

1. Introduction

1.1 Under Regulation 4 of the Dangerous Goods (General) Regulations, no person shall move or cause or permit to be moved any explosives by land or water within Hong Kong except under and in accordance with a Removal Permit granted by the Authority. Some removals are exempted from this requirement which include:

- the removal of safety cartridges for industrial fastening tools not exceeding 5,000 rounds or 5kg of explosives content whichever is the less, or
- the removal of safety cartridges and cartridges for small arms not exceeding 1,000 rounds if such removal has already been licensed under the Firearms and Ammunition Ordinance (Cap. 238).

1.2 The Commissioner of Mines (CoM) is the authority for the issue of the Removal Permit for the transportation of explosives on land and the Director of Marine is the authority for the issue of the Removal Permit for marine transport.

2. General Information

2.1 A Mode B store licensee or his/her representative is permitted to apply for a Removal Permit to convey explosives into and out of his/her Mode B store for storage, installation or use.

2.2 The application for a Removal Permit will not be processed unless the explosives to be conveyed are approved for use in Hong Kong. A “List of Explosives Approved for use in Hong Kong” can be viewed and downloaded from: http://www.cedd.gov.hk/eng/services/mines_quarries/mqd_explosives.htm. The applicant can obtain information concerning the approval of new explosives for use in Hong Kong from the Mines Division Guidance Note entitled ‘Approval of Non-blasting Explosives for Use in Hong Kong’ which can be viewed and downloaded from http://www.cedd.gov.hk/eng/services/mines_quarries/doc/non_blasting.pdf.

2.3 A Removal Permit covers the movement of specified quantities and types of explosives from one location to another location via a designated route. If explosives are moved from a Mode B store to several different destinations, one Removal Permit is required for each destination even if the same delivery vehicle is used and the destinations are on the same delivery route or adjacent to each other.

2.4 A Removal Permit is required to cover any explosives movement on land in Hong Kong irrespective of the distance and duration of the explosives movement except for the removal of explosives within the same premises as the Mode B store.

3. Delivery of Explosives into and out of a Mode B Store

- 3.1 The delivery of explosives into and out of a Mode B store can be performed by CoM or by a holder of a valid Removal Permit (Permittee) using his/her own vehicle.
- 3.2 An applicant for a Removal Permit intending to arrange his/her own vehicle for delivery of explosives should note the following requirements.
- (a) Additional information/documents in accordance with Para. 4.3 must be provided in support of the application for the Removal Permit.
 - (b) The delivery vehicle cannot carry more than 200 kg without the written permission of CoM.
 - (c) A red flag of size not less than 230x300mm must be displayed in a prominent position on the explosives delivery vehicle.

4 Application for a Removal Permit

- 4.1 To apply for a Removal Permit to convey explosives into or out of a Mode B store, the licensee or his/her authorized representative should use a standard application form entitled “Application for Removal Permit(s) to Convey Category 1 Dangerous Goods on Land” (Form No. Min/qa/f3) which can be downloaded from: <http://www.cedd.gov.hk/eng/forms/doc/lpr.pdf>.
- 4.2 The application should be made in a written form submitted to CoM providing the following information:
- Date and time of the removal,
 - Details of explosives to be conveyed including the name, UN number, hazard classification, quantity and net explosives content,
 - Intended transportation route including starting location and destination which shall not pass through any tunnels, heavy traffic roads and densely populated areas.
 - For export of explosives, an export licence and written consent issued by the authority of the receiving country is required.
- 4.3 If the applicant intends to deliver the explosives using his/her own vehicle, the following additional information/documents should also be submitted.
- Mode of transport and vehicle registration number.
 - Satisfactory written emergency procedure.
 - Declaration that the driver of the vehicle has been trained to understand the nature of the dangers which may arise from the particular explosives being carried and the action to be taken in an emergency concerning them.

5 Processing Application for a Removal Permit

- 5.1 CoM will check all of the information submitted and request the applicant to provide any missing documents or any necessary clarification of the information submitted.
- 5.2 If all of the required information and documents are received, the Removal Permit including the white Bearer Copy and the blue Licensee Copy will be issued to the applicant upon payment of the prescribed permit fee on the same day. The remaining yellow Licensing Authority Copy of the Removal Permit will be kept by CoM.

6. Handling of a Removal Permit

- 6.1 In the issuing of explosives, the Mode B storekeeper should check that the Removal Permit produced is valid and endorse the removal of the explosives by completing Part III of the Removal Permit for both the white Bearer and the blue Licensee Copies.
- 6.2 The storekeeper should keep and file the blue Licensee Copy of the Removal Permit near the Mode B store for checking during subsequent Mode B store inspections by CoM for a period not less than 3 years. The white Bearer Copy of the Removal Permit should be kept by the person responsible for moving the explosives and be available for inspection by the Police or CoM during delivery of the explosives.

7. Permit Fee for a Removal Permit

- 7.1 The fee for a Removal Permit is charged in accordance with Dangerous Goods (General) Regulation 183, and is currently HK\$195 per permit.
- 7.2 For explosives delivered by CoM, the Removal Permit fee is charged together with the delivery fee.

Mines Division
May 2009

***General guidance is provided in this Note. Additional requirements may be imposed by the Commissioner of Mines to suit the removal conditions and characteristics of the dangerous goods. Feedback or enquiries on this document can be directed to the Chief Geotechnical Engineer/Mines of the Geotechnical Engineering Office, Civil Engineering and Development Department at 25/F, 410 Kwun Tong Road, Kwun Tong, Kowloon.
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