire email have in fact taken out a different OCEL, such as the one for Historic Military Goods or the one for Military Surplus Vehicles, both of which require the return. The ECO has issued the below guidance for reference:

“The Export Control Organisation introduced a requirement for annual Open General Export Licence returns in 2014. This requirement mainly concerns the trading activity of companies and was introduced to provide greater levels of transparency data about usage of open licences. Some individuals might be impacted by the reporting requirement and might have received an email from the ECO depending on which exact licence they hold. A full list and guidance about how to complete a return is available at [www.spire.bis.gov.uk/docs/OpenLicenceReturnsGuidance.pdf](http://www.spire.bis.gov.uk/docs/OpenLicenceReturnsGuidance.pdf). If you hold the OCEL (Historic Military Vehicles and Artillery Pieces) then there is NO requirement to provide an annual return. However if you hold the OCEL (Historic Military Goods) or the OCEL (Military Surplus Vehicles) or any other relevant licence then you will be required to complete a return (even a ‘nil return’). The requirement applies, even if you have surrendered a relevant licence within the reporting year. This runs from January to December and we strongly advise any required returns are completed in January 2016.

If you have any questions about open licensing returns then please contact the ECO Helpline for further advice: [eco.help@bis.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:eco.help@bis.gsi.gov.uk) or telephone: 020 7215 4594.

We also strongly advise that members sign up to the Notice to Exporters, <http://blogs.bis.gov.uk/exportcontrol/>, to ensure they are made aware in future of any changes to their licence(s).

If you have received the eco.spire email, it is recommend you check which OCEL you hold, and if it is not the OCEL (Historic Military Vehicles and Artillery) then you might consider changing to this, or simply surrendering it, unless you are an export company .

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