WHITE PAPER / 2026 EDITION

Navigating New Compliance Landscapes for Rare Earth Permanent Magnets

Impact of the April 2025 Export Control Policies on NdFeB Magnet Supply Chains

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1. Regulatory Context: The 2025 Export Control Act

In April 2025, China introduced export-control measures covering selected rare earth elements and related materials. For permanent magnet buyers, the practical effect is greater scrutiny of composition, end use, customs classification and supporting documents.

Controlled rare earth elements referenced in the 2026 edition

Element	Symbol	Common relevance to magnet supply
Dysprosium	Dy	High-temperature coercivity in selected NdFeB grades
Terbium	Tb	High-coercivity enhancement in selected NdFeB grades
Holmium	Ho	Specialty magnetic and alloy applications
Gadolinium	Gd	Specialty alloy and magnetic applications
Yttrium	Y	Specialty materials and alloy applications
Erbium	Er	Specialty material applications
Lutetium	Lu	Specialty and research applications

Customs impact

Shipments may require additional composition evidence, exporter declarations and end-use information. Classification or documentation gaps can extend inspection time and increase logistics cost. Confirm requirements before production release and again before shipment.

2. Logistics and Freight Forwarding Challenges

The number of logistics providers willing and able to handle controlled or potentially controlled rare earth materials has contracted. Specialist routes can require more preparation, longer booking windows and additional checks.

Compliance-led shipment preparation should include:

- Elemental analysis or composition evidence appropriate to the grade
- MSDS and transport documentation aligned with the shipment
- Letters of Guarantee, end-use statements or licensing support where applicable
- Early confirmation of freight-forwarder acceptance and destination requirements

3. Customs Inspection Protocol & Cost-Sharing

Inspection scope and release timing may vary by material, documentation, route and destination. Buyers should plan additional lead time where a shipment includes controlled elements or where composition needs to be verified.

A fair commercial arrangement should define responsibility for testing, storage, re-documentation and other exceptional customs costs before shipment. This prevents ambiguity while keeping both supplier and buyer accountable for timely, accurate information.

4. Strategic Supply Solutions: Our Capability Map

Indicative product availability for planning discussions

Grade family	Typical controlled-element position	Commercial route	Indicative impact
N and M	Dy/Tb-free options available	Flexible production planning	Typically 3-4 weeks
H and SH	Specialized Dy-free or grain-refined options	Application review; MOQ may apply	Typically +1 week
UH / EH / AH	May contain Dy and/or Tb	Subject to current controls and licensing	Potentially 3-6 months

Strategic note

Availability, minimum order quantity and lead time depend on grade, dimensions, coating, magnetization, inspection plan and the latest regulatory position. The matrix is a discussion guide rather than a quotation or compliance determination.

5. Moving Forward

For continuity planning, we recommend three practical actions:

- Set an inventory buffer for critical grades and long qualification cycles
- Review whether a lower-heavy-rare-earth grade can meet the real operating condition
- Share rolling forecasts so material, capacity and logistics can be planned earlier

Expert insight

The most reliable route starts with the application: target magnetic performance, working temperature, environment, geometry, coating, inspection requirements, annual volume and destination. A documented engineering review can reduce both compliance and supply risk.

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Important dated-reference notice: This white paper reflects the author's understanding and operating assumptions on April 1, 2026. Export-control rules, customs practice and licensing requirements can change. It is general operational guidance, not legal advice. Verify current requirements with the relevant authorities and logistics specialists before shipment.