

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Under Regulation 4 of the Dangerous Goods (General) Regulations (DG(G)R) (Cap. 295B), 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, subject to the following exemptions:
- (a) the conveyance¹ of explosives from a Mode A store situated at a blasting site incidental to blasting at that site;
 - (b) the conveyance of any quantity of explosives from an explosives store if such conveyance has already been licensed under the Firearms and Ammunition Ordinance (F&AO) (Cap. 238);
 - (c) the conveyance of, in each case, not more than 1,000 rounds of safety cartridges and cartridges for small arms if such conveyance has already been licensed under the F&AO or if the F&AO, by the operation of Part II thereof, does not apply to the possession of or dealing in those cartridges; or
 - (d) the conveyance of not more than 5,000 rounds or 5kg of explosives content (whichever is the less) of safety cartridges for industrial fastening tools.
- 1.2 The Commissioner of Mines (CoM) is the Authority for the issue of removal permits for the conveyance of explosives on land and the Director of Marine (DoM) is the Authority for the issue of removal permits for conveyance at sea within Hong Kong. If the explosives conveyance covers both on land and at sea, separate removal permits must be obtained from the respective Authority.
- 1.3 At the request of removal permit holder, Mines Division will, upon payment of a delivery fee, provide an explosives delivery service from/to a Government Explosives Depot. The delivery fees can be found in Part II of the Schedule to the Dangerous Goods (Government Explosives Depots) Regulations (Cap. 295D). Further information is given in Mines Division Practice Note No. 1 “Delivery of Blasting Explosives and Related Safety and Security Procedures” ([MDPN1](#)).

2. General Information

- 2.1 Normally, only the permittee of a blasting site and the licensee of an explosives store, or their explosives supplier, is permitted to apply for a removal permit. Unless otherwise agreed by Mines Division, the applicant should be a company registered in Hong Kong.
- 2.2 Except for the transshipment of explosives, an application for a removal permit will not be processed unless the explosives to be conveyed have been included in the “List of Approved Explosives in Hong Kong”. Further information on the approval of explosives is given in Mines Division Guidance Note No. [GN 5](#): “Approval of Explosives in Hong Kong”.

¹ The term ‘conveyance’ is synonymous with the term ‘removal’ used in the extant DG(G)R, Cap. 295B.

- 2.3 A removal permit covers the conveyance of specified quantities and types of explosives from one location to another. It may also include restrictions on the route and vehicle to be used for conveyance, as well as the driver and personnel attending the conveyance. If explosives are to be unloaded at multiple destinations, one removal permit is required for each destination even if the same vehicle and personnel are deployed, the explosives are conveyed via the same route and/or the destinations are adjacent to each other.
- 2.4 A removal permit is required to cover the conveyance of any explosives on land in Hong Kong irrespective of the distance and duration of the conveyance unless otherwise specified in a licence of an explosives store or blasting permit of a blasting site.

3. Application for a Removal Permit

- 3.1 To apply for a removal permit, the applicant must complete the “Application for Removal Permit to Convey Category 1 Dangerous Goods on Land” ([Form No. MIN f2-e](#)), and submit the completed and signed form to Mines Division, together with other information/documents specified in paras. 3.2 to 3.4 below.

3.2 Conveyance of Blasting Explosives

- 3.2.1 If the blasting explosives are to be delivered by Mines Division from a Government Explosives Depot, the applicant should follow the procedures specified in para. 4 of [MDPN1](#) and para. 8.3 of Mines Division Practice Note No. 2 “Explosives and PSEM Storage in Government Explosives Depots” ([MDPN2](#)).

- 3.2.2 For the conveyance of blasting explosives using the applicant’s vehicles from their explosives store to a blasting site, the applicant must ensure that:

- (a) the documents listed in para. 4.1 of [MDPN1](#), the shot firer’s requisition form (or other issue note) and the daily balance of the explosive store are submitted to Mines Division, no later than 2:00pm, Monday to Friday, or 9:30am on Saturday, one working day in advance of the day of the intended delivery;
- (b) any vehicles carrying blasting explosives on public roads have been approved by the CoM (see Mines Division Guidance Note No. [GN 2](#) “Requirements for Approval of an Explosives Delivery Vehicle”); and
- (c) the terms and conditions stated in the removal permit are strictly followed (see Annex A for a list of typical permit conditions).

3.3 Conveyance of Non-blasting Explosives

- 3.3.1 If the non-blasting explosives are to be issued from a Government Explosives Depot, the applicant should follow the procedures specified in para. 8.2 of [MDPN2](#).

- 3.3.2 If the applicant intends to deliver the explosives using their own vehicles, either from a Government Explosives Depot or their explosives store, the applicant must:

- (a) submit to Mines Division a written emergency procedure and a declaration that the vehicle driver understands the dangers which may arise from the particular explosives being carried and the action to be taken in an emergency (the typical responsibilities of the explosives

owner/driver/attendant and emergency procedures are given in Annex B);

- (b) ensure that any vehicles carrying more than 200kg net explosives content of non-blasting explosives or any quantity of fireworks for entertainment purposes on public roads have been approved by the CoM (see Mines Division Guidance Note No. [GN 2](#) “Requirements for Approval of an Explosives Delivery Vehicle”); and
- (c) the terms and conditions stated in the removal permit are strictly followed (see Annex A for a list of typical permit conditions).

3.4 *Conveyance of Explosives to be Imported into Hong Kong, Exported from Hong Kong and Transshipments*

3.4.1 If the explosives to be imported/exported are to be stored in or issued from a Government Explosives Depot, the applicant must also obtain prior approval for storage/issue in accordance with [MDPN2](#).

3.4.2 The applicant must submit the information/documents listed in Annex C to Mines Division. For the delivery by the applicant’s own vehicles, the procedures in paras. 3.2.2 and 3.3.2, if applicable, must be followed.

4. Issue of a Removal Permit

4.1 Mines Division will check all of the information submitted and may request the applicant to clarify the information or provide any missing documents.

4.2 If the required information and documents are in order, upon payment of the prescribed fee, a removal permit, including the white “Bearer Copy” and the blue “Licensee Copy” will be issued to the applicant. The yellow “Licensing Authority Copy” will be kept by Mines Division. If the explosives are to be delivered by Mines Division, all copies of a removal permit will be kept by Mines Division and only a receipt will be issued to the applicant.

5. Handling of a Removal Permit

5.1 Before issuing explosives, the licensee of an explosives store (or authorised representative) must check to ensure that there is a valid removal permit for conveyance of the explosives and must endorse Part III of the removal permit (the white “Bearer Copy” and the blue “Licensee Copy”) to confirm that the removal permit has been checked and is in order.

5.2 The licensee of an explosives store should keep and file the blue “Licensee Copy” of the removal permit, for a period of not less than 3 years, so that it can be checked by officers of Mines Division. The white “Bearer Copy” of the removal permit must be kept by the person responsible for conveying the explosives and be available for inspection by the police or Mines Division when the explosives are being conveyed.

6. Permit Fee for a Removal Permit

- 6.1 The fee for a removal permit is prescribed in the table to Regulation 183(1) of the DG(G)R.
- 6.2 For explosives delivered by Mines Division, the fee for a removal permit will be charged in addition to the delivery fee.

Mines Division

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General guidance is provided in this Note. Specific requirements may be imposed by the Commissioner of Mines to suit the conveyance conditions and characteristics of the dangerous goods. Any feedback on this document should be sent to the Chief Geotechnical Engineer/Mines, Geotechnical Engineering Office, Civil Engineering and Development Department.

Telephone: (852) 3842 7210 Facsimile: (852) 2714 0193 E-mail: mines@cedd.gov.hk

List of Typical Removal Permit Conditions

- 一、 本許可證不得轉讓。
 1. This removal permit is not transferable.
- 二、 本許可證受香港法例第295章危險品條例及根據該條例而制訂之任何現行規例管制。
 2. This permit is subject to the provisions of the Dangerous Goods Ordinance, Chapter 295, and any other Regulations made thereunder for the time being in force.
- 三、 運送爆炸品的車輛須於顯明位置展示一面長方形紅旗，尺寸不得少於230毫米乘300毫米。
 3. A rectangular red flag of a size not less than 230mm x 300mm must be displayed in a prominent position on the vehicle carrying explosives.
- 四、 運送爆炸品的車輛不得無故在運送途中等候或停車。
 4. No unnecessary waiting or parking of the vehicle is permitted at any place along the delivery route.
- 五、 運送爆炸品的車輛不准使用任何公路上的隧道。
 5. The vehicle carrying the explosives is prohibited from passing through any tunnel on a public road.
- 六、 運送爆炸品的車輛每次運送的爆炸品重量不得超過 200 公斤淨爆炸品含量，但獲當局以書面批准者除外。運送爆炸品的車輛必須領有牌照及裝備有效的滅火器，並且經常維修，保持良好行車狀況。
 6. Except with the permission in writing of the Authority, the vehicle must not carry more than 200kg net explosives content of explosives at any one time. The vehicle for moving explosives must be a licensed vehicle equipped with effective fire-extinguishers and maintained in good running order.
- 七、 運送爆炸品的車輛必須使用本移走許可證申請書內指明的預定運輸路線。
 7. The vehicle must use the delivery route specified in the application for this removal permit.
- 八、 本許可證只供移走一次危險品使用，而已繳付的費用不能退還。
 8. This removal permit is issued for an isolated act only and the fee paid is not refundable.
- 九、 當車輛運送爆炸品時不准在任何油站加添燃油。
 9. The vehicle with explosives on board is prohibited from refuelling at any fuel station.

- 十、 爆破用爆炸品或娛樂表演用煙花須由已獲當局審批的車輛及駕駛者，在駐地盤爆炸品督導員及引爆手或煙花燃放主管/助理陪同下運送。攜帶爆炸品/煙花時，該車輛必須展示正確的危險品告示牌和警示標誌。
10. Conveyance of blasting explosives or fireworks for entertainment purposes must only be undertaken by the vehicles and drivers approved by the Authority and in the presence of a Resident Explosives Supervisor and a Shot Firer or a Fireworks Master/Assistant. When carrying explosives/fireworks, the approved vehicles must display the correct dangerous goods placards and warning signs.
- 十一、 爆炸品和雷管須由不同車輛或設有不同載貨間的車輛分開運送。電雷管必須攜帶於附有適當標記的核准木製容器內。
11. Explosives and detonators must be conveyed on separate vehicles or in separate compartments on the vehicle. Electric detonators must be carried in an approved and properly labelled wooden container.

Typical Responsibilities of the Explosives Owner/Consignor and Driver

Emergency Procedure

Responsibility of Explosives Owner/Consignor:

- Ensure that the explosives are properly packaged and labelled under R.43 and R. 44 of the Dangerous Goods (General) Regulations and the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code (IMDG Code)
- Ensure that the packaging containing explosives is properly constructed and in good condition
- Ensure that incompatible explosives are not conveyed in the same vehicle
- Brief the driver on the legal responsibility, emergency procedures and items listed on the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) that the driver needs to know during conveyance of the explosives.

Responsibility of Vehicle Driver:

- Ensure that the vehicle is in sound mechanical condition and is roadworthy;
- When conveying the explosives, a copy of the explosives manifests and the removal permit (Bearer Copy) issued by the Commissioner of Mines must be kept in the vehicle so that it can be checked by the police or an explosives officer
- Check the permissible weight of the vehicle so as to avoid over-loading
- Ensure explosives are properly secured before starting the conveyance journey
- Ensure a red flag of not less than 230mm x 300mm is displayed in a prominent position on the vehicle before starting the conveyance journey
- Ensure that at least two effective and suitable fire extinguishers are in the vehicle
- Follow the conditions specified in the removal permit
- Ensure no smoking is allowed
- Be competent to operate all the equipment on the vehicle, including the fire extinguishers
- Ensure that vehicle attendants (if any) are familiar with emergency procedures and competent in the use of the fire extinguishers on the vehicle
- Be familiar with emergency procedures.

Emergency Procedure:

- Step 1. Stop the vehicle at suitable location and switch off the engine
- Step 2. Prevent other vehicles from coming close to the delivery vehicle and warn any person in the vicinity

- Step 3. Dial 999 and advise the emergency services of the location of the vehicle, the nature of the emergency and the types and quantities of explosives in the vehicle
- Step 4. If fire does not involve the explosives, use the fire extinguisher to extinguish the fire
- Step 5. Provide information to firemen and policemen at scene.

Information/documents to be submitted for the conveyance of explosives to be imported into or exported from Hong Kong and transhipments

Information/documents	Import into Hong Kong	Export from Hong Kong	Air-transhipment	Other transhipment
Date of approval of explosives in Hong Kong	For the first time	N/A	N/A	N/A
Application for storage in / issue from a Government Explosives Depot	If applicable	If applicable	N/A	N/A
Classification document issued by a competent authority	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes
Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS)	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes
Written consent issued by the authority of the receiving country or similar documents	N/A	Yes	N/A	Yes
Pre-classification results or import/export licence issued by the Trade and Industry Department	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Packing list	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Declaration for dangerous goods, dangerous goods manifest or similar documents, and photographs of packaging	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes