

# US lifts chip design curbs on China as part of trade deal

**Bloomberg**

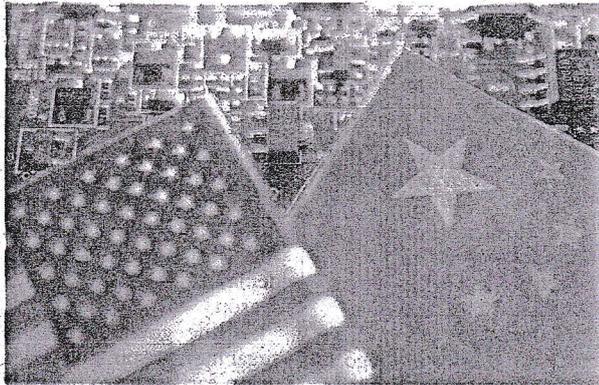
The Donald Trump administration has lifted export licence requirements for chip design software sales in China, as Washington and Beijing implement a trade deal for both countries to ease recent restrictions on critical technologies.

The US Commerce Department informed the world's three leading chip design software providers — Synopsys, Inc, Cadence Design Systems Inc and Germany's Siemens AG — that recent requirements to seek government licences for business in China are no longer in place, according to company statements.

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Siemens has restored full access to its software and technology for its Chinese customers, the company said, while Synopsys and Cadence said they are in the process of resuming such services.

The Commerce Department did not immediately respond to a request for comment about the letters



**NEW DAWN.** The two countries have eased restrictions on the export of critical technologies REUTERS

lifting the curbs, which were also imposed on smaller makers of electronic design automation, or EDA, tools.

Trump officials restricted EDA tool sales to China in May, as part of a raft of measures responding to Beijing's limits on shipments of essential rare earth minerals.

Under a trade agreement finalised last week, Washington promised to allow shipments of chip-design software as well as ethane and jet engines to China, provided Beijing honours its pledge to speed approval of critical

mineral exports. The brief crackdown on EDA sales to China marked an escalation in Washington's years-long campaign to rein in Beijing's semiconductor and AI ambitions, adding to earlier restrictions on advanced chips and the equipment used to manufacture them.

Software from Cadence and Synopsys is used to design everything from the highest-end processors for the likes of Nvidia Corp and Apple Inc to simple parts like power-regulation components.