

China tightens controls on export of drones, supercomputers

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China is tightening controls on exports of some drones and powerful computers and will require firms to register to ensure they do not "compromise national security", state media reported Sunday.

From August 15, manufacturers of certain powerful [drones](#) and

computers will have to give technical details to the authorities to obtain a licence prior to export, Xinhua news agency said.

The new regulations from the Ministry of Commerce and the General Administration of Customs are aimed in particular at drones which can fly for more than one hour and at heights of more than 15,420 metres (50,000 feet).

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Leading Chinese maker DJI dominates 70 of the global market. But this manufacturing giant has ensured its products "were not involved in these (new) export controls", according to a statement reported by Chinese media, suggesting the government was mainly interested in restricting exports of military technology.

The tightening of regulations comes two weeks after an incident in disputed Kashmir in which the Pakistani army claimed to have shot down an Indian "spy drone", reportedly Chinese-made.

China is also likely tightening controls on exports of powerful computers as it looks to maintain its edge in the global supercomputer battle long dominated by US-Japanese rivalry.

Since June 2013 China's Tianhe-2 has headed the TOP500 list of the world's most [powerful computers](#), with the machine capable of 33.86 petaflops (quadrillions of calculations per second).

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