

Guidance Note On Approval of Non-blasting Explosives for Use in Hong Kong



**Mines Division
Civil Engineering and Development Department**

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Pursuant to Regulations 4 and 9 of Dangerous Goods (General) Regulations, Cap. 295B, Laws of Hong Kong, the conveyance and storage of explosives in Hong Kong shall not be allowed except and in accordance with a licence or permit granted by the Authority. For public safety, the Commissioner of Mines (COM) will not grant a Removal Permit or a Mode A or Mode B store licence to any persons unless they have obtained approval of their explosives for use in Hong Kong.
- 1.2 Any explosives approved by COM will be included in the list of “Approved Explosives for Use in Hong Kong” which can be viewed and downloaded from http://www.cedd.gov.hk/eng/services/mines_quarries/mqd_explosives.htm.

2. General Information

- 2.1 The applicant should be a company registered in Hong Kong with a local office. The company’s local representatives should have sound knowledge of the explosives for which they apply for approval.
- 2.2 Each explosives supplier/owner should submit a separate application form for each type of explosive he/she intends to import into Hong Kong.
- 2.3 The applicant is responsible for translating any supporting documents written in languages other than Chinese or English.
- 2.4 Any information submitted to CoM by the applicant will be treated in strict confidence.
- 2.5 CoM may conduct a security check on the applicant. A prior notice will be given for the agreement of the applicant before the security check.

3. Application Procedures

- 3.1 The applicant should fill in a standard application form entitled “Application Form for Approval of Non-blasting Explosives for Use in Hong Kong” (Form No. Min/qa/f11), which can be downloaded from http://www.cedd.gov.hk/eng/forms/doc/non_explosive.pdf. An example of a completed application form is given in Annex 1.
- 3.2 The applicant should submit the completed application form to CoM together with all the supporting documents. A full list of the supporting documents is listed in Part V of the Application Form and details of the supporting documents are given in Annex 2.
- 3.3 The approval for use of non-blasting explosives will not be given normally if any one of the supporting documents (2) to (5), (7) or (8) and (9) described in Annex 2 is not submitted. The supporting documents (1) and (6) described in Annex 2 are desirable but not essential.

4. Approving Procedures

- 4.1 CoM will check all the information and supporting documents and respond to the applicant within 28 days. CoM may request the applicant to provide additional information/documents if any of the required information/documents are found missing, inadequate or unclear.
- 4.2 CoM will issue a written approval for use of the explosives to the applicant when all of the information/documents required are provided. The approval may impose conditions

on the approval for use of the explosives on public safety grounds if necessary, such as the nomination in writing of a suitable person to CoM for the authorisation of using the explosives.

5. Cancellation of Approval

5.1 The approval will be cancelled and the explosives will be removed temporarily or permanently from the approved list as determined by CoM:

- (a) upon the request of the applicant, or
- (b) if any of the information/documents submitted are found to be inaccurate, false or forged, or
- (c) if any key information/documents such as the MSDS has expired without replacement or renewal, or
- (d) if the explosive is known to be unsafe for delivery, storage or use.

6. Related Charges

6.1 There is no charge on the application for approval of explosives for use in Hong Kong.

Mines Division
May 2009

General guidance is provided in this Note. Additional requirements may be provided by the Commissioner of Mines to suit the store 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.

Telephone: (852) 27168666 Facsimile: (852) 27140193 E-mail: mines@cedd.gov.hk



Application Form for Approval of Non-blasting Explosives for Use in Hong Kong

Please refer to Annex 2 of the Guidance Note on “Approval of Non-blasting Explosives for Use in Hong Kong” for additional information in filling this Form.

Part I Applicant

Name of Applicant	CoM Company		
Postal Address	25/F, 410 Kwun Tong Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong		
Telephone Number	2716 8666	Fax Number	2714 0193
Email Address	CoM@abc.com.hk		
Business Registration No.	XXX-123-456-789	Is copy attached? ⁽¹⁾	(Yes / No)*
Name of Contact Person	Mr. CHAN Tai Man		

Part II Information of Non-blasting Explosives

Name of Explosives	Gas Cartridge Actuator	Photograph attached?	(Yes / No)*
Stock/Part Number	A01234	UN No.	0323 HCC 1.4S
Classification Document No.	Authority A1234/2007	Is copy attached? ⁽²⁾	(Yes / No)*
Manufacturer	Actuator Factory		
Factory Address	666 Cartridge Road, Outlying Island, Hong Kong		
Application	Fire extinguishing system	Means of Initiation	Electric
Mode of Initiation	To ignite the smokeless powder inside the gas cartridge actuator by electric current.		
Unit Weight	140g	NEQ per Unit	1.5g
Has it been approved elsewhere?	(Yes / No)*	Is copy of the approving document attached? ⁽³⁾	(Yes / No)*

Part III Explosives Safety

Recommended Shelf Life	10 years	Is copy attached? ⁽⁴⁾	(Yes / No)*
Method of Disposal	Shunt the legwires, repack properly and send back to the manufacturer		
Nature of Deterioration	No reading obtained when tested with a galvanometer		
Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) available?	(Yes / No)*	Is copy of MSDS attached? ⁽⁵⁾	(Yes / No)*
Special precaution in use?	(Yes / No)*	Is precaution given in MSDS?	(Yes / No)*
Quality Assurance certificate available?	(Yes / No)*	Is copy attached? ⁽⁶⁾	(Yes / No)*

Part IV Packaging

UN Packaging Mark	4G/Y9/S/**/USA/A0001 where ** denoted as year of manufacture		
Certificate No.	XX/aa/22/33/44	Expiry Date	31 December 2010
Issuing Organisation	World Packaging Organisation	Is copy of Packaging Certificate attached? ⁽⁷⁾	(Yes / No)*
Box Construction	Fiberboard box	Box Dimension (mm)	275 x 255 x 200
Intermediate Packaging	One (1) 250mm x 150mm C-flute corrugated 12-piece, 25-cell slotted partition set with 100mm air cell around perimeter		
Inner Packaging	Twenty-five (25) no. of 35mm dia. x 150mm long spiral wound fiber tubes, each containing twenty (25) no. of 375mm long stainless hex screws with two (2) #44 poly plugs to close off both ends of fiber tube		
Gross Weight per box	8kg	Unit Weight / device	0.32kg
Photos of packaging ⁽⁸⁾	(Yes / No)*	No. of device / box	25 numbers
Technical drawing of explosive with dimensions attached? ⁽⁹⁾			(Yes / No)*

* Delete where appropriate

Part V Checklist on Supporting Documents (Available , Non-available)

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| (1) Business Registration Certificate | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | (6) Quality Assurance Certificate | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| (2) Classification document | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | (7) Packaging certificate | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| (3) Approving document | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | (8) Photos of packaging | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| (4) Recommended shelf life | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | (9) Technical drawing | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| (5) Material Safety Date Sheet | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |

Part VI Declaration

I declare that all the information and documents submitted in supporting my application are, to the best of my knowledge and belief, both true and correct and I shall notify the Commissioner of Mines in writing immediately if any of the above information and documents are revised or updated.

TM Chan

Signature of Applicant[#]

CHAN Tai Man

Signature's Name in Block Letters

Sales Manager

Position Held in Company

01 August 2007

Date

[#]If limited company, company's chop and the signature of a company manger or a director.

The completed form, together with attached photographs, drawings and documents, should be returned to the Mines Division, Civil Engineering and Development Department, 25/F., 410 Kwun Tong Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

Official Remarks

Form duly completed Form signed

Any essential supporting documents / inadequate / unclear? Yes No

If Yes, specify: _____

Other information missing / inadequate / unclear

Part I : _____
 Part II : _____
 Part III : _____
 Part IV : _____

Recommendation:

Checked by: _____ (ExpOII)
 ()

Verified by: _____ (SExpO)
 ()

Explanatory Notes on Supporting Documents

(1) Business Registration

A copy of the Business Registration Certificate is required to indicate that the applicant is a registered company in Hong Kong upon request.

(2) Hazard Classification Document

The hazard classification document is the document issued by the competent authorities listed in the International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code for the hazard classification of the explosive. In case there is no classification document available, the applicant may submit the following for consideration:

- (a) the document issued by any recognized laboratories for the hazard classification of the explosives, or
- (b) the document issued by government authorities in other countries for the hazard classification of the explosives by recognition/assignment, or
- (c) the classification document for other explosives with similar ingredient, characteristics and manufacturing process, or
- (d) the declaration document for the hazard classification issued by the manufacturer.

(3) Approving Document

The official document issued by the authority of a country approving or authorizing the use, storage, conveyance and manufacture of the explosive.

(4) Manufacturer's Recommended Shelf Life (MRSL)

Any document issued by the manufacturer of the explosives in which the recommended shelf life of the explosives is clearly indicated. The MRSL can be a statement declared by the explosives manufacturer or contained in any of the published information such as the Material/Product Safety Data Sheet, or Technical Data Sheet prepared by the manufacturer.

(5) Material Safety Data Sheet

A Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) is designed to provide both workers and emergency personnel with the proper procedures for handling or working with a particular substance. The MSDS submitted should be provided by the manufacturer and containing essential information such as physical properties, toxicity, health effects, first aid, reactivity, storage, disposal, protective equipment, and spill/leak procedures. The MSDS should state clearly if the explosive requires any special precautions or training in use.

(6) Quality Assurance Certificate

The applicant should obtain a Quality Assurance (QA) Certificate from the explosives manufacturer certifying the explosives are manufactured to a specified standard acceptable to the authority of the manufacturing country. This certificate should be issued under a widely accepted Quality Management System such as the ISO9001 (2000).

(7) Packaging certificate

The packaging certificate should be issued by a competent authority or a recognized testing laboratory, which indicates that the requirements in the International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code for the packaging of the explosives are being complied with. A packaging certificate should include the following documents:

- (a) brief description of the inner, intermediate and outer packagings of the explosive where appropriate;
- (b) specification or drawings,;
- (c) UN Packaging, and
- (d) testing report/result, particularly on the drop test and stacking test for the explosives, issued by a competent authority or recognized testing laboratory.

(8) Photographs of Packaging

When the manufacturer is unable to provide the packaging certificate (Supporting Document 7) in time of the application, the applicant may be permitted to submit photographs showing clearly the outer, intermediate and inner packagings where appropriate of the explosives with a scale for consideration. However, the applicant should supplement CoM with the missing obtain packing certificate from the manufacturer at a later stage.

(9) Technical Drawings

Drawings showing the general arrangement of the explosives and sufficient to identify and specify the essential parts including explosive components, fusing arrangement (if any), construction information and dimensions.

(10) Reference Document for Explanatory Notes

International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code, International Maritime Organization, London, Volume 1.