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Who controls connected-product data?

The EU Data Act starts its legal life. For exporters, the practical issue is access to the data a product creates.

11 January 2024 / European Union

A new framework for industrial data

The Data Act entered into force on 11 January, ahead of its general application on 12 September 2025. It addresses access to data from connected products and related services, business data-sharing terms and switching between data-processing services. January marked the start of the transition; it did not make every operational obligation immediately applicable.

ENTERED INTO FORCE

THE MALAYSIAN LENS

A Malaysian equipment maker or software supplier selling into Europe may face requests about who can retrieve usage data and on what terms. Our reading: data access belongs in product design and contracting discussions, alongside price and warranty. The EU framework does not automatically replace Malaysian privacy law or give unrestricted access to personal information.

QUESTION TO ASK

Can a customer obtain the product data it needs without depending on an undocumented export process?

WATCH / NEXT STEP

Use the transition to map products, data holders, customer access and cloud exit terms. Check the provision-specific timetable before treating a future requirement as a present duty.

READ THE ORIGINAL SOURCES

[European Commission · Data Act, historical timeline ↗](#)

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