

Office of Classification

Classification

Training

Institute





This briefing provides information on the Department of Energy's Official Use Only program.

Classification

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June 2014



The Department of Energy's Official Use Only Program





Official Use Only Information

- Even if information is not classified, it may be sensitive and, therefore, be controlled within DOE
- Such information is identified and protected according to DOE directives
- Control ensures
 - The information is not shared with persons who do not have a need to know and
 - An appropriate review is conducted prior to public release



What is OUO information?

Certain <u>unclassified</u> information that meets the following two criteria

Damage: In the opinion of the person making the determination, the information has the potential to damage governmental, commercial, or private interests if released to persons who don't need it to do their jobs or other DOE-authorized activity

AND

 Potentially Falls under a FOIA Exemption: In the opinion of the person making the determination, the information may fall under at least one of the FOIA exemptions (3-9)



THE OF SECOND

Why do we use Official Use Only?

- OUO identifies information whose handling and protection requirements are not covered by other DOE directives (e.g., Export Controlled Information, Protected Cooperative Research and Development Information, Applied Technology, drafts, predecisional documents, proprietary information)
- Provides consistent handling and protection throughout the complex
- Alerts employees that information must not be released through informal methods (posted on a website or sent to a person without a need to know the information)



What information is OUO?



Draft Documents

Export Controlled Information

Attorney-Client

Source Selection Information

Patent Information

Privacy Act Information

> **Business** Confidential

Personally Identifiable Information

> **Sensitive Nuclear Technology**

Intellectual **Property**

Proprietary Information



Who has responsibility for OUO?

- The Office of Classification (AU-60) develops DOE's overall policy and guidelines for identifying and protecting OUO
- The Chief Information Officer (CIO) issues guidance regarding the protection of OUO on DOE information systems
- The Chief Privacy Officer manages the DOE Privacy Program
- The Office of Classification, in coordination with Program Offices, determines information in classified subject areas that is OUO
- For OUO not in classified subject areas (i.e., not in classification guidance), Program Offices determine the specific information within their purview that is OUO



When must a document be reviewed for OUO?

- "An unclassified document originated within a program element must be evaluated to determine whether it contains OUO information."*
 - If the originator believes the document contains sensitive information, it should be reviewed prior to being finalized, released by the originator outside of the activity or office, or filed
 - Documents originated prior to April 9, 2003 (when the OUO program was established) <u>must</u> be reviewed if they are going to be publicly released if the possessor believes there is a potential for the document to contain sensitive information

^{*} DOE Order 471.3, Admin Change 1, Identifying and Protecting Official Use Only Information



Who has authority to identify OUO?

- Any employee, Federal or contractor, from an office with cognizance over the information may make OUO determinations for unclassified documents
 - originated within his/her office,
 - produced for his/her office, or
 - under the control of his/her office
- No special authority or designation is required
- Training is not required, but is highly recommended (training via PowerPoint is available from AU-61)
- Some Program Offices may have additional requirements (training, specific personnel to make determinations, etc.)



What is the criteria for information to be designated OUO?

Certain <u>unclassified</u> information that meets the following two criteria

Damage: In the opinion of the person making the determination, the information has the potential to damage governmental, commercial, or private interests if released to persons who don't need it to do their jobs or other DOE-authorized activity

AND

■ Potentially falls under a FOIA Exemption: In the opinion of the person making the determination, the information may fall under at least one of the FOIA exemptions (3-9)



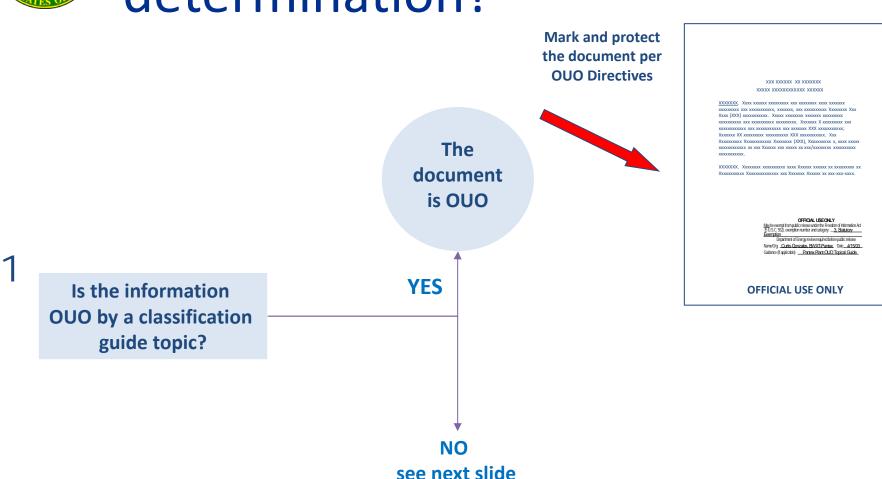
What is the basis for determining if a document contains OUO information?

- Guidance
 - Approved by AU-60
 - Issued by AU-60, a program office, or a DOE/NNSA contractor
- Not based on guidance, an individual determines if
 - Release could cause damage
 - May fall under a FOIA exemption





How do you make an OUO determination?



How do you make an OUO determination? Mark and protect the document per out of Directives.

OUO

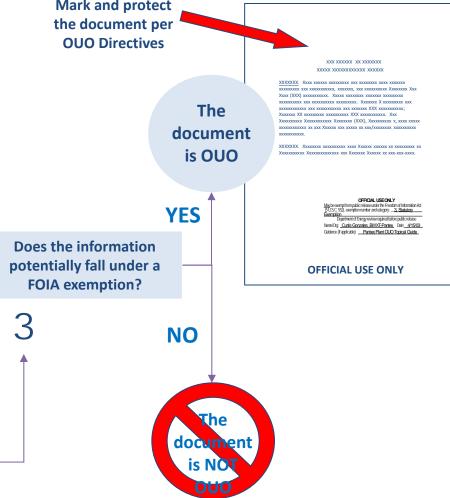
If the information is <u>not</u> covered in a classification guide

Could release cause harm to governmental, commercial, or private interests if given to someone who doesn't need it to perform his or her job or other DOE-authorized activity?

NO

YES

The document is NOT ONO





What are inappropriate uses of OUO?

- OUO must not be used to
 - Conceal violations of law, inefficiency, or administrative error
 - Prevent embarrassment to an organization or agency
 - Prevent or delay the release of information that does not meet the criteria to be designated as OUO



The basis for OUO determinations





Does OUO mean the information is exempt from release under the FOIA?

- OUO is not a determination that information is FOIA exempt
- OUO is a determination that the information <u>may be</u> FOIA exempt
 - OUO markings ensure a document is not publicly released without an appropriate review
 - If an OUO document is requested under the FOIA, a FOIA Authorizing
 Official must determine whether the information must be released
 - Only a FOIA Authorizing Official may determine that information is FOIA exempt
- The threshold for withholding information under the FOIA is higher and requires in-depth knowledge of the FOIA





Exemption 1 – National Security Information

- Information classified by Executive order
- Identification and protection is governed by <u>Executive order, regulation, and directives</u>, so it is

NEVER OUO



Exemption 2 – Circumvention of Statute

In March 2011, the Supreme Court changed the scope of Exemption 2 so that it no longer applies to information that could assist in the circumvention of a statute. Therefore,

Exemption 2 no longer applies to OUO

Under DOE Order 471.3, the <u>only</u> use of Exemption 2 as the basis for an OUO determination was "Circumvention of Statute." Since that is no longer valid, Exemption 2 <u>cannot be used</u> as the basis for OUO determinations.

For information that was previously OUO based on Exemption 2, Circumvention of Statute, another appropriate exemption must be determined.



Policy Bulletin 4 (POL-4), Exemption 2 Guidance



U. S. Department of Energy Office of Classification Washington, DC 20585

June 1, 2011

POLICY BULLETIN

POL-4

SUBJECT: Exemption 2 Guidance

- Purpose. The purpose of this bulletin is to provide guidance on which Freedom
 of Information Act (FOIA) exemption should be used as the basis for securityrelated information currently protected as Official Use Only (OUO) under
 "Exemption 2, Circumvention of Statute," in DOE Classification Guides.
- II. <u>Discussion</u>. As a result of a recent Supreme Court ruling (Milner v. Department of the Navy), the scope of Exemption 2 has been significantly narrowed to apply only to that information that meets the plain meaning of "personnel rules and practices." The concept of "High-2" information, which concerned internal matters of a more substantial nature whose disclosure would significantly risk the circumvention of a legal requirement, is no longer valid. Consequently, "Exemption 2, Circumvention of Statute," may no longer be used in our classification guides as a basis for OUO determinations.

Based on guidelines recently issued by the Department of Justice, Exemption 7 appears to be the appropriate exemption to use for Department of Energy security-related information formerly protected under Exemption 2 in our classification guides. As guides are updated, the originating Classification Office will review all OUO guide topics to ensure that the information requiring protection falls under an appropriate Exemption and revise guide topics as appropriate. Until these reviews are completed, "Exemption 7, Law Enforcement," shall be the basis for any guidance-related OUO determination that would have been based on Exemption 2.

- III. <u>Guidance</u>. Effective immediately, "Exemption 7, Law Enforcement," will be used as a basis for OUO determinations in lieu of "Exemption 2, Circumvention of Statute," for all topics in DOE classification guides that currently cite Exemption 2. It is not necessary to make pen and ink changes to every topic in guides so long as the users are aware of this policy change.
- IV. <u>Legacy Documents</u>. Existing OUO documents that cite a classification guide and use "Exemption 2, Circumventions of Istatue," as the basis for the OUO determination do not have to be re-marked. If information is extracted from such

- For OUO determinations <u>based on</u> <u>classification guidance</u>, use Exemption 7, Law Enforcement, in place of Exemption 2
- Does <u>not</u> apply to decisions that are not based on classification guidance
- Do not need to re-mark legacy documents
- Does <u>not</u> apply to FOIA or mandatory declassification review requests*

*Reminder: An OUO determination does not mean the information is exempt from release under the FOIA, Privacy Act, or Mandatory Declassification Review provisions of 10 CFR part 1045 or E.O. 13526.



Exemption 3 – Statutory Exemption

- Disclosure of information is prohibited by statute
- Not OUO if information is otherwise classified or controlled (e.g., RD, FRD, TFNI, UCNI)

NOTE: The determination must be based on statute, but the statute does not have to be identified on the front marking.



Exemption 3 Examples

- Federal Technology Transfer Act Protected CRADA information
- Procurement Integrity Act Source selection information
- Internal Revenue Code Taxpayer identification numbers
- Patent Act Applications for patents
- Arms Export Control Act Certain information concerning export license applications
- Export Administration Act information pertaining to license applications under the Act
- National Security Act of 1947 Intelligence sources and methods
- Espionage Act Information pertaining to communication intelligence and cryptographic devices



Exemption 4 – Commercial/Proprietary

- Trade secrets
- Commercial or financial information
 whose release would



- Impair the Government's ability to obtain information in the future, or
- Cause competitive harm to submitter



OUO Based on Exemption 4

Exemption 4 Examples

- Trade secret information (e.g., Coca Cola formula)
- Financial information, such as income, profits, losses, costs
- Contract proposal, solicited or unsolicited
- Customer/supplier lists
- Government credit card numbers
- Security measures for commercial entities performing work for the Government



Exemption 5 – Privileged Information

- Three primary privileges
 - Deliberative process (a.k.a. "predecisional")
 - Attorney-Work Product
 - Attorney-Client



OUO Based on Exemption 5

Exemption 5 – Privileged Information

- Why deliberative process information is not released
 - To encourage open, frank discussions on matters of policy between subordinates and superiors
 - To protect against premature disclosure of proposed policies before they are adopted
 - To protect against public confusion that might result from disclosure of reasons and rationales that were not the grounds for an agency's action
- Not just any deliberative process document; must have the potential for damage based on one of the above reasons



OUO Based on Exemption 5

Exemption 5 Examples

- Documents concerning budget cuts
- Documents concerning cancellation of a program
- Documents concerning DOE property purchases



Exemption 6 – Personal Privacy

 Constitutes a "clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy"

Personal information that might cause distress or embarrassment or risk identity theft





OUO Based on Exemption 6

Personally Identifiable Information (PII) is OUO

- Examples (when associated with an individual)
 - Social Security Number (even when not associated with an individual)
 - Place of birth, date of birth
 - Mother's maiden name
 - Medical history
 - Financial data



Not OUO Based on Exemption 6

Information usually <u>not</u> OUO under Exemption 6

 Federal employee's name, title, grade, position description, and duty station

Note: May be OUO if release of information would pose a risk to person's safety or interfere with intelligence or law enforcement programs





Exemption 7 – Law Enforcement

- Includes (but is not limited to)
 - Information whose release could reasonably be expected to endanger the life or physical safety of any individual or
 - Information would disclose techniques and procedures for law enforcement investigations or prosecutions







OUO Based on Exemption 7

Exemption 7 – Examples

- Investigative information
 - Civil, criminal investigations
 - Personnel investigations
 - National security/terrorism investigations
- Security measures to protect Federal officials
- Security measures for Federal buildings
- Security manuals
- Classification guides

Covers much information previously determined to be OUO under Exemption 2







Exemption 8 – Financial Institutions

 Evaluations of a financial institution's stability prepared by, on behalf of, or for use of an agency responsible for regulation of financial institutions (FDIC, etc.)

NOT DOE Information

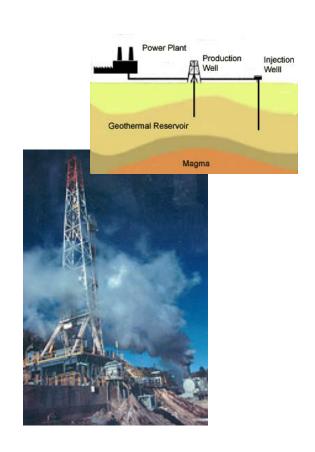


Exemption 9 – Wells

 Technical and scientific information about any type of well

Exemption 9 Examples

- Geothermal well BTU production
- Ground water inventories and well yields in gallons per minute
- Natural gas reserves





OUO Determinations - Summary

- If guidance states information is OUO, it <u>must</u> be identified as OUO
- If there is no guidance, a person may make an OUO determination, if, in the opinion of the person
 - Release of the information could cause damage <u>and</u>
 - The information may fall under FOIA exemptions 3-9
- Many determinations are discretionary
 - Assessment may vary among program offices/employees
 - What is sensitive for one program office/employee may not be for another
- YOU decide when to use the tool





How is OUO marked?







Markings are Important!

- Various markings (other than OUO) used to indicate sensitive information cause confusion
 - Not certain if document needs protection
 - Not certain how to protect document
 - No mandated protection
 - May have to call to determine intent
- When identified as OUO ensures proper handling

XXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX

BUSINESS CONFIDENTIAL

PROPRIETARY

XXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX XXXXXXXX

PRE-DECISIONAL



Short Name

of Guide

How are OUO documents marked?

Front Marking – Determination based on Guidance (Classification/Control Guides)

Exemption Number

Markings are for example purposes only



if guidance is

not used

How are OUO Documents Marked?

Front Marking – Determination based on Individual's Evaluation

Name AND Organization

Name/Org: John Smithson, NA-121 Date: 4/11/14

Guidance (if applicable): N/A

Exemption Number

Exemption Number

Exemption Name

Date of Determination

Date of Determination

Markings are for example purposes only

Requirements – Front Marking

Exemption	Category Name
3	Statutory Exemption
4	Commercial/Proprietary
5	Privileged Information
6	Personal Privacy
7	Law Enforcement
9	Wells



How are OUO Documents Marked?

Page Marking

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

On bottom of <u>all</u> pages

OR

On bottom of only those pages containingOUO information

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Markings are for example purposes only



How are OUO Documents Marked?

Mandatory Supplemental Markings

- Markings required by law, regulation, or other DOE directives that convey additional advice on handling or access restrictions
- Used <u>in addition to</u>, not in place of, OUO markings (both types of markings <u>must</u> appear on the document)
- OUO markings ensure consistent protection and handling throughout DOE
- Examples of information with supplemental markings
 - Protected Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA)
 Information
 - Export Controlled Information (ECI)
 - Applied Technology information (AT)
 - Source Selection Information



Sample of OUO Document with Supplemental Marking (CRADA)

Protected CRADA Information

This product contains Protected CRADA Information which was produced on 11/6/06 under CRADA No. 12345 and is not to be further disclosed for a period of five years from the date it was produced except as expressly provided for in the CRADA.

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

May be exempt from public release under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552), exemption number and category: __3, Statutory Exemption

Department of Energy review required before public release
Name/Org <u>Curtis Gonzales, BWXT-Pantex</u> Date: <u>4/15/03</u>
Guidance (if applicable): <u>Pantex Plant OUO Topical Guide</u>

OFFICIAL USE ONLY



How is document containing OUO and National Security Information marked?

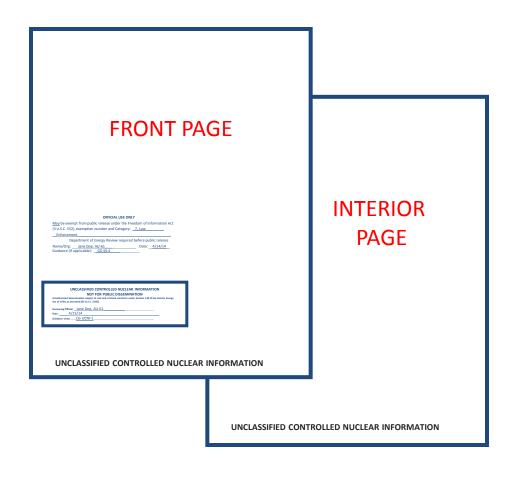
- Do <u>not</u> apply OUO front and page markings
- <u>Do</u> apply
 - title marking
 - portion marking

SECRET	
	(OUO) Title
(<u>S</u>) —	
(OUO)	
(<u>U</u>) —	
	SECRET



How is a document Containing OUO and UCNI marked?

- Apply OUO front marking to a document containing both OUO and UCNI to alert holder to the presence of OUO information
- For interior pages may use the highest category of information in the document (UCNI) on every page or the actual category of information (UCNI or OUO) found on each page



Markings are for example purposes only



Who has authority to remove OUO markings?

- If markings applied based on guidance
 - Any person authorized to use guidance when guidance specifies information is no longer OUO
 - FOIA Authorizing Official who approves release of document requested under the FOIA



Who has authority to remove OUO markings?

- If markings applied based on an individual's evaluation
 - Employee who initially applied markings
 - That employee's supervisor
 - FOIA Authorizing Official who approves release of document requested under FOIA



How are OUO markings removed?

- Person making the determination
 - Crosses out OUO front, page, and any supplemental markings
 - Places following marking on front of document:

DOES NOT CONTAIN
OFFICIAL USE ONLY INFORMATION

Name/Org: <u>Michael Kieszkowski, IM-40</u> Date: <u>4/30/14</u>



How is a document transmitting OUO marked?

- Required if transmittal document itself does not contain classified or controlled information
- Calls attention to presence of OUO information in attachment

Document transmitted contains OUO information



Sample Marking of Document Transmitting

OUO

Attachment contains
OUO; transmitting
document does not
contain classified or
controlled information

Document transmitted contains
OUO Information



How is an OUO document that transmits a classified document marked?

SECRET

XXXXXXXXXXX.

Document transmitted herewith contains Secret/Restricted Data

When separated from enclosures, handle this document as OUO

OFFICIAL USEONLY

May be exempt from public release under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552), exemption number and category: 3, Statutory

Department of Energy review required before public release Name/Org. Curtis Gonzales, BWXT-Pantex Date: 4/15/03 Guidance (if applicable): Pantex Plant OUO Topical Guide

SECRET

Markings are for example purposes only



How is an E-mail containing OUO marked?

- First line of message
 - Insert "OUO" before text
- If attachment to message is OUO
 - Message must so indicate
 - Attachment must be marked correctly





Are there marking exceptions?

Restricted Access Files

Centralized records storage locations or systems where access is limited to only those specific individuals with a need to know the information in the records, such as central personnel files

- Do not need to be reviewed and marked while in these files or when retrieved from these files if
 - they will be returned to the files and
 - they are not accessible by unauthorized personnel
- If the document is not to be returned to files, it must be reviewed for OUO and, if appropriate, marked



Are there marking exceptions?

Document Generated Before Issuance of DOE M 471.3-1

- No requirement to review unless document is to be publicly released
 - OUO determination may be made by anyone in organization that currently has cognizance over information in document
 - Must use current markings if contains OUO











Who may have access to OUO?

- Anyone needing the information to perform his/her job or other DOE-authorized activity
 - No security clearance required
 - Not limited to DOE employees
 - No requirement for U.S. citizenship
- Some OUO may have additional access restrictions (Export Controlled Information, Source Selection Information, etc.)
- Determination made by <u>person possessing</u> document not <u>person wanting</u> the document



In Use

- Take reasonable precautions to prevent access by persons who don't need the information to do their jobs
- For example, don't read an OUO document in a public place (in the cafeteria, on public transportation)





Storing

- With internal building security during non-duty hours -Unlocked file cabinet, desk, briefcase, etc.
- No internal building security during non-duty hours - Locked room or locked file cabinet, desk, briefcase, etc.







- Copying
 - No permission from originator needed
 - Make minimum number of copies
 - Make sure copies are marked and protected





Destruction

- Strip-cut shredder with strips no more than ¼" wide and 2" long
- May also use any method approved for classified (not required)
- Any other method approved by local security office





How is OUO transmitted?

- Transmitting by mail inside facility
 - Place in sealed, opaque envelope or wrapping with recipient's address and
 - "TO BE OPENED BY ADDRESSEE ONLY" on outside





How is OUO transmitted?

- Transmitting by mail outside facility
 - Place in sealed, opaque envelope or wrapping with recipient's address,
 return address, and "TO BE OPENED BY ADDRESSEE ONLY" on outside (same requirements as inside facility, but must include return address)
 - U.S. mail First Class, Express, Certified,
 Registered
 - Any commercial carrier





How is OUO transmitted?

- Transmitting by hand between facilities or within a facility
 - May be hand-carried
 - Must control access to document





What are the cyber security requirements for OUO?

- Cyber Security includes (but is not limited to)
 - Encryption
 - Storage on network
 - OUO on DOE intranet sites.
- Determined by
 - Program Office or
 - Local Designated Accrediting Authority (DAA) requirements may be unique to site depending on network architecture
- Requirements usually found in Program Cyber Security Plan, User Agreements







How should OUO be protected?

DOECAST dated 2/11/2013

- Do not store personal files on Government networks, especially files with your or your family's sensitive personal information.
- Do not retain sensitive Government information for longer than necessary.
- Encrypt emails or files saved on your hard drive or network drive containing controlled unclassified information.

Point of Contact

<u>CyberInfo@hq.doe.gov</u> or 1-855-719-4496.



How is OUO transmitted by phone?

- Transmitting over voice circuits
 - Use encryption whenever possible
 - If unavailable and other encrypted means not a feasible alternative, regular voice circuits allowed





What about an unclassified document from another Agency that is marked as containing sensitive information?

- Usually handle as OUO
- Several exceptions governed by regulations with <u>special marking and handling</u> requirements
 - Examples:
 - Safeguards Information (SGI) Nuclear Regulatory Commission
 - Sensitive Security Information (SSI) DHS
- If not certain, OUO is equivalent protection contact originating agency













How do you mark documents that contain other-Agency sensitive information?

- If you use this information in DOE documents
 - Apply OUO markings to documents that incorporate other-Agency CUI information
 - Portion mark as OUO



Are there penalties for the misuse of OUO?

- May be imposed if person
 - Intentionally releases OUO information from document marked "OUO"
 - Intentionally or negligently releases an OUO document
 - Intentionally does not mark a document known to contain OUO information
 - Intentionally marks a document "OUO" known not to contain OUO information



What penalties are possible?

- Examples of penalties (DOE Order 3750.1)
 - Verbal admonishment
 - Written reprimand
 - Suspension
 - Termination





Where can I find more information about OUO?

DOE Directives (https://www.directives.doe.gov/)

DOE Order 471.3, Administrative Change 1
Requirements and responsibilities

DOE Manual 471.3-1, Administrative Change 1
Detailed instructions for implementing requirements

Office of Classification OUO Web page

http://energy.gov/ehss/services/classification/official-use-only-information



Point of Contact

Lesley Nelson-Burns 301.903.4861

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