

## FOREWORD

## 1.0 PURPOSE

| This Manual describes the Department of Energy's (DOE's) explosives safety requirements applicable to operations involving the development, testing, handling, and processing of explosives or assemblies containing explosives. It is intended to reflect the state-of-the-art in explosives safety and to ensure that applicable criteria and requirements for implementing this policy are readily available and known to those responsible for conducting DOE programs. This document shall be periodically reviewed and updated to establish new requirements as appropriate. Users are requested to submit suggestions for improving this Manual through their Operations Office to the Office of Field Support.

## 2.0 SUMMARY

DOE policy requires that all DOE activities be conducted in a manner that protects the safety of the public and provides a safe and healthful work place for employees.

| DOE has also prescribed that all personnel be protected in any explosives operation undertaken. The level of safety provided shall be at least equivalent to that of the best industrial practice. The risk of death or serious injury shall be limited to the lowest practicable level.

| DOE and contractors shall continually review their explosives operations with the aim of further refining and improving safety practices and protective features.

## 3.0 CONTACTS

- | a. For additional information or technical interpretation of this Manual, contact the Office of Field Support (EH-53) at (301) 903-3477.
- b. For technical interpretations of DOE-prescribed worker protection standards, consult the DOE Technical Information

Services database, or call the DOE Response Line at (800) 292-8061.

- c. Consult the DOE Directives Checklist for current Guides and Safety Manuals associated with this Manual. The Directives Checklist is available from the Office of Organization and Management (HR-6) at (202) 586-4716.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF ENERGY:

ARCHER L. DURHAM  
Assistant Secretary for  
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORD . . . . . iii  
 FIGURES . . . . . xiii  
 TABLES . . . . . xiii  
 ACRONYMS . . . . . xv

CHAPTER I – I NTRODUCTI ON

<u>Section</u>	<u>Page</u>
1.0 SCOPE, PURPOSE, AND JUSTI FI CATION . . . . .	I-1
2.0 APPLI CABI LI TY . . . . .	I-2
3.0 EXEMPTI ONS . . . . .	I-2
4.0 WAI VERS . . . . .	I-3
5.0 MANUAL ADMI NI STRATI ON AND MANAGEMENT . . . . .	I-3
5.1 DOE Expl osi ves Safety Commi ttee Organi zati on . . . . .	I-4
5.2 DOE Expl osi ves Safety Commi ttee Functi ons . . . . .	I-4
6.0 Defi ni ti ons . . . . .	I-5

CHAPTER II – OPERATI ONAL SAFETY

<u>Section</u>	<u>Page</u>
1.0 GENERAL OPERATI ONS SAFETY GUI DELI NES . . . . .	II-1
1.1 Protecti on of Expl osi ves . . . . .	II-1
1.2 Equipment Checks . . . . .	II-1
1.3 Inspecti on Frequency . . . . .	II-1
1.4 Laboratory Operati ons . . . . .	II-2
1.5 Toxi ci ty Hazards . . . . .	II-2
1.6 Hazard I denti fi cati on and Communi cati on . . . . .	II-2
1.7 Process Hazard Anal ysi s . . . . .	II-3
2.0 WORK ENVI RONMENT . . . . .	II-5
2.1 General Requi rements . . . . .	II-5
2.2 Emergency Exi t Requi rements for Expl osi ves Operati ons . . . . .	II-5
2.2.1 Buil di ng or Structure Occupancy . . . . .	II-5
2.2.2 Hazards of Contents Cl assi fi cati on . . . . .	II-6
2.2.3 Personnel Protecti ve Restri cti ons and Requi rements . . . . .	II-6
2.2.4 Requi rements for Exi sti ng Faci li ti es . . . . .	II-7

2.2.5	Requirements for New Facilities . . . . .	11-7
2.2.6	Single Exits . . . . .	11-8
2.2.7	Blast-Resistant Doors . . . . .	11-8
2.2.8	Slide Escapes . . . . .	11-9
3.0	BUILDING AND EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE . . . . .	11-11
3.1	Cleaning . . . . .	11-11
3.2	Maintenance and Repair . . . . .	11-11
3.3	Hot Work Permits . . . . .	11-12
4.0	REMOTE OPERATIONS . . . . .	11-13
4.1	Personnel Protection Criteria . . . . .	11-13
4.2	Access and Equipment Controls . . . . .	11-13

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

5.0	GENERAL EXPLOSIVES AREA CONTROLS . . . . .	11-15
5.1	Smoking, Matches, Lighters, Metal Articles . . . . .	11-15
5.2	Cooking and Eating . . . . .	11-15
5.3	Access to Explosives Areas . . . . .	11-17
6.0	ELECTRICAL STORMS AND LIGHTNING PROTECTION . . . . .	11-17
6.1	Assessment . . . . .	11-17
6.2	Evacuation . . . . .	11-17
6.3	Shutdown of Operations . . . . .	11-17
6.4	Lightning Protection . . . . .	11-18
7.0	STATIC ELECTRICITY . . . . .	11-19
7.1	General . . . . .	11-19
7.2	Bonding and Grounding of Equipment . . . . .	11-19
7.3	Testing Equipment Grounds . . . . .	11-19
7.4	Conductive Floors, Shoes, Mats, and Wristbands . . . . .	11-19
7.5	Conductive Floor, Work Surface, and Wristband Specifications . . . . .	11-20
7.6	Conductive Floor Tests . . . . .	11-22
7.7	Humidification . . . . .	11-23
7.8	Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter . . . . .	11-23
8.0	ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT AND WIRING . . . . .	11-25
8.1	Location/Operation Electrical Hazard Classification . . . . .	11-25
8.2	Electrical Supply System . . . . .	11-26
8.3	Building Electrical Service Entrance . . . . .	11-27
8.4	Permanent Wiring and Equipment . . . . .	11-28
8.5	Flexible Cords/Wiring . . . . .	11-29
8.6	Electrical Equipment and Instrumentation . . . . .	11-29
8.7	Electrical Requirements for Outdoor Test Areas . . . . .	11-30
8.8	Hand-Held, Battery-Powered Lights and Instruments . . . . .	11-31
8.9	Non-Rated Extension Lighting . . . . .	11-31
8.10	Laboratories . . . . .	11-32
8.11	Modifications . . . . .	11-32
9.0	VACUUM EQUIPMENT . . . . .	11-33
9.1	General . . . . .	11-33
9.2	Labeling . . . . .	11-33
9.3	Disassembly . . . . .	11-33
9.4	Traps and Filters . . . . .	11-33
10.0	EXPLOSIVES DUST EXHAUST VENTILATION AND COLLECTION SYSTEMS . . . . .	11-35
10.1	General . . . . .	11-35

10.2	Exhaust Ventilation . . . . .	II-35
10.3	Dust Collection Systems . . . . .	II-35
10.4	Dust Collection Location . . . . .	II-36
11.0	DRAINS AND SUMPS . . . . .	II-37
11.1	Collection . . . . .	II-37
11.2	Effluent . . . . .	II-37

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Conti nued)

12.0	PROCESSING . . . . .	11-39
12.1	Heating, Dryi ng, and Thermal Condi ti oni ng . . . . .	11-39
	12.1.1 General . . . . .	11-39
	12.1.2 Heating and Dryi ng Equipm ent . . . . .	11-40
	12.1.3 Heating and Dryi ng Operati ons . . . . .	11-41
12.2	Pressi ng . . . . .	11-42
	12.2.1 General . . . . .	11-42
	12.2.2 Isostati c/Hydrostati c Pressi ng . . . . .	11-43
	12.2.3 Punch and Di e Pressi ng . . . . .	11-44
12.3	Extrudi ng . . . . .	11-44
12.4	Machi ni ng . . . . .	11-45
	12.4.1 Equipm ent Requi rements . . . . .	11-45
	12.4.2 Contact or Remote Operati ons . . . . .	11-46
	12.4.3 Setup and Preparati on . . . . .	11-47
	12.4.4 Operati ons Gui del i nes . . . . .	11-48
	12.4.5 Speci fi c Machi ni ng Operati ons . . . . .	11-49
12.5	Dry Screeni ng . . . . .	11-50
12.6	Blendi ng . . . . .	11-51
12.7	Mel ti ng . . . . .	11-51
12.8	Assembl y and Di sassembl y . . . . .	11-52
	12.8.1 Assembl y Operati ons . . . . .	11-52
	12.8.2 Loadi ng Assembl ies wi th Pl asti c or Extrudabl e Expl osi ves . . . . .	11-52
	12.8.3 Di sassembl y Operati ons . . . . .	11-52
	12.8.4 Personnel Protecti on for Di sassembl y Operati ons . . . . .	11-53
12.9	Inspecti on . . . . .	11-53
12.10	Synthesi s . . . . .	11-54
	12.10.1 Laboratory-Scal e Synthesi s . . . . .	11-54
	12.10.2 Pil ot- or Processi ng-Scal e Synthesi s . . . . .	11-55
12.11	Formul ati on . . . . .	11-56
	12.11.1 General . . . . .	11-56
	12.11.2 Mi xi ng . . . . .	11-57
	12.11.3 Ball or Jar Milli ng . . . . .	11-57
	12.11.4 Roll Milli ng . . . . .	11-57
12.12	Concurrent Contact Operati ons . . . . .	11-58
12.13	Contami nati on Preventi on . . . . .	11-58
12.14	Hand-Cutti ng and Fi ni shi ng Operati ons . . . . .	11-59
12.15	Use of Low-Pressu re Fl uids . . . . .	11-59
13.0	TESTI NG . . . . .	11-61



13.1	General . . . . .	II-61
13.2	Test Planning . . . . .	II-61
13.2.1	Hazards Analysis . . . . .	II-61
13.2.2	Firing Areas . . . . .	II-61
13.3	Test Firing . . . . .	II-62
13.3.1	General Range Standards . . . . .	II-62
13.3.2	Test Setup . . . . .	II-63

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

13.3.3	Pin Switches and Other Noninitiating Circuits . . . . .	11-63
13.3.4	Lightning Storms . . . . .	11-64
13.3.5	Low-Energy EEDs . . . . .	11-64
13.3.6	Explosives Storage in Firing Areas . . . . .	11-66
13.3.7	Warning Signals . . . . .	11-67
13.3.8	Grass Fires . . . . .	11-67
13.3.9	Firing Leads . . . . .	11-67
13.3.10	Unattended Test Assemblies . . . . .	11-67
13.3.11	Postfiring Controls . . . . .	11-67
13.3.12	Contamination of Firing Areas . . . . .	11-68
13.3.13	Test Range Firing Circuit Criteria . . . . .	11-68
13.4	Test Firing in Tanks or Chambers . . . . .	11-69
13.5	Gun Firings . . . . .	11-70
13.6	Ballistic, Environmental, Physical Property, and Sensitivity Testing . . . . .	11-71
13.6.1	Checkout of Dynamic Engineering Test Equipment for Explosive Assemblies . . . . .	11-71
13.6.2	Testing Explosives and Hazardous Radiactive Materials . . . . .	11-71
13.6.3	Heating of Explosives Test Specimens . . . . .	11-72
13.6.4	Instrumentation . . . . .	11-72
13.6.5	Explosives Limits . . . . .	11-73
13.6.6	Drop Testing . . . . .	11-73
13.7	Test Failures and Misfires . . . . .	11-73
13.7.1	Explosives Misfire . . . . .	11-73
13.7.2	Misfire of a Remotely Fired Gun . . . . .	11-74
13.8	Electrical Instruments for Use with Explosives Systems . . . . .	11-74
13.8.1	Classification . . . . .	11-74
13.8.2	Certification . . . . .	11-75
13.8.3	Electrical Instruments for Use with Initiating Electrical Circuits . . . . .	11-75
13.8.4	Electrical Instruments for Use with Noninitiating Electrical Circuits . . . . .	11-76
14.0	MATERIALS HANDLING . . . . .	11-77
14.1	General . . . . .	11-77
14.2	Manual Handling of Bare Consolidated Explosives . . . . .	11-77
14.3	Carts or Hand Trucks . . . . .	11-78
14.4	Mechanical Handling Equipment . . . . .	11-78

15.0	MATERIALS RECEIPT . . . . .	11-81
15.1	Motor Vehi cl es . . . . .	11-81
15.2	Rai l cars . . . . .	11-82
15.3	Damaged Shi pments . . . . .	11-82
16.0	TRANSPORTATI ON . . . . .	11-83
16.1	Equi pment . . . . .	11-83
16.1.1	General . . . . .	11-83
16.1.2	Motor Vehi cl es . . . . .	11-83
16.1.3	Rai l cars . . . . .	11-85
16.1.4	Materi al s Handl i ng Equi pment . . . . .	11-85

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Conti nued)

16.2	General Operati on Gui del i nes . . . . .	11-87
16.3	Emergency Condi ti ons . . . . .	11-87
17.0	EXPLOSIVES STORAGE . . . . .	11-91
17.1	Storage Magazi ne Faci l i ti es . . . . .	11-91
17.2	Storage Magazi ne Operati ons . . . . .	11-92
17.3	Storage Revi ew Program . . . . .	11-93
17.4	Storage Compati bi l i ty . . . . .	11-97
17.5	Contai ners (On-Si te) . . . . .	11-100
17.6	Storage i n Bui l di ngs Other Than Storage Magazi nes	11-101
17.6.1	Packi ng and Shi ppi ng Bui l di ngs . . . . .	11-101
17.6.2	Servi ce Magazi nes . . . . .	11-101
17.6.3	Warehouses . . . . .	11-102
17.6.4	Pre-posi ti oned Storage of Securi ty Response Muni ti ons . . . . .	11-102
18.0	DECONTAMI NATION AND CLEANI NG . . . . .	11-105
18.1	General . . . . .	11-105
18.2	Cleani ng Contami nated Equipm ent . . . . .	11-105
18.3	Cleani ng Screw Threads . . . . .	11-105
18.4	Fi nal Decontami nati on and Di sposal of Equipm ent	11-106
18.5	Inspecti on . . . . .	11-107
18.6	I denti fi cati on and Control of Decontami nated I tems	11-107
18.7	Decontami nati on of Real Estate . . . . .	11-108
18.8	Decontami nati on and Cleani ng References . . . . .	11-108
19.0	WASTE COLLECTI ON . . . . .	11-109
19.1	General . . . . .	11-109
19.2	Soli d Wastes . . . . .	11-109
19.3	Vacuum Col l ecti on of Expl osi ves Dusts . . . . .	11-109
19.4	Expl osi ves Sl urri es . . . . .	11-111
19.5	Metal Scrap . . . . .	11-111
19.6	Expl osi ves Recovery and Reuse . . . . .	11-111
20.0	WASTE DI SPOSAL . . . . .	11-113
20.1	Preparati on for Open Burni ng . . . . .	11-113
20.2	Destructi on by Burni ng or Flashi ng . . . . .	11-114
20.3	Igni ti on System Mal functi ons . . . . .	11-114
20.4	Postburn Operati ons . . . . .	11-114
20.5	Di sposal Area . . . . .	11-115
20.6	Destructi on by Detonati on . . . . .	11-116
20.7	Use of Sol vents . . . . .	11-116
20.8	Buri al . . . . .	11-116

21.0	Laboratory Operations . . . . .	II-119
21.1	General . . . . .	II-119
21.2	Safety Shields . . . . .	II-120
21.3	Heating Operations . . . . .	II-120
21.4	Laboratory Setups . . . . .	II-122
21.5	Low Concentration of Explosives in Solution . . . . .	II-122
21.6	Explosives Sample Control . . . . .	II-122

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Conti nued)

22.0	EMERGENCY CONTROL . . . . .	11-123
22.1	Pl acardi ng and Fi re Symbol s . . . . .	11-123
22.2	Explosi ves Emergency Control Pl ans . . . . .	11-123

CHAPTER III –EXPLOSIVES AND PERSONNEL LI MI TS AND CONTROL

<u>Section</u>		<u>Page</u>
1.0	EXPLOSIVES LI MI TS . . . . .	III-1
2.0	PERSONNEL LI MI TS . . . . .	III-1
3.0	LI MIT CONTROL . . . . .	III-1
3.1	Posti ng and Recordi ng . . . . .	III-1
3.2	Li mi t Revi ew and Approval s . . . . .	III-2
3.3	Personnel Control s . . . . .	III-2
4.0	I HE LI MIT . . . . .	III-2

CHAPTER IV –PERSONAL PROTECTIVE CLOTHI NG AND EQUI PMENT

<u>Section</u>		<u>Page</u>
1.	CLOTHI NG AND PERSONAL EQUI PMENT . . . . .	IV-1
1.1	Cl othi ng . . . . .	IV-1
1.2	Footwear . . . . .	IV-1
1.3	Respi rators . . . . .	IV-1
1.4	Eye Protecti on . . . . .	IV-1
1.5	Gl oves . . . . .	IV-2
2.0	MAI NTENANCE AND TESTI NG . . . . .	IV-2
2.1	Equi pment Mai ntenance and I nspecti on . . . . .	IV-2
2.2	Conducti vi ty Testi ng . . . . .	IV-2
2.3	Cl eani ng and Di si nfecti ng . . . . .	IV-2
2.4	Contami nated Cl othi ng . . . . .	IV-2

CHAPTER V –TRAI NI NG

<u>Section</u>		<u>Page</u>
1.0	GENERAL . . . . .	V-1

2.0	SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITY . . . . .	V-1
3.0	TRAINING AND QUALIFICATION PROGRAMS . . . . .	V-1

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Conti nued)

CHAPTER VI –QUANTI TY-DI STANCE AND LEVEL-OF-PROTECTI ON  
CRI TERIA FOR EXPLOSI VES ACTI VI TI ES

<u>Section</u>	<u>Page</u>
1.0 GENERAL . . . . .	VI -1
2.0 APPLI CABI LI TY OF CRI TERIA . . . . .	VI -1
2.1 Speci fi c Appl i cations . . . . .	VI -1
2.2 Expl osi ves Li mi ts . . . . .	VI -1
2.3 Areas Where Cri teria Are Not Appl i cabl e . . . . .	VI -1
3.0 QUANTI TY-DI STANCE CRI TERIA . . . . .	VI -2
3.1 Hazard Cl asses and Cl ass Di vi si on . . . . .	VI -2
3.2 Establ i shing Quanti ty of Expl osi ves and Di stances	VI -4
3.2.1 General . . . . .	VI -4
3.2.2 Use of Metri c System . . . . .	VI -4
3.3.3 Rai l cars and Transport Vehi cl es . . . . .	VI -5
3.3.4 Util i ti es Install ati ons . . . . .	VI -5
3.3.5 Petrol eum Storage Tanks . . . . .	VI -6
4.0 LEVEL-OF-PROTECTI ON CRI TERIA . . . . .	VI -6
4.1 Hazard Cl asses . . . . .	VI -6
4.2 Requi red Level of Protecti on . . . . .	VI -7
4.2.1 Expl osi ves Bay . . . . .	VI -7
4.2.2 Bays for Joi nt Expl osi ves-Pl utoni um Acti vi ti es . . . . .	VI -9
5.0 FI RE PROTECTI ON . . . . .	VI -10
5.1 Vegetati on Control . . . . .	VI -10
5.2 Fi re Protecti on Cri teria . . . . .	VI -10
6.0 EXPLOSI VES FACI LI TY SI TI NG AND DESI GN CRI TERIA REFERENCE	VI -10

CHAPTER VII –OPERATI NG PROCEDURES

<u>Section</u>	<u>Page</u>
1. GENERAL . . . . .	VII -1
1.1 Requi rements . . . . .	VII -1
1.2 Types of Procedures . . . . .	VII -1
2.0 GUI DELI NES . . . . .	VII -1
2.1 Before Operati on . . . . .	VII -1



2.2	Supervisory Responsibility . . . . .	VII-2
2.3	Preparation . . . . .	VII-2
2.4	Approval . . . . .	VII-2
2.5	Control . . . . .	VII-2
2.6	Audits . . . . .	VII-3
2.7	Reviews . . . . .	VII-3

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

2.8	Content of SOPs . . . . .	VII-3
2.8.1	General Operating Procedures . . . . .	VII-3
2.8.2	Unit Operating Procedures . . . . .	VII-4
2.9	Content of Special or Experimental Procedures . . . . .	VII-5

CHAPTER VIII—FORMULATION SCALEUP

<u>Section</u>		<u>Page</u>
1.0	EXPLOSIVES DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM . . . . .	VIII-1
1.1	Explosives Development Committee . . . . .	VIII-1
1.2	Phase-by-Phase Approvals . . . . .	VIII-1
1.3	Modified Formulations . . . . .	VIII-1
1.4	Sensitivity Data from Another Laboratory . . . . .	VIII-1
2.0	DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURES . . . . .	VIII-1
2.1	General . . . . .	VIII-1
2.2	Synthesis Phase . . . . .	VIII-3
2.3	Compatibility Testing . . . . .	VIII-3
2.4	Phase I—Preliminary Explosives Testing . . . . .	VIII-4
2.5	Phase II—Experimental Characterization and Development . . . . .	VIII-4
2.6	Phase III—Full-Scale Testing and Production . . . . .	VIII-5

CHAPTER IX—INSENSITIVE HIGH EXPLOSIVES QUALIFICATION

<u>Section</u>		<u>Page</u>
1.0	INSENSITIVE HIGH EXPLOSIVES (IHE) . . . . .	IX-1
2.0	IHE SUBASSEMBLIES . . . . .	IX-2
3.0	IHE WEAPONS . . . . .	IX-2
4.0	REFERENCE DOCUMENTS . . . . .	IX-5

REFERENCES . . . . .	Ref-1
----------------------	-------

INDEX . . . . .	Index-1
-----------------	---------

FIGURES

II-1 Testing shoes on wearer . . . . . II-21  
VI-1 Appli cation of Hazard Cl assi fi cation System . . . . . VI-3

TABLES

II-1 Mi ni mum safe di stances between RF transmi tters and  
el ectric  
bl asti ng operati ons . . . . . II-65  
II-2 Mi ni mum safe di stances between TV and FM broadcasti ng  
transmi tters and el ectric bl asti ng operati ons . . . . . II-65  
II-3 Mi ni mum safe di stances betwen mobile RF transmi tters and  
el ectric bl asti ng operati ons . . . . . II-66  
II-4 Storage compati bi li ty groups for expl osi ves and  
expl osi ve-contai ni ng devi ces . . . . . II-95  
II-5 Storage compati bi li ty mi xi i ng chart . . . . . II-98  
II-6 Safety shi el ds for expl osi ves laboratory operati ons II-121  
VI-1 Di vi si ons of Cl ass 1 . . . . . VI-2  
VI-2 Expl osi ves faci li ti es: protecti ve desi gn requi rements by  
acti vi ty type . . . . . VI-13  
VIII-1 Scal eup procedure gui del i nes for new expl osi ves and  
formul ati ons . . . . . VIII-2  
IX-1 DOE qual i fi cation tests for IHE . . . . . IX-3  
IX-2 Approved IHEs . . . . . IX-4  
IX-3 DOE qual i fi cation tests for IHE subassembl i es . . . . . IX-4  
IX-4 Approved IHE subassembl i es . . . . . IX-4

IX-5 IHE hazard classification . . . . . IX-5

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## ACRONYMS

ACGIH	American Conference of Government Industrial Hygienists
ASTM	American Society for Testing and Materials
ANSI	American National Standards Institute
BOE	Bureau of Explosives
DBA	design basis accident
DDESB	Department of Defense Explosives Safety Board
DoD	Department of Defense
DOE	Department of Energy
DOT	Department of Transportation
DSC	differential scanning calorimetry
DTA	differential thermal analysis
EBW	exploding bridgewire
EDC	Explosives Development Committee
EED	electroexplosive device
EOD	explosives ordnance disposal
FMECA	Failure Modes, Effects, and Criticality Analysis
HAZOP	Hazard and Operability Study
HE	high explosive
HMX	cyclotetramethylene tetranitramine
IHE	insensitive high explosive
LEL	lower explosive limit
LFL	lower flammable limit
MCE	maximum credible event
MSDS	Material Safety Data Sheets
NEC	National Electric Code
NEW	net explosive weight
NEQ	net explosive quantity
NFPA	National Fire Protection Association
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PBX	plastic bonded explosive
PEL	permissible exposure limit
PETN	pentaerythritol tetranitrate
RDX	cyclotrimethylene trinitramine
SOP	standard operating procedure
SPMS	Safety Performance Measurement System
SSR	Safe Secure Railcar
SST	Safe Secure Trailer
TATB	triamino trinitrobenzene
TMAC	Toxic Materials Advisory Committee

TNT tri ni tro to l u e n e  
UL Under wri ters La bo ra to ry  
UNO Uni ted Na ti ons Or ga ni za ti on

## CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

### 1.0 SCOPE, PURPOSE, AND JUSTIFICATION

This Manual prescribes the Department of Energy (DOE) safety standards and procedures used to implement the DOE safety policy contained in DOE O 440.1, WORKER PROTECTION MANAGEMENT FOR DOE FEDERAL AND CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEES, of 9-30-95, for operations involving explosives, pyrotechnics, and propellants, or assemblies containing these materials. With the exception of on-site explosives storage and transportation, this Manual does not apply to commercial activities such as routine construction or routine tunnel blasting.

Explosives handling and processing operations by the DOE are an integral part of DOE weapons and weapons-related development manufacturing and dismantlement activities. Safety in all operations associated with weapons development is an ongoing, prime concern and must continually be given high priority in all program direction and management. This Manual provides uniform guidance for all DOE facilities and installations involved in explosives handling or processing. DOE will update the Manual periodically to incorporate lessons learned, new technology, and suggestions for improvements. The Assistant Secretary for Environment, Safety and Health (EH-1) is responsible for this task.

Maintaining explosives safety in all operations within DOE is an ongoing process that, to be truly effective, must be given high priority in all program direction, management, and line activities. Due to the unique nature of DOE's highly active role in research and development in new explosives formulations, explosives synthesis, charge geometry, and explosives assemblies, as well as the proximity of explosives to weapon components, it is necessary to maintain the level of explosives safety standards commensurate with risks.

This Manual closes the considerable safety gap created by DOE's unique activities by establishing safety controls not found in



existing DOE or non-DOE regulations to govern the DOE explosives safety process and ensure that explosives safety is commensurate with the actual risk. However, Department of Defense (DoD), Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and other nationally recognized standards, such as the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) codes, provide the basic framework and are cited where applicable and pertinent. Since the conception of the first DOE Explosives Safety Manual in 1978, and the formation of the expert DOE Explosives Safety Committee, no explosives-related fatalities have occurred in DOE and explosives safety practices have significantly improved. Continued maintenance of this Manual, combined with field adherence, will maintain the high level of explosives safety evidenced within DOE over the past two decades.

## 2.0 APPLICABILITY

This Manual applies to all DOE facilities engaged in developing, manufacturing, handling, storing, transporting, processing, or testing explosives, pyrotechnics and propellants, or assemblies containing these materials, and safely managing such operations. With the exception of explosives storage and transportation, this Manual does not apply to commercial activities such as routine construction or routine tunnel blasting.

The design of all new explosives facilities shall conform to the requirements established in this Manual and implemented in DOE O 430.1, LIFE CYCLE ASSET MANAGEMENT, of 8-24-95, or DOE O 420.1, FACILITY SAFETY, of 9-30-95, whichever is applicable. It is not intended that existing physical facilities be changed arbitrarily to comply with these provisions, except as required by law. Existing facilities that do not comply with these standards may continue to be used for the balance of their functional lives, as long as the current operation presents no significantly greater risk than that assumed when the facility was originally designed, and it can be demonstrated clearly that a modification to bring the facility into compliance is not feasible. However, in the case of a major renovation, the facility must be brought into compliance with current standards.

The requirements are presented as either mandatory or advisory. Mandatory requirements, denoted by the words "shall," "must," or "will," must be followed unless an exemption is granted by DOE.

| Advisory requirements denoted by the words "should" or "may," may be deviated from with a written waiver granted by facility management.

### 3.0 EXEMPTIONS

An exemption is a written release from a mandatory standard of this Manual that has been granted, as applicable, by the DOE Assistant Secretary for Environment, Safety and Health (EH-1) or by the Operations Office Manager.

| The DOE Operations Office Manager is permitted to grant exemptions from the mandatory requirements of this Manual provided compliance is not feasible and the facility operator has demonstrated that the conditions, practices, means, methods, or processes to be used will not decrease the level of safety.

| Requests for exemptions shall be submitted to the DOE Operations Office Manager for action. Each such request shall contain the following information:

- | C description of the condition;
- | C safety requirement necessitating deviation;
- C reason why compliance cannot be achieved;
- C steps taken to provide protection;
- C statement of whether equivalent safety is provided and, if not, assessment of the residual risk;
- C any proposed corrective action and schedule; and
- C duration of the exemption.

The DOE Director, Office of Field Support (EH-53), shall be notified and sent copies of all exemptions granted.

The DOE Operations Office Manager shall submit to the DOE Office of Defense Programs all requests for exemptions from a mandatory requirement for which equivalent protection of operating personnel, the public, and property cannot be achieved. After review of the request for exemption, the DOE Director, Office of Defense Programs, shall recommend to EH-1 whether to grant approval of the exemption. EH-1 is responsible for final determination to grant or disapprove the exemption, and for notification to the DOE Operations Office Manager. The DOE Operations Office Manager may grant a temporary exemption for the period of time an exemption request is being processed at DOE Headquarters.

#### 4.0 WAIVERS

If an activity, operation, or process is determined not to be in compliance with the Manual's guidance, but the activity, operation, or process is determined to be safe and necessary, facility management may grant written approval for an alternate solution. Waivers will be granted for the minimum time necessary; those of an ongoing nature shall be updated every 3 years. Facility management shall maintain a central file of active waivers and provide a copy of each waiver to the local DOE contracting officer. Each waiver shall contain, as a minimum, the following information:

- C description of the condition;
- C safety guidance requiring alternate solution;
- C reason why compliance is not achieved;
- C steps taken to provide alternate protection;
- C any proposed corrective actions and schedule; and
- C waiver duration or expiration date.

#### 5.0 MANUAL ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT

This Manual shall be kept current. The Office of Environment, Safety and Health shall ensure that a current version of this Manual is maintained on the DOE Safety Performance Measurement System (SPMS).

| The DOE Explosives Safety Committee, through the Office of Field  
| Support (EH-53), shall administer and manage this Manual.

### 5.1 DOE Explosives Safety Committee Organization

The DOE Explosives Safety Committee is composed of a member from each of the following:

- C DOE Office of Field Support (EH-53);
- C DOE Office of Military Application and Stockpile Support;
- C DOE Operations Office, Albuquerque;
- C DOE Operations Office, Oakland;
- C DOE Operations Office, Nevada;
- C DOE Kirtland Area Office;
- C DOE Operations Office, Idaho;
- C Los Alamos National Laboratory;
- C Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory;
- C Pantex Plant, Mason & Hanger-Silas Mason Co., Inc.;
- C Mound, EG&G Applied Technologies, Inc.;
- C Kansas City Plant, Allied Signal, Inc.;
- C Idaho National Engineering Laboratory, LITCO;
- C DOE Operations Office, Nevada, Bechtel Nevada Corporation;  
and
- C Sandia National Laboratories.

The committee shall be chaired by the DOE Office of Field Support (EH-53) Representative and will report directly to the DOE Director, Office of Field Support.

## 5.2 DOE Explosives Safety Committee Functions

| The DOE Explosives Safety Committee shall perform the following  
| functions.

- C Review, evaluate, and act under authority delegated from the DOE Director, Office of Field Support, on proposed changes or revisions to this Manual.
- C Evaluate and respond to requests for interpretations of the Manual.
- C Meet periodically, as appropriate, to review and evaluate Manual adequacy and existing exemptions and to initiate Manual changes as needed.

Recommendations to correct and improve this Manual are encouraged and should be sent to the chairperson of the DOE Explosives Safety Committee through the Office of Field Support (EH-53).

## 6.0 DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this Manual, the following terms are defined.

APPROVED. Complying with the provision(s) of this Manual and with instructions and details issued by the authority having jurisdiction or with those of other approving agencies specified herein.

ARM. A general term that implies the energizing of electronic and electrical circuitry, which in turn controls power sources or other components used to initiate explosives. The arming operation completes all steps preparatory to electrical initiation of explosives except the actual fire signal.

BARRICADE. An intervening approved barrier, natural or artificial, of such type, size, and construction as to limit in a prescribed manner the effect of an explosion on nearby buildings or personnel.

BAY. A location (room, cubicle, cell, work area, etc.) containing a single type of explosives activity, which affords the required protection specified for appropriate hazard classification of the activity involved.

BLENDING. The mixing of solid materials (usually dry) by gravity flow, usually induced by vessel rotation.

BOOSTER (or boosting) . Explosives used in an explosive train to amplify the shock output of the initiating device and cause detonation of the main explosive charge.

CASUAL. A person other than an operator who intermittently visits an explosives operation for the purpose of supervision, inspection, maintenance, etc.

COMBUSTIBLE MATERIAL . Any material that, when ignited, will sustain burning.

COMPATIBILITY . The chemical property of materials to coexist without adverse reaction for an acceptable period of time.

Compatibility in storage exists when storing materials together does not increase the probability of an accident or, for a given quantity, the magnitude of the effects of such an accident. Storage compatibility groups are assigned to provide for segregated storage.

CONCURRENT OPERATIONS . Operations performed simultaneously and in close enough proximity that an incident with one operation could adversely influence the other.

CONTACT OPERATIONS . An operation in which an operator and an explosive item are both present with no operational shield.

CONTROL POINT . The location used for personnel control and operation coordination in an explosives operating or test area.

CORING . A machining operation that removes material in the form of a cylinder by cutting at the circumference to create a hole or recover the material from the center of the cut.

CRITICAL TEMPERATURE . Temperature above which the self-heating of an explosive causes a runaway reaction. It is dependent on mass, geometry, and thermal boundary conditions.

DANGER ZONE . That area around a test site where personnel could be in physical jeopardy due to overpressure, fragments, or firebrands released during an explosive test.

DEFLAGRATION . A rapid chemical reaction in which the output of heat is sufficient to enable the reaction to proceed and be accelerated without input of heat from another source. Deflagration is a surface phenomenon with the reaction products flowing away from the unreacted material along the surface at subsonic velocity. The effect of a true deflagration under confinement is an explosion. Confinement of the reaction increases pressure, rate of reaction, and temperature and may cause transition into a detonation.

DETONATION. A violent chemical reaction within a chemical compound or mechanical mixture involving heat and pressure. A detonation is a reaction that proceeds through the reacted material toward the unreacted material at a supersonic velocity. The result of the chemical reaction is exertion of extremely high pressure on the surrounding medium, forming a propagating shock wave that is originally of supersonic velocity. When the material is located on or near the surface of the ground, a detonation is normally characterized by a crater.

| DIFFERENTIAL SCANNING CALORIMETRY (DSC) . A technique in which the difference in energy inputs into a substance and a reference material is measured as a function of temperature or time while the substance and the reference material are subjected to a controlled temperature program, or are held isothermally. The record is the DSC curve. The energy input is substituted for DT and is plotted in the same manner as a normal DTA curve.

DIFFERENTIAL THERMAL ANALYSIS . A technique in which the temperature difference between a substance and a reference material is measured as a function of temperature while the substance and the reference material are subjected to a controlled temperature program. The record is the DTA curve.

DRYING. The removal of volatiles from ingredients or mixtures.

DSC. See DIFFERENTIAL SCANNING CALORIMETRY.

DTA. See DIFFERENTIAL THERMAL ANALYSIS.

EBW. See EXPLODING BRIDGEWIRE.

EED. See ELECTROEXPLOSIVE DEVICE.

ELECTRICAL BONDING . Electrical connection between two conductive objects intended to prevent development of an electrical potential between them.



ELECTROEXPLOSIVE DEVICE (EED) . A device containing some reaction mixture (explosive or pyrotechnic) that is electrically initiated. The output of the initiation is heat, shock, or mechanical action. See also LOW-ENERGY EED.

EXPERIMENTAL OPERATING PROCEDURE . A procedure prepared for conducting a specific experiment a limited number of times under close technical supervision.

EXPLODING BRIDGEWIRE (EBW) . An EED that is initiated by the discharge of a high current through the device bridgewire, causing the wire to explode and produce a shockwave. An EBW as defined herein is a device containing no primary explosive.

EXPLOSIVE . Any chemical compound or mechanical mixture that, when subjected to heat, impact, friction, shock, or other suitable initiation stimulus, undergoes a very rapid chemical change with the evolution of large volumes of highly heated gases that exert pressures in the surrounding medium. The term applies to materials that either detonate or deflagrate. DOE explosives may be dyed various colors, except pink, which is reserved for mock explosives.

EXPLOSIVE DECONTAMINATION . The removal of hazardous explosive material.

EXTRUDING . Forcing a plastic-type material, under pressure, into a confined space or through a confined opening to produce a desired configuration.

FACILITY . A group of buildings or equipment used for explosive operations at one geographic location, generally owned by DOE.

FACILITY MANAGEMENT . Management staff of the facility operator (the contractor).

FACILITY OPERATOR . The organization responsible for conducting operations at a DOE facility.

FIREBRAND. A projected burning or hot fragment whose thermal energy is transferred to a receptor.

FIRING PAD. The prepared site where explosive items are fired for test data acquisition.

FIRING SITE. Controlled access area where test firing of explosives is conducted.

FLAMMABLE LIQUID. Any liquid having a flash point below 60EC and a vapor pressure not exceeding 280 kPa (41 psia) at 37.8EC. This is the definition as applied in this Manual; it includes some materials defined as combustible liquids by the Department of Transportation (DOT).

FLASH POINT. The temperature at which a liquid or volatile solid gives off a vapor sufficient to form an ignitable mixture with air near the surface of the material or within the test vessel.

FORMULATION. The operation of combining ingredients to produce a mixture of a final desired composition possessing specific physical and explosive properties.

An explosives composition.

HEATING LIMITS. The conditions established for safely heating an explosive system (maximum temperature, heating time, heating rate, etc.). These limits are based on the estimated critical temperature of the explosive system with a suitable margin of safety.

HIGH-ENERGY INITIATOR. Exploding bridgewire systems, slapper detonators, and EEDs with similar energy requirements for initiation.

| HIGH PRESSURE. Gas pressure greater than 3,000 psig (21 MPa  
| gauge); liquid pressure greater than 5,000 psig (35 Mpa gauge).  
|

| HOLE (as applied to machine explosives) . Any cavity that is more than one-half diameter deep, being cut by any tool with the direction of feed along the axis of rotation.

HOT WORK (thermal) . Any operation requiring the use of a flame-producing device, an electrically heated tool producing a temperature higher than 109°C, or a mechanical tool that can produce sparks or heat explosives or explosives contamination to provide an initiation stimulus.

HYDROSTATIC PRESSING . The operation of compacting a material that is confined in a press by a diaphragm by hydraulically applying pressure to the diaphragm.

IHE. See INSENSITIVE HIGH EXPLOSIVES.

IHE SUBASSEMBLIES . IHE hemispheres or spheres with booster charges, with or without detonators, that pass the DOE qualification tests listed in Table IX-3.

| IHE WEAPONS . Weapons listed in DOE-DNA TP 20-7, Nuclear Safety Criteria (for Warhead Storage), as being exempt from storage and transportation limits are classified as IHE weapons when stored or transported alone or in combination with each other. This classification is valid only if the spacing between individual units is that provided by storage/shipping containers or, if not in containers, by the spacing specified in TP 20-7.

| INERT MATERIALS . Material that shows no exothermic decomposition when tested by DSC or DTA. Moreover, the inert material shall not show any incompatibility with energetic material with which it may be combined when tested by recognized compatibility tests. Inert material shall neither alter the onset of exotherm of the DSC or DTA trace of the energetic material nor increase the rate of decomposition or gas evolution of the energetic material.  
IN-PROCESS STORAGE MAGAZINE (facility, vault, rest house, etc.) .  
See SERVICE MAGAZINE.

INHABITED BUILDING . A building or structure other than operating buildings, magazines, and auxiliary buildings occupied in whole or in part as a habitation for people or where people are accustomed to assemble, both within and outside DOE facilities. Land outside DOE facilities shall be considered as sites for inhabited buildings.

| INHABITED-BUILDING DISTANCE . The minimum distance permitted  
| between explosives locations and inhabited buildings,  
| administrative areas, site boundaries, main power stations, and  
| other facilities of vital or strategic nature.

INITIATION STIMULUS . Energy input to an explosive in a form potentially capable of initiating a rapid decomposition reaction. Typical initiation stimuli are heat, friction, impact, electrical discharge, and shock.

INITIATION, WITH ITS OWN MEANS . Explosives or ammunition having their normal initiating device (e.g., detonators, squibs) assembled to them so that this device is considered to present a significant risk of activation during storage.

INITIATION, WITHOUT ITS OWN MEANS . Explosives or ammunition that (1) are not stored with an initiating device assembled to them; or (2) have the initiating device assembled to them, but (a) safety features preclude initiation of the explosives filler of the end item in the event of accidental functioning of the initiating device, or (b) the initiating device does not contain any primary explosives and has a high threshold of initiation (e.g., EBW or slapper detonators). The power source for the initiator(s) should not be present within the assembly or system. If the initiator(s) power source is present, two or more management-certified safety devices connected in series shall be present to interrupt any flow of energy from the power source to the initiator(s).

INSENSITIVE HIGH EXPLOSIVES (IHE) . Explosive substances that, although mass detonating, are so insensitive that there is negligible probability of accidental initiation or transition from burning to detonation. The materials passing the DOE qualification tests in Table IX-1 are classified as IHE, and are listed in Table IX-2.

INTERMEDIATE PRESSURE . Gas pressure from 150 to 3,000 psig (1 to 21 MPa gauge); liquid pressure from 1,500 to 5,000 psig (10 to 35 MPa gauge).

INTRALINE DISTANCE . The distance to be maintained between any two operating buildings or sites within an operating line, at least one of which contains, or is designed to contain, explosives.

INTRINSICALLY SAFE . An apparatus or system whose circuits are incapable of producing any spark or thermal effect capable of causing ignition of a mixture of flammable or combustible material under test conditions described in ANSI/UL 913.

ISOSTATIC PRESSING . The operation of compacting a material in a sealed flexible container. The container is submerged in a pressure vessel, and the vessel is pressurized with liquid.

LABORATORY OPERATIONS . Experimental study, testing, and analysis of small quantities of energetic materials. Manufacturing processes with small quantities of materials are not included.

LEL. See LOWER EXPLOSIVE LIMIT.

LFL. See LOWER FLAMMABLE LIMIT.

LOW-ENERGY EED. All EEDs except exploding bridgewire (EBW) detonators and slapper detonators.

| LOW PRESSURE. Gas less than 150 psig (1 MPa gauge); liquid less than 1,500 psig (10 MPa gauge).

LOWER EXPLOSIVE LIMIT (LEL). The concentration of vapor or dust in air below which an explosion cannot occur.

LOWER FLAMMABLE LIMIT (LFL). The concentration of a vapor or dust in air below which a burning reaction cannot be sustained.

MACHINING. A forming operation accomplished by removing material with a mechanically operated cutting tool.

MACHINING OVERTEST. A test to evaluate the susceptibility of an explosive material to initiation during machining.

MAGAZINE. See SERVICE MAGAZINE or STORAGE MAGAZINE.

MAGAZINE DISTANCE. The minimum distance permitted between any two storage magazines. The distance required is determined by the type(s) of magazine and also the type and quantity of explosives stored therein.

MAXIMUM CREDIBLE EVENT (MCE). The MCE from a hypothesized accidental explosion or fire is the worst single event that is likely to occur from a given quantity and disposition of explosives/explosives devices. The event must be realistic with a reasonable probability of occurrence considering the explosive propagation, burning rate characteristics, and physical protection given to the items involved.

| MELTING. Operations involving change in the physical state of  
| explosives from solid to liquid.

MILLING. (1) Operations that either reduce solid material particle size by attrition or apply high-shear mixing to incorporate solid materials into plastic binders; (2) a surface

machining operation performed on a mill.

MIXING. A mechanical operation that combines dissimilar materials.

MOCK EXPLOSIVE. Substances bearing similar physical properties (texture, density, cohesion, etc.) to an explosive material. They are nondetonable; however, some are exothermic materials and will burn. Mock explosives are used to represent explosives for purposes such as dry run testing of equipment. DOE mock explosives are normally pink in color.

NEW. Net explosive weight expressed in pounds.

NEW (OR EXPERIMENTAL) EXPLOSIVE. Explosive, explosive mixture, or explosive and binder mixture that has not been characterized by the Explosives Development Committee.

NON-DOE FACILITY PERSONNEL. Personnel of a contractor who does not have a continuing contract with DOE at the facility concerned.

OPERATIONAL SHIELD. A barricade constructed to protect personnel, material, or equipment from the effects of a possible fire or explosion occurring at a particular operation.

PERSONNEL BARRIER. A device designed to limit or prevent personnel access to a building or an area during hazardous operations.

PRESSING. The operation of increasing the density of explosive material by the application of pressure.

PROPELLANT. Explosive composition used for propelling projectiles and rockets and to generate gases for powering auxiliary devices.

PUBLIC-TRAFFIC-ROUTE DISTANCE. The distance from an explosives facility to any public street, road, highway, or passenger



railroad (including roads on DOE-controlled land open to public travel).

PUNCH AND DIE PRESSING . The operation of compacting a material confined by a die by forcing a punch or punches into the die and against the material.

PYROTECHNIC MATERIAL . Physical mixtures of finely divided fuels and oxidizer powders; may include various organic binders and color intensifiers. The material is intended to produce an effect by heat, light, sound, gas or smoke, or a combination of these as the result of nondetonative, self-sustaining exothermic chemical reactions.

| REMOTE OPERATION . An operation performed in a manner that will  
| protect personnel in the event of an accidental explosion. This  
| can be accomplished by distance, shielding, barricades, or a  
| combination thereof.

RISK. A measure of the combination of the probability and consequences of the hazards of an operation, expressed in qualitative or quantitative terms.

SAFETY ANALYSIS . A document prepared to systematically identify the hazards of a DOE operation; describe and analyze the adequacy of measures taken to eliminate, control, or mitigate identified hazards; and analyze and evaluate potential accidents and their associated risks.

SCREENING . An operation using screens to separate particles of differing sizes.

SERVICE MAGAZINE, REST HOUSE, ETC . An auxiliary building or suitably designated room (vault) used for the intermediate storage of explosives materials not exceeding the minimum amount necessary for safe and efficient operation.

| SHUNT. An electrical interconnection of various portions of EED circuitry to prevent the development of an electrical charge differential between the parts.

SLAPPER DETONATOR. An EED initiated by a rapid discharge of a high current through a metal foil. The expansion of the metal vapor causes a plastic or metal covering to be propelled across an air gap and detonate a high-density explosive pellet.

SMALL ARMS AMMUNITION. (1) Ammunition designed to be fired from a pistol, revolver, rifle, or shotgun held by the hand or to the shoulder; (2) ammunition of less than 20-mm caliber with incendiary, solid, inert, or empty projectiles (with or without tracers) designed to be fired from machine guns or cannons; (3) blank cartridges.

SOP. See STANDARD (STANDING) OPERATING PROCEDURE.

SPECIAL OPERATING PROCEDURE. A procedure prepared for the performance of a specific task on a one-time basis, or for situations not encountered in normal operation.

STANDARD (STANDING) OPERATING PROCEDURE (SOP). A procedure prepared for the operation of a facility or performance of a task on a routine basis.

STORAGE MAGAZINE. A structure designed or specifically designated for the long-term storage of explosives or ammunition.

SUBSTANTIAL DIVIDING WALL. An interior wall designed to prevent the propagation of an accidental detonation on one side of a wall to explosives on the other side.

SYNTHESIS. The chemical operation(s) required to produce a desired chemical compound.

TARGET. The area, structure, or material into which a projectile is fired.

TNT EQUIVALENT. A measure of the blast effects from explosion of a given quantity of material expressed in terms of the weight of TNT that would produce the same blast effects when detonated.

TRANSIENT. Any person within inhabited-building distance but not inside an explosives bay or other occupied areas (offices, break areas, shops, etc.).

UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION (UNO) CLASS 1 EXPLOSIVES .

(a) Explosive substances (a substance that is not itself an explosive but that can form an explosive atmosphere of gas, vapor, or dust is not included in Class 1), except those that are too dangerous to transport or those where the predominant hazard is appropriate to another class; (b) explosive articles, except devices containing explosive substances in such quantity or of such a character that their inadvertent or accidental ignition or initiation during transport shall not cause any effect external to the device either by projection, fire, smoke, heat, or loud noise; and (c) substances and articles not mentioned under (a) and (b) that are manufactured with a view of producing a practical, explosive or pyrotechnic effect.

## CHAPTER II OPERATIONAL SAFETY

### 1.0 GENERAL OPERATIONS SAFETY GUIDELINES

#### 1.1 Protection of Explosives

Explosives are energetic materials that can react violently. Explosives should be protected from abnormal stimuli or environments, including:

- C friction forces;
- C excessive pressures;
- C excessive temperatures;
- C impact, shock, pinching;
- C deformation;
- C electrical sparks, abrasive or welding sparks, open flame;
- C contamination; and
- C contact with incompatible materials.

#### 1.2 Equipment Checks

Before being used in the explosives process, and at established intervals, processing and test equipment shall be checked for:

- C proper design;
- C proper function;
- C specified clearances between parts in relative motion;
- C abnormal metal-to-metal rubbing of moving parts potentially contacting explosive materials;
- C cracks, voids, or screw threads where explosives may accumulate; and

C contamination incompatible with the materials to be introduced.

This checkout may require the use of mock explosives in process or test conditions. Explosive materials must not be pinched or confined between equipment lids or covers and their mating surfaces. These surfaces shall be cleaned before cover placement. This includes pressing operations.

### 1.3 Inspection Frequency

When this Manual calls for an inspection, but the inspection interval is not specified, such inspection interval shall be established by local facility

management. Inspection intervals shall be modified when experience dictates a need.

#### 1.4 Laboratory Operations

The special safety guidelines applicable to general laboratory operations involving explosive materials are contained in Section 21 of this chapter.

#### 1.5 Toxicity Hazards

Explosives materials, explosives components (additives or adhesives), and materials such as organic solvents used in explosives processing can be toxic when inhaled, ingested, or absorbed through the skin. Skin contact with explosives materials, or with solvents and adhesives used in conjunction with explosives operations, can result in a skin rash. This is the most frequently reported effect from working with these materials. The following general precautions should be used to prevent overexposure to these materials during explosives processing and handling.

- a. Know the health hazard and controls before beginning operations.
- b. Evaluate the operation during startup to ensure that occupational exposure limits are not exceeded; routine operations should be monitored periodically.
- c. Handle in a well ventilated area; local exhaust ventilation is preferred.
- d. Avoid skin contact; wear appropriate protective clothing.
- e. Practice good personal cleanliness; wash before eating, smoking, or using toilet facilities. End of shift showers may be required for some operators.

#### 1.6 Hazard Identification and Communication

Before beginning explosives operations, managers shall ensure the following:

- a. Identify and maintain a current list of explosives and other hazardous materials used in conjunction with their operations.
- b. Determine the hazardous properties and toxicity of these materials through the use of the manufacturer's Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) or other information sources and through consultation with the facility Industrial Hygiene staff. For explosives without published toxicological data, guidance can be obtained through the DOE Toxic Materials Advisory Committee (TMAC). Health hazard information must be communicated to employees who work with or generate hazardous materials.
- c. Educate and train employees in the hazards of and precautions required for handling explosives and materials used in conjunction with explosives operations. This training should be part of the employee training and qualification program specified in Chapter V.

#### 1.7 Process Hazard Analysis

- a. Before beginning any explosives synthesis, formulation, manufacturing, testing, or disposal operation, a process hazard analysis shall be performed, as required by 29 CFR 1910.119. A single process hazard analysis may be performed for similar processes performed in a single facility, provided that the "worst-case" process is the basis for the hazard analysis. Selection criteria for the worst-case process are:

- C sensitivity of materials;
- C quantity of materials;
- C number of personnel potentially affected; and
- C impact on other operations/activities.

- b. The process hazard analysis shall be performed as a team effort. The team shall consist of a minimum of three personnel and should not include more than seven personnel. The team shall include at least one engineer and one operator, and should have the following makeup:
  - C Team Leader, who is familiar with the analysis methodology used;
  - C Technical Member(s), who is/are familiar with the process being analyzed; and
  - C Scribe, who writes notes of meetings and interviews and drafts reports.
- c. The analysis methodology used may be selected by either the facility manager or the team leader, but should be one of the following:
  - C Preliminary Hazard Analysis;
  - C Checklist (usually for similar batch operations);
  - C What-if Analysis;
  - C Hazard and Operability Study (HAZOP);
  - C Failure Modes, Effects, and Criticality Analysis (FMECA);
  - C Fault Tree Analysis; and
  - C Event Tree Analysis.
- d. The process hazard analysis shall be formally documented.
- e. Employees and employee representatives shall be consulted on the process hazard analysis. The result of the process



hazard analysis shall be provided to employees involved in or affected by the operation.

- f. The process hazard analysis shall be updated and revalidated at least every 5 years by a team meeting the above criteria.
- g. The facility manager shall be responsible for establishing a system to address promptly the team's findings and recommendations. Corrective actions, schedules for corrective actions, and completion of corrective actions shall be formally documented, and such documentation filed with the process hazard analysis.
- h. Files containing process hazard analyses, updates, and corrective action statuses shall be maintained for the life of the process.

## 2.0 WORK ENVIRONMENT

### 2.1 General Requirements

- a. Adequate work space shall be provided to perform operations safely and efficiently.
- b. Work shall be organized to eliminate clutter in the area while operations are being performed.
- c. Walkways should be kept clear.
- d. In work environments where solid, bare explosive pieces are handled, the floor should be cushioned, and all hard objects that may be struck by explosives in a handling incident should be cushioned where it is practical.
- e. An accounting procedure should be established for hand tools that may be inadvertently dropped into an explosives processing operation, thus creating a hazard.
- f. Personnel shall be assigned in such a manner that each worker's presence is frequently monitored and assistance can be provided or aid summoned in the event of an emergency.
- g. Safety analysis of explosives facilities shall be performed. The safety analysis shall be performed during the design of new explosives facilities or the redesign of existing facilities. Facility management shall maintain readily available analyses documentation.
- h. Noisy environments caused by explosives testing operations or process and handling equipment shall be evaluated. Areas with noise above the allowable occupational exposure limits must be posted and appropriate control measures instituted (e.g., engineering controls, protective equipment, and a hearing conservation program).

### 2.2 Emergency Exit Requirements for Explosives Operations

Exit requirements for any building or structure containing explosives shall comply with the Life Safety Code, NFPA 101, except as otherwise permitted in this section.

### 2.2.1 Building or Structure Occupancy

In determining occupancies:

- a. explosives operating buildings shall be classified as industrial occupancies (NFPA 101, Chapter 28);
- b. explosives storage or staging buildings or structures shall be classified as storage occupancies (NFPA 101, Chapter 29).

### 2.2.2 Hazards of Contents Classification

The hazard of contents classification of any explosives occupancy shall be determined using the requirements given in NFPA 101 and the following guidelines.

- a. High-hazard explosives contents are those that, because of form, character, or volume, are likely to burn with extreme rapidity or from which poisonous fumes or explosions can be expected in the event of fire. The expectation of poisonous fumes or explosions is a relative matter to be determined on a case-by-case basis. Operating buildings containing propellant, pyrotechnic, or explosive powders shall be classified as high-hazard occupancies unless a reduced hazard classification can be justified.
- b. Reduced-hazard explosives contents are those that burn with moderate or less rapidity and will not produce poisonous vapors. This criterion shall be documented by a hazard analysis.

### 2.2.3 Personnel Protective Restrictions and Requirements

DOE occupancies containing high explosives dictate personnel protection from blast overpressures and fragments (and spread of plutonium in some occupancies) from an accidental detonation.

This accidental detonation of explosives is usually the result of stimuli other than a fire.

Noncompliance with some NFPA 101 provisions (such as those covering exit doors, exit travel distance, number and location of exits, and common path of travel to exits) is authorized where required to provide protection from blast overpressure and fragments. When NFPA 101 requirements are not met the following additional personnel protective restrictions or requirements should be imposed.

- a. The building and means of egress should be protected by supervised automatic sprinkler systems connected to sound evacuation alarms. This requirement is not applicable to explosives storage magazines, firing chambers, or rooms used as firing chambers, within explosives operating buildings.
- b. Explosives operating buildings and their means of egress should have automatic, early warning fire detection systems connected to sound evacuation alarms where such early warning might reasonably aid in prevention or mitigation of personnel injury. This requirement is not applicable to explosives storage magazines, firing chambers, or rooms used as firing chambers within explosives operating buildings.
- c. Personnel limits within the explosives work area (bay, cell, etc.) shall be established and controlled. These should not exceed 20 for reduced hazard occupancies or 6 for high-hazard occupancies. The need for personnel in numbers greater than these limits shall be documented in a hazards analysis based on the criteria of paragraph 2.2.5 of this chapter.

#### 2.2.4 Requirements for Existing Facilities

Existing facilities may deviate from current NFPA 101 requirements in the following situations.

- a. Current code requirements were not in effect when the building was constructed. The building, however, is still required to meet the code of record.
- b. Deviations were made to meet the level-of-protection and design criteria in Chapter VI, Section 6, of this Manual.
- c. Building construction predates both current and level-of-protection criteria, but a hazards analysis has shown the risk of operations to be at an acceptable level.
- d. The risk from deviation has been analyzed and accepted by current hazards analysis.

Those facilities requiring hazards analysis to determine whether a deviation from the Life Safety Code is acceptable shall follow the considerations and criteria described in paragraph 2.2.5 of this chapter.

#### 2.2.5 Requirements for New Facilities

New facilities shall comply with the requirements of NFPA 101, except when deviation is necessary to provide personnel protection from blast overpressure and fragments per Chapter VI of this Manual.

2.2.5.1 If deviations from NFPA 101 requirements are made, the Fire Hazards Analysis required by Chapter VI of this Manual shall document the following aspects related to each explosives operation, bay, and/or workroom where a deviation exists.

- a. Clear pathway to exit in explosives bay or workroom.
- b. Potential for sustained fire in work environments from the presence of combustible and flammable materials and the presence of ignition sources.

- c. Total time required to exit the bay or workroom.

2.2.5.2 The criteria considered acceptable for the components of the analysis in paragraph 2.2.5.1 of this chapter are, respectively:

- a. No obstruction shall limit the width of the pathway to less than 36 in.
- b. Combustible and flammable material quantities shall be minimized, justified, documented, and reviewed by site fire protection personnel and approved by line management. Ignition sources shall be identified and eliminated where possible.
- c. The total time for 6 people to exit the workroom or bay is 30 seconds or less, including the opening of doors where necessary. The total time for 20 people to exit the workroom or bay is 90 seconds or less. Noncompliance with this criterion shall be evaluated and justified during the conceptual design review.

## 2.2.6 Single Exits

Where at least two exits are required by NFPA 101 and provisions for personnel protection from a blast will not permit at least two exits from a room or structure, a single exit is acceptable, provided the requirements of paragraph 2.2.3 of this chapter and the following are met.

- a. The path of exit travel shall be arranged so it is not through or toward a hazardous operation.
- b. The room containing a high-hazard explosives occupancy shall not exceed 500 ft<sup>2</sup>, and the occupant load of the room shall be restricted to two operators and two transients.

- c. The room containing an ordinary-hazard explosives occupancy shall not exceed 1,000 ft<sup>2</sup>.

Explosives storage magazines may have only single exits for the purpose of maintaining integrity of design. The conditions of this section do not apply to these magazines.

#### 2.2.7 Blast-Resistant Doors

Blast-resistant doors required for the purpose of personnel protection from the effects of an accidental detonation may be located in the means of egress, provided the requirements of paragraphs 2.2.3 through 2.2.5 of this chapter and the following are met.

- a. Where power-operated doors are required to accomplish unlatching and opening, they shall have reliable power supplies and shall be capable of being opened manually (to permit exit travel) or closed where necessary to safeguard the exits.
- b. The time required to fully open or close a door shall be as short as reasonably possible.
- c. A revolving door is acceptable if a secondary means of escape (with swinging doors) is provided at the same location. The revolving door must also be prevented from rotating at too rapid a rate to permit orderly exit of personnel.
- d. The following exceptions to NFPA 101 may be allowed when justified and documented.
  - C Swinging doors may exceed 48 in. wide.
  - C It is acceptable to omit the NFPA-required swinging doors adjacent to a revolving blast door.

- C Revolving blast doors need to collapse into book-fold position.
  - C Where fire-rated doors are required, blast doors are considered to have the required fire rating.
  - C An airlock provided with two or more doors with the intended purpose of preventing continuous and unobstructed passage by allowing the release of only one door at a time, shall be permitted in a means of egress where there are provisions for continuous and unobstructed travel during an emergency egress condition.
- e. A reliability analysis must be conducted to demonstrate that the reliability of the doors and associated hardware is equivalent to the requirements of ANSI A156.

#### 2.2.8 Slide Escapes

Slide escapes should be provided for elevated explosives operating locations from which rapid exit may be vital and cannot be obtained by other means. Slide escapes should be located on opposite sides of the explosives operation to reduce the likelihood of personnel being trapped by fire between them and a single slide. Exits to slide escapes must open onto platforms that are not less than 3 ft square, and the platforms must be equipped with guardrails. The slides shall begin at the outside edge of the platform, not at the edge of the buildings. Slide escape landings shall be located at selected places leading directly to escape routes that are free from tripping hazards, low guy lines, drains, ditches, or other obstructions. Manually or automatically controlled devices (trips) that sound an alarm in the operating building shall be installed at or near the entrances to slide escapes. These devices may also actuate deluge valves and water curtains in the building or room affected.

Recommended slide escape specifications:



- C angle, 40 to 50 degrees horizontal;
- C slide depth, 24 in.;
- C radius at bottom of slide, 12 in.; and
- C height at lower end of slide, not over 24 in. above the landing.

If necessary, the end of the slide must have a horizontal run sufficient to prevent an employee injury because of exit speed without the use of landing cushions, which are unsatisfactory in cold weather. One foot of horizontal run is required for a 15-ft-long slide. One additional foot of horizontal run will be provided for each additional 5 ft of slide length. The juncture of the two sections must be well rounded. The metal sheets constructing the slide must overlap in the direction of travel.

### 3.0 BUILDING AND EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE

#### 3.1 Cleaning

- a. Structures containing explosives shall be kept clean and orderly.
- b. Explosives and explosives dust shall not be allowed to accumulate on structural members, radiators, heating coils, utility lines, equipment, or electrical fixtures.
- c. To maintain safe conditions, there shall be a regular cleaning program for building interiors to prevent explosives dust and waste accumulation. This program should not be conducted in any bay where a hazardous operation is being conducted.
- d. In buildings containing explosives, hot water or water-steam mix should be used wherever practical for cleaning floors. Sweeping compounds that are nonabrasive and compatible with the explosives involved may be used when the use of water-steam mix or hot water is not practical. Such compounds may be combustible but must not be volatile (closed-cup flash point must not be lower than 110°C). Sweeping compounds containing wax shall not be used on conductive flooring. Where nitrated organic explosives (which may form sensitive explosive compounds with some alkalies) are involved, the use of cleaning agents containing those alkalies is prohibited.
- e. Before beginning explosives decontamination activities that involve the use of large amounts of organic solvents (generally over 1 L), provisions must be made for (a) adequate ventilation or respiratory protection, (b) fire protection, and (c) adequate protective clothing.

#### 3.2 Maintenance and Repair

- a. Records shall be maintained for inspection, repair, and servicing of process and handling equipment and fire protection systems.
- b. Maintenance operations involving major repairs, changes, or the use of hazardous equipment should not be performed within bays (rooms) while explosives are present. Before these operations, explosives should be removed and the area prepared. An approval procedure shall be established to ensure that the area has been inspected and is safe for these operations.
- c. Maintenance or construction operations performed by non-DOE facility personnel shall be at least intraline distance from any explosives operation and should be at least intraline distance from any building containing explosives. (Intraline distance separation may be satisfied by providing equivalent protection.) Transportation of explosives is permitted on roadways at less than intraline distance.
- d. New equipment or equipment subjected to major repair or modification shall be test-operated, and handling equipment shall be tested before being returned to operations. The DOE HOISTING AND RIGGING HANDBOOK (1090-95) may be used as a guide.
- e. Maintenance work shall be performed by authorized personnel only.
- f. Before resuming operations following maintenance, the area shall be cleaned and approved by the operations supervisor.

### 3.3 Hot Work Permits

Where explosives are involved, a written permit shall be required for the temporary use of portable, heat-producing equipment that generates temperatures higher than 109EC. Explosives decontamination of the immediately affected work areas and explosives removal shall be required before hot work operations.

The permit should state the location, time, duration, purpose of use, details of safety, and fire-fighting equipment required. The permit shall be kept at the named location for availability to and checkout by supervisory personnel.

- a. Authorization of permits shall be by signature of personnel designated by the local facility management. Designated personnel should be qualified by experience in explosives work, fire prevention, and general safety precautions, particularly with regard to the purging of equipment, presence of flammable mixtures, and the avoidance of electrical and mechanical hazards that could be incident to repair work.
- b. Designated personnel should represent supervision of the location where the work is being performed, supervision of personnel performing the hot work, and a third group independent of the first two (usually the local safety and fire protection group).
- c. Someone should remain at the site of a cutting or welding job for approximately 30 minutes after the job has been completed to extinguish or report any fires that develop. Designated supervisors should inspect the job site before job initiation, during the job, and after job completion.

#### 4.0 REMOTE OPERATIONS

##### 4.1 Personnel Protection Criteria

Explosives operations judged to present a high enough level of risk to be performed remotely shall be conducted in facilities where the construction of the operating bay or the control room is capable of affording sufficient protection to personnel to prevent serious injuries. Criteria for the prevention of serious injuries are specified in Chapter VI, paragraph 4.2.1.d.

Prevention of serious injury from a remote operation applies to transient personnel as well as to personnel involved in the operation.

##### 4.2 Access and Equipment Controls

Control procedures and equipment shall be used to prevent personnel from entering the hazardous bay or area in which a remote operation is occurring or to prevent the operation from proceeding when personnel enter, as follows.

- a. Roads shall be blocked at a minimum of the public-traffic-route distance from buildings where hazardous (remote) operations are being performed. Public traffic route separation may be satisfied by providing equivalent protection.
- b. Corridors leading to bays in which hazardous (remote) operations are being performed shall be adequately marked to warn of the danger. Barriers shall also be set up.
- c. Visual methods such as closed circuit television should be used to monitor remote operations and to enable viewing the operating area conditions before entering. Remote audio monitoring and video recording should also be considered.
- d. Interlocking of remote operating equipment to access doors should be required for each remote operation.

- e. Buildings or bays in which remote operations are performed shall be conspicuously identified by lights or similar warning devices to indicate when operations are under way.

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## 5.0 GENERAL EXPLOSIVES AREA CONTROLS

### 5.1 Smoking, Matches, Lighters, Metal Articles

- a. There shall be no smoking in explosives storage, processing, or test areas, except in designated locations.
- b. No matches, lighters, other fire-, flame-, or spark-producing devices shall be taken into an explosives control area except with written authorization. If authorized to be carried, matches shall be contained in a metal carrying device too large to fit in pockets. Kitchen ("strike anywhere") matches shall not be used.
- c. In explosives processing areas, metal articles (keys, jewelry, knives, coins, etc.) should not be carried by operating personnel where such items could constitute a hazard if dropped into the process operation.

### 5.2 Cooking and Eating

- a. There shall be no consumption of food or beverages in an explosives building, except in designated areas.
- b. There shall be no personal dishes or utensils in an explosives building, except in designated eating areas.
- c. Coffee pots, hot plates, ovens (including microwave), and portable electric heaters shall not be permitted in rooms where:
  - C explosives may be present;
  - C combustible vapors or dust may be present;
  - C smoking or drinking is prohibited because there are toxic materials present; and



- c electrical classification of appliances is not compatible with the area.

### 5.3 Access to Explosives Areas

Access control procedures shall be established for entry to all explosives areas.

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## 6.0 ELECTRICAL STORMS AND LIGHTNING PROTECTION

### 6.1 Assessment

Whenever an electrical storm approaches, personnel shall exit any location wherein a hazard exists due to explosives being initiated by lightning. The existence of such a hazard shall be determined based on the assessment of the specific operation and facility or area lightning protection. Locations where evacuation may be necessary are listed below.

- C All outdoor operations and operations in buildings that do not afford lightning protection, and locations within inhabited-building distance of the hazard. (When an electrical storm is imminent, explosives operations should not be initiated.)
- C Explosives-carrying vehicles and railroad cars and locations within magazine distance of the hazard.
- C Locations (with or without lightning protection) where operations involving electrostatic-sensitive bulk explosives or electroexplosive devices (EEDs) are being performed.

### 6.2 Evacuation

Evacuated personnel shall proceed to a suitable protective shelter. A suitable shelter is one that will protect personnel from overpressures greater than 16 kPa (2.3 psi), structural collapse, and missiles in the event of explosion of any adjacent facility containing explosives.

### 6.3 Shutdown of Operations

The following guidelines should be used for shutdown of an operation during an electrical storm.

- a. Process equipment containing explosives should be stopped as soon as safety permits.

- b. When buildings or bays containing explosives are evacuated during periods of electrical storms, operations that cannot be shut down immediately should be manned by the minimum number of personnel required for safe shutdown. When the operation has been brought to a safe condition so that personnel can exit, remaining personnel should evacuate.
- c. Automatic emergency power equipment should be provided if electrical power is critical to an explosives operation during a power shutdown or interruption.

#### 6.4 Lightning Protection

It is DOE policy to install lightning protection on all facilities used for storage, processing, and handling of explosives materials where operations cannot be shut down during electrical storms and personnel evacuated. Specific operations shall be assessed for the risk of initiation of process materials by lightning. Assessment shall consider the need for protection factors outlined in NFPA 780, "Lightning Protection Code," Appendix L ("Protection of Structures Housing Explosives"). When risk is high, as in operations with highly sensitive electrostatic materials or components, operations shall be conducted in lightning-protected facilities only. Approved lightning protection systems must conform with the requirements of NFPA 780, Appendix L. Examples of acceptable lightning protection systems can be found in DoD 6055.9-STD, DoD Ammunition and Explosives Safety Standards, Chapter 7.

- a. Visual inspection of lightning protection systems should be conducted every 7 months and shall be conducted at least annually. A report shall be filed following each inspection. Any evidence of corrosion, broken wires or connections, or any other problem that would negate the system's usefulness will be noted and repaired.
- b. Electrical testing for lightning protection systems should be conducted every 14 months and shall be conducted at least every 47 months to afford testing during all seasons and

immediately following any repairs or modifications. The testing shall be conducted only with instruments designed specifically for earth-ground system testing. The instruments must be able to measure 10 ohms plus or minus 10% for ground resistance testing, and 1 ohm plus or minus 10% for bonding testing. Electrical resistance readings shall be recorded.

- c. Inspection records shall contain the most recent electrical test report and any subsequent visual inspection reports for each building.

See paragraph 8.3 of this chapter for additional requirements.

## 7.0 STATIC ELECTRICITY

### 7.1 General

Positive steps must be taken to control or eliminate static electricity in areas where materials that are ignitable by static spark discharge are processed or handled. This includes spark-sensitive explosives, propellants, and pyrotechnics as well as solvent vapors and flammable gases.

### 7.2 Bonding and Grounding of Equipment

Bonding straps should be used to bridge locations where electrical continuity may be broken by the presence of oil on bearings, paint, or rust at any contact point. Permanent equipment in contact with conductive floors or table tops is not considered to be adequately grounded. Static grounds shall not be made to gas, steam, or air lines, dry pipe sprinkler systems, or air terminals of lightning protection systems. Static grounds can be made to water pipes, ground cones, buried copper plates, driven ground rods, or to down conductors of lightning protection systems. If a structure is equipped with a lightning protection system, all grounds must be interconnected. Wires used as static ground conductors should be at least No. 10 AWG or equivalent.

### 7.3 Testing Equipment Grounds

Grounding systems shall be tested for electrical resistance and continuity when installation has been completed and, in the case of active equipment, at intervals to be locally determined. The ground system shall be visually inspected for continuity (before reactivation of the system) if the equipment has been inactive for more than 1 month. All exposed explosives or hazardous materials shall be removed before testing. When testing for resistance-to-ground, equipment should be considered as a unit, except in the case of a belt-driven machine. In measuring the total resistance-to-ground for belt-driven machinery (to ensure compliance with the paragraph below), resistance of the belting is to be excluded. The maximum resistance-to-ground permitted for different types of equipment is as follows:

Hazardous Locations (operations where a static spark discharge may be dangerous). All conductive parts of equipment shall be bonded so that resistance to ground does not exceed 25 ohms, unless resistance is not to exceed 10 ohms because of the lightning protection installation. For existing equipment, the rate of static generation should be considered before changes in grounding systems are made. The resistance of conductive rubber hose should not exceed 250,000 ohms.

#### 7.4 Conductive Floors, Shoes, Mats, and Wristbands

- a. Conductive floors and shoes should be used for grounding personnel in operations involving explosives, propellants, pyrotechnics, etc., that are sensitive to initiation by the electrostatic spark discharge from a person. These include lead azide, lead styphnate, mercury fulminate, CP, some propellants, some pyrotechnics, etc. Many flammable liquids and air mixtures can be ignited by static discharge from a person. When personnel come into the proximity of (possible contact with) static-sensitive explosives or vapors, conductive floors shall be installed except where the hazards of dust-air or flammable vapor-air mixtures are eliminated by adequate housekeeping, dust collection, ventilation, or solvent recovery methods. Conductive floors may also be required where operations are performed involving electroexplosive devices (EEDs) that contain a static-sensitive explosive.
- b. Conductive floors are not required throughout an entire building or room if the hazard is localized. In such cases, conductive mats or runners may be used where required. These mats or runners will be subject to all the specifications and test requirements that apply to conductive floors. Conductive wristbands may be substituted for conductive mats and footwear at fixed, grounded work stations or outdoor locations.

| 7.5 Conductive Floor, Work Surface, and Wristband Specifications

Conductive floors must be made of nonsparking material such as conductive rubber or conductive flooring composition and shall meet the following requirements.

- a. The flooring and its grounding system must provide for electrical resistance not to exceed 1,000,000 ohms (measured as specified in paragraph 7.6 of this chapter).
- b. The surface of the installed floor must be free from cracks and reasonably smooth. The material must not slough off, wrinkle, or buckle under operating conditions. Conductive tiles are not recommended for use in areas where contamination can be caused by explosive dust. The large number of joints and the tendency of tiles to loosen provide areas where explosive dust can become lodged that are not easy to clean with normal cleanup procedures.
- c. Where conductive floors and shoes are required, resistance between the ground and the wearer shall not exceed 1,000,000 ohms (i.e., total resistance of conductive shoes on a person, plus the resistance of floor to ground). (See Figure 11-1 for testing method.) Where conductive floors and shoes are required, table tops on which exposed explosives or dusts are encountered should be covered with a properly grounded conductive material that meets the same requirements as those for flooring.



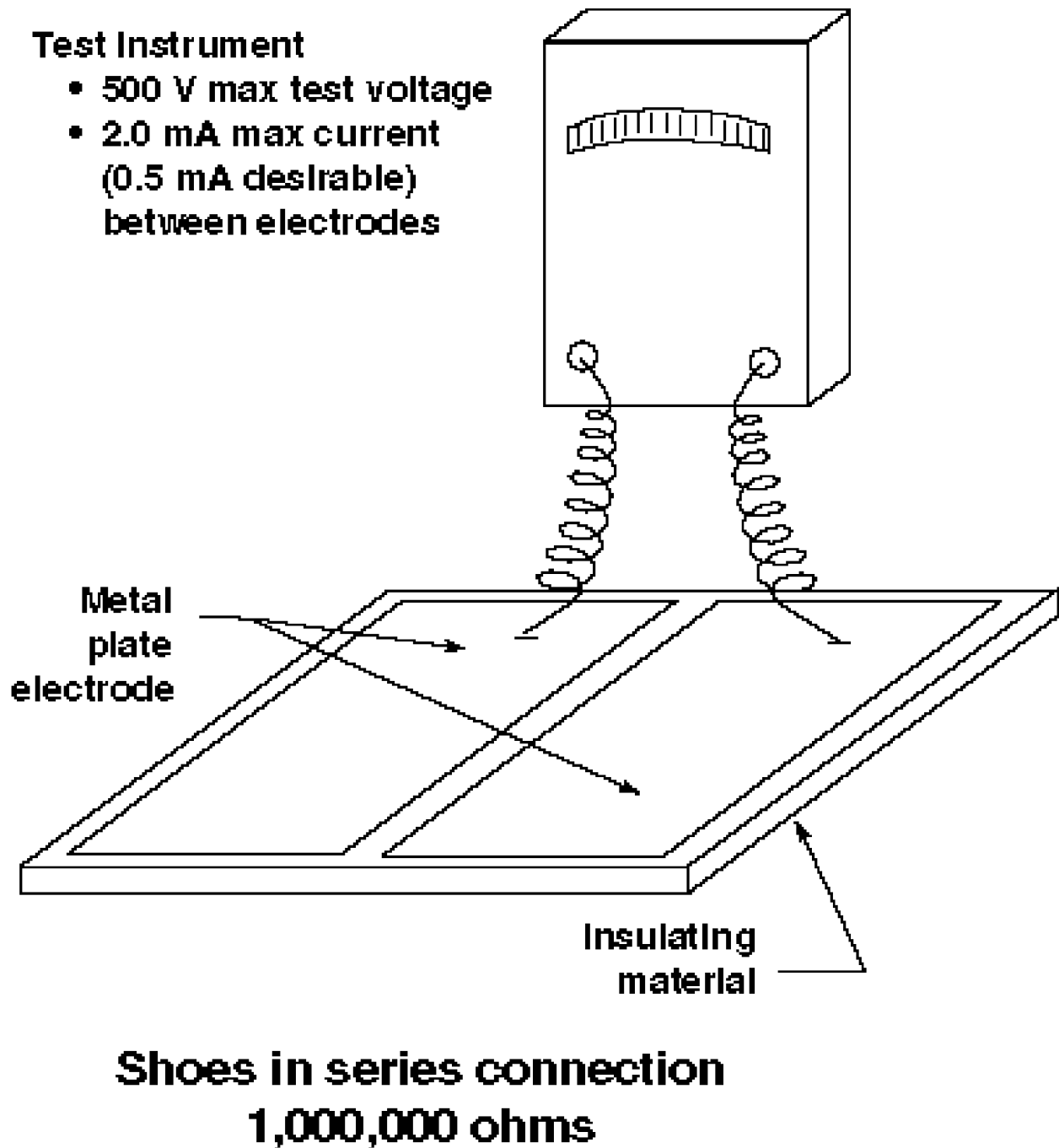


Figure 11-1. Testing shoes on wearer.

- d. Conductive floors must be compatible with the explosive materials to be processed.

- e. Conductive wristbands shall not exceed a resistance between the wearer and ground of 1,200,000 ohms. This resistance shall be measured with a suitably calibrated ohmmeter. Wristbands shall be of a design that maintains electrical contact with the wearer when used.
- f. Table-top work surface mats that are not part of a total conductive system (paragraph 7.5c) shall have a resistance not to exceed 1,200,000 ohms. This resistance shall be measured by a method similar to that outlined in paragraph 7.6 and records shall be maintained.

#### 7.6 Conductive Floor Tests

- a. Initial tests shall be made of all conductive floors, and subsequent tests shall be made at least semiannually. Test results shall be permanently recorded and a copy filed in a central location. Instruments used in making tests shall be used only when the room is free from exposed explosives and flammable gas mixtures.
- b. Maximum floor resistance shall be measured with a suitably calibrated ohmmeter that operates on a normal open circuit output voltage of 500 volts dc and a short circuit current of 2.5 milliamperes with an effective internal resistance of approximately 200,000 ohms. Minimum floor resistance will be measured with an ohmmeter suitably calibrated for the task.
- c. Each electrode shall weigh 2.3 kg and shall have a dry, flat, circular contact area 6.5 cm in diameter, which shall comprise a surface of aluminum or tin foil 1.3 to 2.5 mm thick, backed by a layer of rubber 0.6 to 0.65 cm thick and measuring between 40 and 60 durometer hardness as determined with a Shore Type A durometer (ASTM D-2240-68).

- d. The floor shall be clean and dry. "Electrode jelly" such as brushless shaving soap or saline solution shall not be used.
- e. The resistance of the floor shall be more than 5,000 ohms in areas with 110-volt service and 10,000 ohms in areas with 220-volt service, and less than 1,000,000 ohms in all areas, as measured between a permanent ground connection and an electrode placed at any point on the floor and also as measured between two electrodes placed 3 ft apart at any points on the floor. Measurements shall be made at five or more locations in each room. If the resistance changes appreciably with time during a measurement, the value observed after the voltage has been applied for about 5 seconds shall be considered the measured value.

#### 7.7 Humidification

Humidification for preventing static electricity accumulations and subsequent discharges is usually effective if the relative humidity is above 60%. However, certain materials such as metallic powders and some pyrotechnic mixtures cannot be exposed to air with 60% relative humidity due to the possibility of spontaneous ignition. Where this technique is used to prevent static electricity accumulations, a daily preoperational check of the humidity levels will be accomplished before work starts.

#### 7.8 Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter

Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter protection should be provided in static grounded areas where personnel may come in contact with AC-powered electrical equipment.

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## 8.0 ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT AND WIRING

### 8.1 Location/Operation Electrical Hazard Classification

The National Electric Code (NEC) does not specifically address explosives; however, Article 500, "Hazardous (Classified) Locations," does establish requirements for the design and installation of electrical equipment and wiring in locations containing combustible dusts and flammable liquids, vapors, or gases that, in general, are comparably hazardous. Although explosives do not normally fit these classifications, the atmosphere surrounding explosives is treated as Group D or Group G to restrict ignition sources, such as sparks from electrical faults, and to control surface temperatures of electrical equipment because explosives dusts or vapors may collect on electrical appliances in the vicinity. Therefore, the NEC definitions of Class I and Class II hazardous locations are as modified and their applications are implemented as follows for DOE explosives facilities.

- a. Class I, Division 1 electrical hazardous location is one in which (a) ignitable concentrations of flammable gases or vapors can exist under normal operating conditions; or (b) ignitable concentrations of such gases or vapors may exist frequently because of repair or maintenance operations or because of leakage; or (c) breakdown or faulty operation of equipment or process might release ignitable concentrations of flammable gases or vapors, and might also cause simultaneous failure of electrical equipment. Equipment and wiring approved for Class I locations may not be acceptable in Class II locations. Operations involving solvents and explosives usually require dual-rated (Class I/Class II) systems. See paragraph 8.1d of this chapter.
- b. Class II, Division 1 electrical hazardous locations are areas containing explosives dusts or explosives that may, through handling or processing, produce dust capable of being dispersed in the atmosphere. Explosives operations

requiring this classification include, but are not limited to, screening, grinding, blending, pressing, and dry machining explosives plus weighing of explosives powders. All explosives operations not specified elsewhere are also included in this classification.

- c. Class II, Division 2 electrical hazardous locations are areas that contain exposed explosives but where no dust hazard exists. Explosives operations requiring this classification include, but are not limited to, storage, inspection, assembly, and wet machining of explosives, plus heating of fully encased explosives. Class II, Division 1 or dual-rated equipment and wiring can be substituted for all explosives operations in this classification.
- d. Dual-Rated (Class I, Division 1/Class II, Division 1) electrical hazardous locations are areas where explosives are processed and sublimation may occur or where flammable gases or vapors may be present in sufficient quantities to produce explosive or ignitable mixtures. Explosives operations requiring this classification include, but are not limited to, synthesis, mixing, wet blending, and casting explosives, and heating/drying of uncased explosives.
- e. General Purpose (Non-hazardous rated) electrical locations are areas where no special hazards exist that might be influenced by the electrical wiring. Areas and explosives operations allowed in this classification include, but are not limited to, offices, control rooms, halls, rest rooms, and mechanical equipment rooms in explosives facilities plus shipping and receiving operations with explosives packaged in DOT/DoD-approved shipping containers and handling and assembly of fully encased explosives. General Purpose Areas may be established in Hazardous Locations if facility management can determine, based on analysis of the processes involved, that the following can be satisfied. Separation between the Class I or Class II operation and the General Purpose Area is established and maintained such that:

- C Migration of explosives into the General Purpose Area from the classified area will not occur under normal operating conditions;
- C Ignition energy that may be developed in the General Purpose Area will not be transferred to the classified area, even under electrical fault conditions.

## 8.2 Electrical Supply System

- I Mutual hazards may exist where explosives facilities are located near electrical supply lines and stepping equipment. To protect against these hazards, the NEC (NFPA 70) and the following requirements apply to all new construction or major modifications, and should be considered for existing facilities. Quantity distance requirements are based on air blast overpressure only, and fragment distances are not considered.
  - a. Electric transmission lines (those carrying 69 KV or more) and the tower or poles supporting them shall be located no closer to explosives facilities than:
    - C inhabited-building distance if the line in question is part of a grid/system serving a large, off-site area;
    - C public-traffic-route distance if loss of the line will not create serious social or economic hardships to off-site areas.
  - b. Electric distribution lines (those carrying less than 69 KV) and the tower or poles supporting them shall be located no closer to explosives facilities than public-traffic-route distance.
  - c. Aboveground, DOE-controlled electric service lines required to be in close proximity to an explosives facility shall be no closer to that facility than the length of the lines between the poles or towers supporting the lines, unless an effective means is provided to ensure that broken, energized



Lines cannot come into contact with the facility or its appurtenances. Acceptable controls include, but are not limited to, geographic terrain features, instantaneous circuit interrupters, cable trays and linking lines together. Equivalent underground service lines shall be located as specified in Chapter VI, paragraph 3.2.4 and Table VI-1.

- d. Electric lines serving explosives facilities shall be installed underground from a point not less than 50 ft away from such facilities.
- e. Unmanned privately owned or contractor-owned electrical substations (not to include building transformers and associated switch gear) shall be no closer to explosives facilities than public-traffic-route distances.
- f. Certain types of auxiliary power facilities, transformer stations, etc., present fire hazards to explosives facilities. Transformers and associated electrical switching apparatus serving one explosives facility or complex that do not present a fire hazard to the facility (i.e., dry-type, "less flammable" oil-insulated, etc.) shall be located as specified by NFPA 70 and Factory Mutual Data Sheet 5-4/14-18. Normal oil-insulated transformers shall be located at least 50 ft from an explosives facility or as specified in DoD 6055.9-STD.

### 8.3 Building Electrical Service Entrance

Each electrical service entrance for explosives facilities should be provided with the following protection.

- a. Arrestors
  - c An intermediate, valve-type lightning arrester shall be provided on the primary side of the transformer located in, on, or near the facility. See Section 6 of this chapter for additional lightning protection guidance.

- c. Surge arrestors and surge capacitors shall be provided on the supply side of the main service disconnect.

b. Grounding

The lightning arrestor, surge arrestor, surge capacitors, service entrance ground, and building ground shall be interconnected.

This interconnection shall be made outside the building.

#### 8.4 Permanent Wiring and Equipment

The NEC and this section are minimum requirements for DOE facilities containing explosives. (For laboratories, see paragraph 8.10 of this chapter).

- a. Permanent facility wiring includes installed electrical wiring, communications wiring, security systems wiring, and fire protection systems alarm and response wiring. Permanent equipment includes the installed electrical fixtures and equipment associated with this wiring. Permanent equipment also includes equipment such as (but is not limited to) HVAC, hoods, vacuum pumps, hydraulic pumps, etc.

b. New Facilities and Renovations

- (1) All permanent equipment and wiring of a room shall conform to the NEC electrical hazard class (see paragraph 8.1 of this chapter) required for the operations for which the room is designed.
- (2) To maintain maximum, long-term flexibility of use of facilities, facility management is encouraged to consider installing dual-rated (i.e., Class I, Division 1 and Class II, Division 1) permanent wiring and equipment in explosives operating rooms. As a minimum, installation shall allow for easy conversion to dual-rated wiring and equipment.

- (3) Explosives storage facilities shall meet Class II, Division 1 requirements.
- (4) Rated electrical fixtures shall not be painted.

c. Existing Facilities

- (1) Permanent wiring and equipment shall meet the requirements in effect at the time the facility was built. The wiring and equipment shall be brought into conformance with paragraph 8.4.b of this chapter if remodeling or renovation affect the wiring or equipment.
- (2) As a minimum, the permanent wiring and equipment shall meet the requirements of paragraph 8.1 of this chapter for the explosives operations performed.
- (3) Where equipment cannot meet the above requirements, the equipment should be located outside the hazardous environment. Otherwise, the equipment shall be controlled as specified for electrical equipment and instrumentation in paragraph 8.6 of this chapter.

8.5 Flexible Cords/Wiring

Wiring from the permanent premises wiring to process equipment or process instrumentation should be rated for the actual explosives operation being performed, per paragraph 8.1 of this chapter. As a minimum, flexible cords shall be type S0 hard service cord or rubber-covered heater cord type HSJ. Splices are not allowed. In addition all flexible cords, receptacles, and attachment plugs must be equipped with three prongs so that the third prong (green wire) acts as ground. The cord shall be supported so that there is no tension on the terminal connections. Seals shall be provided where the cord enters explosion-proof enclosures. For NEC Class I or Class II dual-rated operations, the cord shall also be equipped with explosion-proof attachment plugs. Flexible

cords shall not be used where fixed installed electrical wiring is required by equipment design.

## 8.6 Electrical Equipment and Instrumentation

- a. Non-permanent electrical equipment and instrumentation shall comply with the following.
  - (1) Process instrumentation and process equipment should be rated for the actual environment based on the explosives operation being performed as defined in paragraph 8.1 of this chapter.
  - (2) If the properties of an explosive are such that NEC Class II, Group G equipment provides inadequate surface temperature limits, special protection shall be provided, or the equipment shall be excluded from the hazardous location.
  - (3) When NEC Class I or II, as applicable, equipment or instrumentation is not available, the substitute equipment should be purged or pressurized in accordance with NFPA 496, or be determined intrinsically safe (without regard to voltage) in accordance with NEC Article 504/ANSI 913/NFPA 493 by facility management, or in NEC Class II locations sealed to prevent explosives contamination. When the equipment is purged or sealed, the surface temperature shall not exceed 120EC.
  - (4) If the required NEC-rated equipment or instrumentation is not available or cannot be purged or sealed or is not listed by Underwriters Laboratory (UL) or Factory Mutual Corporation as intrinsically safe, facility management shall evaluate the equipment or instrumentation as to the probability of its initiation of the explosives by the following events.

- C Malfunction of electrical equipment or process instrumentation.
- C Breach of containment resulting in exposed explosives or spillage of explosives.
- C Ignition sources arising from physical damage to the wiring method used (e.g., crushing by forklift or other material handling equipment, frayed cords, etc.).
- C Exposed electrical conductors or connectors that could make contact with leg wires or cables of explosive devices during routine handling.
- C Exposed electrical conductors or connectors on which explosives dust or vapors could collect.
- C Collection of explosives dust on or in the equipment.
- C Sensitivity to heat and spark, and thermal stability of explosives involved.

This equipment shall not have a surface temperature exceeding the lowest onset of the exotherm of the explosive, as determined by the differential thermal analysis (DTA) test or the differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) test in paragraph 12.1.1c of this chapter and Chapter VIII, paragraph 2.2d. Approved instrumentation and equipment shall be administratively controlled and marked accordingly.

- (5) If the equipment is purged, the air flow shall be monitored per NFPA 496 and interlocked to the equipment.
- (6) A waiver is not required when the equipment or instrumentation meets the requirements of either

paragraphs 8.6a(3) or (4) of this chapter. If the equipment or instrumentation cannot meet these criteria or has not been evaluated by facility management, it shall meet the appropriate electrical hazard class requirements.

- b. Watertight equipment (that would pass a NEMA 4 hose test) should be provided in those locations where water-explosives mixtures may come in contact with the electrical equipment and wiring.

#### 8.7 Electrical Requirements for Outdoor Test Areas

Requirements for outdoor test areas shall be contained in the specific test procedures.

#### 8.8 Hand-held, Battery-Powered Lights and Instruments

- a. Flashlights and hand lanterns, powered by low-voltage dry cell batteries and "miners' cap lamps" approved as "Permissible" by the U.S. Bureau of Mines and by UL for NEC Class I hazardous locations, are authorized for use in both Class I and Class II locations. Devices that provide "cold light" through chemical action are acceptable for use in any location.
- b. Hand-held instruments, watches, calculators, hearing aids, cameras, self-contained flashes, and communication devices powered by low-voltage dry cell batteries are authorized for use in the vicinity of NEC Class II, Division 2 rated hazardous operations and during setup of NEC Class I or Class II, Division 1 hazardous operations. They shall be evaluated as to their intrinsic safety and approved by facility management prior to use during NEC Class I or Class II, Division 1 hazardous operations.
- c. Hand-held, battery-operated equipment shall not come in direct or indirect contact with bare explosives. Batteries

shall not be removed or replaced in a NEC hazard rated area (paragraph 8.1 of this chapter).

#### 8.9 Non-Rated Extension Lighting

When it is necessary to use extension lights within 10 ft of exposed explosives, where no airborne dust exists, the following requirements shall apply.

- C Lights shall be mounted on heavy tripod stands.
- C The lights shall be fitted with exterior globes to prevent the falling of hot sparks or particles that might ignite the explosives.
- C The lights shall be fitted with adequate guards to protect the globes from physical damage.
- C The wire providing power to the lights shall be positioned so as to prevent vehicles and personnel damaging the cord.
- C The flexible cord shall comply with paragraph 8.5 of this chapter.
- C The light stand shall be secured to prevent tipping.
- C Neither the light nor the power cord shall be allowed to come in direct or indirect contact with the explosives.
- C Lights shall be positioned outside the fall-down distance to the explosives.

#### 8.10 Laboratories

- a. Permanent wiring and equipment for existing laboratory areas are not required to meet the requirements of paragraph 8.4 of this chapter, except as noted in paragraph 8.4c(1).

- b. Process equipment used for synthesis, heating, drying, mechanical mixing, and blending shall be dual rated. Weighing equipment shall be Class II, Division 1 or mechanical. These operations shall be isolated from non-rated wiring, electrical equipment, and instrumentation in a manner that prevents dust or vapors reaching an ignition source.
- c. When laboratory equipment cannot meet the requirements of paragraph 8.10b of this chapter, see paragraphs 8.6a(3) or (4) of this chapter.

#### 8.11 Modifications

Operating buildings and magazines are constructed to perform a specific function that dictates the requirements for electrical installation. Procedures shall be established by each DOE facility to control the use and modification of electrical equipment in explosives areas and ensure that uniform standards are adhered to throughout the facility.



## 9.0 VACUUM EQUIPMENT

### 9.1 General

Precautions shall be taken to prevent explosives from entering any vacuum system not specifically designed for the collection of explosives.

### 9.2 Labeling

All vacuum lines used for explosives operations should be labeled to warn maintenance personnel that explosive residues may be present in these lines. One suggested label is:

DANGER, MAY CONTAIN EXPLOSIVES

### 9.3 Disassembly

Vacuum lines should not be disassembled unless they are flanged or connected by elastomeric tubing. Remote means shall be used to disassemble threaded connections that are potentially contaminated with explosives. The design or installation of any new vacuum lines shall not employ any demountable, internal screwed or threaded fittings or connections unless welded or fixed permanently in place.

### 9.4 Traps or Filters

Vacuum pumps used to evacuate processes for explosives operations shall be equipped with primary and secondary intake line traps or filters to prevent contamination of the pump with explosives.

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## 10.0 EXPLOSIVES DUST EXHAUST VENTILATION AND COLLECTION SYSTEMS

### 10.1 General

Exhaust ventilation should be used to control explosives dust (or other hazardous materials used in or resulting from explosives operations) that may create a hazard to operating personnel or contaminate the operating area. When exhaust ventilation is used to remove explosives dust, an approved dust collection system is required to prevent the release of the dust outside the building.

### 10.2 Exhaust Ventilation

Exhaust ventilation and collection systems for control of explosives dust and materials associated with explosives production shall be designed to meet minimum requirements established in the ACGIH Ventilation Manual (most current edition) and this Manual. The exhaust ventilation system should have sufficient capture and adequate makeup air to reduce exposure to explosives dusts, or materials used in conjunction with explosives, to as low as reasonably achievable. This is particularly important when toxicity information and occupational exposure limits are not available for the explosives in use.

### 10.3 Dust Collection Systems

- a. A "wet collector" that moistens the dust close to the point of origin and keeps it wet until the dust is removed for disposal is preferred. A "dry-type collector" is permitted when authorized by an SOP.
- b. Dust collectors shall be designed to prevent explosives dust from reaching any mechanical power source of the collection system.
- c. All conductive portions of the collection system shall be grounded and bonded.

- d. There shall be no screw threads, recesses, or cracks that may be exposed to explosives contamination in a dust collection system.
- e. Dust collection lines should be equipped with flanged connectors and inspection ports.
- f. Pipes or ducts through which explosives are conveyed shall have long radius bends with a centerline radius at least four times the diameter of ducts or pipes.
- g. Dust collectors shall be emptied and cleaned on a regular basis, as warranted by system use, and must be inspected periodically.

#### 10.4 Dust Collection Location

- a. Wherever practical, dry-type explosives dust collection chambers should be located outside operating buildings, in the open, or in buildings exclusively set aside for the purpose.
- b. Stationary and portable wet-type collectors may be placed in the explosives operating bays or cubicles, provided the quantity of explosives in the collectors does not exceed 2 kg.

## 11.0 DRAINS AND SUMPS

### 11.1 Collection

- a. All drain lines handling explosive wastes shall be provided with sumps or basins of adequate design and capacity for the removal of explosives by settling. The drains shall be of adequate capacity, free of pockets, and have sufficient slope (at least 1/4 in./ft) to prevent the settling out of explosives in the line until it reaches the sump or settling basin.
- b. Drain gutters within buildings may be constructed with a slope of 1/8 in./ft. However, a satisfactory program of cleaning must be developed to ensure that all hazardous material is removed from drain gutters.
- c. Sumps must be designed so that suspended and settleable solid explosive material cannot be carried in the wash waters beyond the sumps. The design shall allow sufficient settling time on the basis of the settling rate of the material and the usual flow rate. The sump shall be constructed so that the overflow will not disturb any floating solids. The design must also permit easy removal of collected explosives and retention of those explosives that float on water (until they can be skimmed off). If settling basins are used to supplement sumps, they will be cleaned periodically and a log will be maintained.
- d. Explosives collection trays for sumps will be constructed of nonferrous metal. Hoisting equipment used for lifting the trays will be designed to prevent the trays from binding on the sides of the sump. Bolted sump tanks or other types of construction that permit the explosives to settle in obscure or hidden spaces are prohibited.
- e. Drains between the source of explosives and the sump shall be troughs with rounded bottoms and removable ventilated covers to facilitate inspection for accumulation of explosives. This requirement applies to all new construction and major modifications and should be

considered for existing facilities. Short sections of closed pipe or trough are permitted if they can be visually inspected for blockage or explosives buildup. Explosives or explosives-contaminated waste liquids shall not be run into closed drains and sewers.

- f. Drains shall be inspected periodically and necessary steps taken to prevent the buildup of explosive deposits in them.

## 11.2 Effluent

- a. Drains containing explosives waste materials must not be connected in a manner that allows such wastes to empty into the normal sewage systems carrying inert or sanitary wastes.
- b. Care must be taken to avoid the possibility of deposition of explosives from sump effluent due to drying, temperature changes, or interaction with other industrial contaminations. When explosives that are appreciably soluble in water are handled, sweeping and other dry collecting measures shall be used to keep them out of the drainage system.
- c. The combination of sumps, settling ponds, etc. must remove explosives so that outflows meet environmental standards.

## 12.0 PROCESSING

### 12.1 Heating, Drying, and Thermal Conditioning

#### 12.1.1 General

a. Heating explosives is potentially dangerous for several reasons.

C Elevated temperature can increase the sensitivity of an explosive to other stimuli such as impact, shock, friction, and static electricity.

C At or above the critical temperature of the system (see definition in Chapter 1, Section 6), a runaway chemical reaction may occur that can produce an explosion or fire.

C Elevated temperature of an explosive in a sealed container can cause gas generation and pressure rupture of the containment at temperatures below the critical temperature.

C Chemically incompatible or reactive materials, which may be present as accidental contaminants, as components of the formulation, or in external contact with the explosive, can intensify the preceding dangers or cause them to occur at lower temperatures.

C Nonuniform heating can cause excessively hot regions in the explosives. Causes may include inadequate agitation of fluid explosives, nonuniform heaters, and nonuniform heat conduction.

b. The critical temperature is a system property that depends on a combination of the chemical decomposition reactions of the explosive, its mass and shape, the heat transfer and other thermal characteristics of the system, and the confinement or pressure of decomposition products,

especially gases. The determination or estimation of the critical temperature can be accomplished by several different methods of thermal analysis, but the process is typically quite complex. For operational safety, a conservative estimate (i.e., lower limit) of the critical temperature for a heating operation shall be made (uncertainties of 10 to 25°C are common). Analogy of one explosive or system to another similar system with a reliable thermal analysis may be used to determine safe heating temperatures and heating times (heating limits).

- c. The DTA, DSC, or other comparable techniques can be used to measure the temperature of the onset of an exothermic reaction in an explosive. The result of this test can be used to rank the thermal stability of explosives and as part of a thermal analysis. Because of the complexity of chemical decomposition, however, the DTA/DSC exotherm has no systematic relationship to the critical temperature and is unreliable for estimating safe heating limits. The exotherm temperature is always considerably above the critical temperature and usually increases with the heating rate of the test. Where the DTA/DSC exotherm is specified as a standard for control of temperature, the test heating rate shall not exceed 10°C per minute. The DTA/DSC shall not be used alone (except as specified in paragraph 8.6a(4) of this chapter) for establishing heating limits.
- d. Each facility shall conduct or obtain a thermal analysis of any explosives system before the explosive is heated in a contact operation or in association with hazardous radioactive materials as described in paragraph 13.6.2 of this chapter. A heating limit for the explosives system shall be established from this analysis and should be approved by the Explosives Development Committee. All factors in paragraphs a and b, above, shall be considered. Any significant change in the geometry or an increase in mass should be considered a new explosives system. For a contact operation, the maximum temperature should be set at least 10°C below the critical temperature. For heating



explosives in association with hazardous radioactive materials, the maximum temperature should be set at least 20°C below the critical temperature. Heating to a temperature greater than the above specifications may be approved by facility management if a documented analysis of the explosive's thermal characteristics indicates that an acceptable time or temperature safety factor is still present for a specific operation. These operations shall be conducted remotely.

- e. Heating controls for each operation shall be established and specified in written operating procedures. The specified condition should be set at the lowest temperatures and heating times to do the job efficiently and should not exceed the heating limit for the explosives system. When establishing heating controls, consider the heating limit and the accuracy of the estimated critical temperature, the accuracy of the temperature control equipment, and the likelihood of incompatible chemical contamination along with other operational parameters.

#### 12.1.2 Heating and Drying Equipment

- a. Heat should be supplied by steam, hot water, friction air, or electrically heated transfer fluid. Temperatures shall be limited by redundant, automatic heat controls.
- b. In systems heated by steam only, the requirements for redundant, automatic heat controls shall be satisfied if the steam pressure is controlled by a pressure-reducing valve, pressure relief valve, and thermostatic valve on the system.
- c. In systems heated by electricity, a manual reset secondary overtemperature system consisting of a controller, fail-safe sensor, and an interrupting device shall be provided to interrupt the heat supply source in the event of primary system failure. The secondary interrupter shall be separate from the primary interrupter. The upper limit of the primary controller is determined by the desired operating

temperature limit. The secondary (override) controller is set at a higher temperature but should not exceed the maximum temperature determined by the heating limit specified for the explosives system as determined in 12.1.1d of this chapter.

- d. Visual and/or audible alarms should be provided to alert operating personnel to abnormal temperature conditions. The heating of explosives should be monitored at all times.
- e. The air or gas used to condition exposed explosives shall not be recirculated if directly heated by electrical resistance elements.
- f. Drying or heating ovens should be vented to a safe location outdoors. Water wash or filtration of the exhaust may be required. If exhaust fans are used, they shall be interlocked with the heat source.

### 12.1.3 Heating and Drying Operations

- a. Heating and drying shall be performed under the mildest set of conditions that will accomplish the task safely and efficiently. A thermal analysis shall be made and a written procedure prepared consistent with paragraph 12.1.1 of this chapter. The procedure shall include controls on the mass and geometry (thickness of the layer, etc.) of the material that may be heated.
- b. Except as described in 12.1.3c, below, drying shall be achieved by circulating a warm, dry gas—either air or inert—over or through the material.
- c. Small samples may be dried by placing them in desiccators or by subjecting them to vacuum. Vacuum drying of larger items should be preceded by drying at atmospheric pressure to remove quantities of moisture or solvent before vacuum is applied to remove the final traces of moisture or solvent. Explosives having a vapor pressure exceeding  $1 \times 10^{-4}$  mm Hg

at the drying temperature shall not be subjected to vacuum drying. A cold trap shall be used for vacuum drying where the vapor pressure of the explosive is unknown.

- d. Formation of a vapor-air mixture within explosive concentration limits shall be avoided. This can be accomplished by providing sufficient airflow to maintain a vapor concentration well below the lower flammability limit or by using an inert atmosphere. For inert atmosphere, positive purge shall be used to preclude oxygen leakage into the unit. If vapor concentrations approaching a flammable level are anticipated, they shall be monitored. Airflow shall be controlled to prevent dusting.
- e. When heating explosives whose vapor pressure may cause undesired condensation of explosives on parts of the equipment, heating shall be conducted in a manner that controls condensation of the explosive materials. This control should be accomplished by heating the exhaust system or by circulating the air at a rate that will keep the explosives concentration below the level at which condensation could occur.
- f. The proper operation of heater controls shall be verified on a regular schedule established by site management.

## 12.2 Pressing

Explosives pressing operations are those in which explosives are subjected to high pressures to achieve a physical change. Pressing of explosives formulations is done routinely to consolidate explosive materials into configurations required for test assemblies or weapon systems. Two types of pressing operations commonly performed are isostatic/hydrostatic and punch and die. The following safety guidelines apply to these types of pressing operations.

12.2.1 General

- a. Explosives pressing operations shall be conducted as remote operations.
- b. The correct functioning of press interlock systems shall be verified at regular intervals.
- c. Pressing mandrels, punches, and dies used in explosives operations shall be examined regularly during periods of use for evidence of structural failure. Examination shall be performed by suitable nondestructive test methods. Intervals between inspections shall be established by site management for each tooling design before committing the tooling to use. The inspection interval and updating should be dictated by experience with similar tooling designs and configurations. All new or modified mandrels, punches, and dies shall be inspected before their first use. At least one pressing cycle should be completed with mock explosives before proceeding to explosives.
- d. Pressure controllers and indicators shall be calibrated periodically to ensure accurate control and monitoring of pressing operations.
- e. Press parts that contact explosive materials shall be thoroughly cleaned of residual explosives before they are used with a different explosive formulation.
- f. Temperature control for heated presses and dies shall comply with the requirements of paragraphs 12.1.2a and b of this chapter.
- g. All pressing assemblies shall be designed or procedural controls established so that the extrusion of explosives between two mating metal surfaces will be minimized or eliminated during the pressing operation.

- h. Operations with explosive powders should be performed in a manner that reduces the liberation of explosive dust in order to reduce operator exposure and general room contamination. For operations involving large amounts of powders, local exhaust ventilation with a dust collection system should be provided. Respiratory protection to prevent inhalation of explosives dust may be required when adequate ventilation is not available.

#### 12.2.2 Isostatic/Hydrostatic Pressing

- a. Before an elastomeric container or mandrel constructed of a new material is introduced into a pressing operation (where it will contact explosives), the material shall be evaluated for compatibility with the explosives.
- b. All pressing vessels shall be examined for evidence of cracking or other signs of incipient structural failure at regular use intervals by suitable nondestructive test methods. Examination intervals shall be established by local management.
- c. Before large-scale pressings of new explosives or explosives formulations are made, these materials shall be evaluated for thermal stability (see scaleup procedures, Chapter VIII). "New explosives or explosives formulations" refer to those that are "new" to large-scale pressing. Stability test results shall be used to assist in establishing safe pressing conditions for the specific pressing size.
- d. For isostatic pressing, procedural controls shall be established to ensure that:
  - C an acceptable vacuum on the mandrel assembly can be obtained to prevent adiabatic heating during pressing; and
  - C air is bled out of the press before pressurization.

- e. Consideration should be given to the use of fire-resistant hydraulic fluids. The compatibility of any new fluids must be checked with the explosives used.

### 12.2.3 Punch and Die Pressing

- a. All pressing punches and dies shall be visually inspected for damage, deformation, and cleanliness before installation on a press. Any questionable condition(s) shall be resolved before the pressing proceeds to ensure that the operation's safety is not compromised.
- b. All punches, dies, and press attachment fixtures shall be designed to minimize the possibility of the punch being misaligned with the die (resulting in gouging of a die surface during pressing). Press setup procedures shall provide for operator verification of proper alignment before pressing.
- c. Punches and dies should be maintained in matched sets and shall be controlled by the responsible user or a gauging section capable of performing the necessary measurements. A group other than the user should check critical punch and die dimensions before initial use and at suitable intervals thereafter. Suitable check intervals for each punch and die design should be determined as in 12.2.1c of this chapter.

### 12.3 Extruding

Extrusion operations involve the flow of plastic explosives material under pressure into a cavity in a component of an assembly. The following general safety guidelines are given for this type of extrusion operation.

- a. Extrusion operations shall be conducted remotely. Contact extrusion may be performed only when nonexplosive or mock materials are to be extruded or when hand-extruding small quantities with no metal-to-metal contact. Precautions

shall be taken to prevent personnel from being injured by the rupture of pressurized equipment.

- b. The explosive shall be protected against extrusion beyond the tooling cavity. Precautions shall be taken to prevent foreign material from entering the explosive.
- c. New designs and significant design changes in equipment, tooling, or components shall be tested by mock explosives extrusion before actual explosives extrusion.
- d. Pressure controllers and indicators shall be periodically calibrated to ensure that proper sealing and extrusion pressures are being maintained.
- e. Extrusion press parts shall be thoroughly cleaned of residual explosives remaining from the previous operation before the press is loaded with a different explosive formulation.
- f. Hand-loading of extrudable explosives is covered in paragraph 12.8.2 of this chapter.

#### 12.4 Machining

Explosives machining is a class of forming operations that involves mechanical cutting of the explosive material, often in conjunction with harder inert materials. Thermal initiation of the explosive substance due to heat buildup from friction at the cutting surface can occur. Precautions must be taken to limit this buildup and to facilitate the dissipation of thermal energy.

##### 12.4.1 Equipment Requirements

- a. Interlocks shall be provided for wet machining operations to ensure coolant flow before machine operation. The coolant flow shall be monitored and the equipment automatically and safely shut down if loss-of-coolant flow is detected. The interlocks shall be protected from tampering and

- |       unauthorized disabling by physical means or supervisory control.
- b.     The vacuum on vacuum chuck holding fixtures shall be monitored and interlocked with the equipment for automatic shutdown of machining in the event of vacuum loss.
- c.     Tool path controls (stops, limits, design patterns, etc.) shall be provided to prevent the unplanned travel path of a tool or work piece. Equipment speed and feed rates shall be controlled and limited by positive means or secondary verification.
- d.     Pressure-relief devices should be installed on pneumatically or hydraulically powered equipment when necessary to ensure safe operation.
- e.     Metal chip waste from machining operations should be kept separate from explosives waste. When this is not possible, mixed explosives and metal waste should be completely segregated from unmixed waste and held for separate disposal.
- f.     Dull or damaged tools shall not be used. A cutting tool inspection and control program shall be established for explosives machining operations.
- g.     Consideration will be given to using additional safety control devices (i.e., design patterns, safety templates, chip thickness sensors, tool pressure sensors, etc.), depending on the type of machining operations, size of explosives pieces, types of explosives, etc.
- |
- h.     The "machining overtest" shall be considered a testing operation (see paragraph 12.4.4e of this chapter) and shall be exempt from equipment requirements.

#### 12.4.2     Contact or Remote Operations



a. The following explosives may be contact machined if a compatible, nontoxic, noncombustible coolant is used. Explosives not listed below shall be machined remotely.

C Amatol

C Baratol

C Boracitol

C Explosive D

C Octol with no more than 75% HMX

C Pentolite (no more than 50% PETN)

C RDX/TNT compositions with no more than 75% RDX. These compositions include: Composition B, Composition B-3, 75/25 cyclotol.

C TATB and TATB compositions with an inert plastic binder

C TNT

| b. Explosives assemblies composed of any combination of explosives listed in the above paragraph and the following nonexplosive materials may be contact machined if a compatible, nontoxic, noncombustible coolant is used. If an assembly contains an explosive not listed in the above paragraph or a nonexplosive material not listed below, the assembly shall be machined remotely:

C foamed plastics,

C solid plastics,

C adhesives,

C amorphous graphite,

C calcium sulphate casting powder, or

C explosives mockup.

- c. On any explosive, with certain exceptions for IHE and for those explosives being machined by fluid jet (see paragraph 12.4.2e of this chapter), the following operations shall be performed remotely:
- C drilling of holes smaller than 5 cm in diameter, except for IHE, where drilling of holes smaller than 5 mm shall be done remotely;
  - C coring operations (except contact operations on those explosives listed in 12.4.2a of this chapter, when the requirements of paragraph 12.4.5b of this chapter are met and a coolant is used);
  - C machining of any metal/explosives interface;
  - C machining IHE subassemblies with Hazard Class/Division 1.1 boosters installed;
  - C dry machining, except that IHE booster pellets may be contact machined provided a dust collection system (see Section 10 of this chapter) is used; and
- | C machining of explosives in Phase II or earlier stage of scaleup (see Chapter VIII).
- d. Machining of primary explosives shall be avoided. Alternative methods, such as forming or pressing to final dimensions, should be used to achieve the desired shape.
- e. The machining of IHE, PBX 9404, and LX-10 may be performed contact by high-pressure fluid jet. The fluid-jet system pressure shall not exceed 20,000 psig. The velocity of the fluid jet shall not exceed 520 meters per second (theoretical). The jet nozzle orifice diameter shall not exceed 0.010 in. The system machining fluid shall be water and shall not contain any abrasives. See paragraph 12.15 of this chapter for use of low-pressure fluids.
- |

- f. Concurrent contact machining operations should not be permitted in the same bay. However, concurrent IHE contact machining is permitted when other explosives are not present.
- g. Provisions shall be made for visual monitoring of remote machining operations. Consideration should be given to video recording and audio monitoring.

#### 12.4.3 Setup and Preparation

The following precautions are provided for preparation and setup before beginning the machining operation.

- a. Before setting up the explosive work piece, the equipment shall be checked for proper function and the absence of interference between stationary and moving parts. For the more complex machining operations, an inert mockup should be used for testing equipment function before the first run.
- b. The explosive component to be machined should be inspected for cracks, voids, and high-density foreign objects. The explosive component for contact machining shall be inspected. Radiography can be used for this purpose. The component shall also be checked for proper size.
- c. Caution shall be exercised during setup and adjustment to avoid pinching, dropping, crushing, or otherwise applying abnormal forces to explosives present. Special care must be given to mounting and centering a part on a vacuum chuck. Special attention must be given to the proper functioning of the vacuum system and its surface holding area.
- d. Limits on machine speed, depth of cut, and feed rate shall be set before the machine is activated.
- e. Interlocks shall be functional before the machine is used to machine explosives. They should be tested once per shift.

#### 12.4.4 Operations Guidelines

- a. The minimum tool speed necessary for safe and efficient operation should be maintained. The following maximums shall apply:
  - (1) the relative velocity between the explosives surface and the cutting tool shall not exceed 65 m per minute;
  - (2) work pieces or cutting tools shall not be rotated at speeds exceeding 525 rpm; and
  - (3) the feed rate of the cutting tool or work piece shall not exceed 1 mm per revolution.
- b. The work piece, fixture, cutting tools, equipment, floor, troughs, drains, etc., should be cleaned frequently to prevent accumulation of explosive wastes.
  - (1) Approved measures should be taken to prevent rust and minimize deterioration of precision surfaces.
  - (2) All tools, equipment, fixtures, and parts should be cleaned before being removed from the work area for storage.
- c. For contact machining operations, coolant shall be used to aid in removal of heat and cutting waste. Coolant should be used for remote operations when practical.
  - (1) Coolant should be used on explosives/inert assemblies. When the explosives portion is included in the cut, coolant shall be used for contact machining. Coolant is not required if the explosives portion of the assembly is contained (no bare explosives) and is not included in the cut, or the machining is conducted remotely.

- (2) Spray mist coolant may be used during machining of the explosive-containing assemblies if the explosives portion is not included in the cut.
- d. All visible explosives shall be removed from the machine before maintenance or repairs are performed. No safeguards or interlocks of any kind shall be removed or made ineffective, except by authorized personnel.
- e. Before submitting an explosive for contact machining approval, a machining overtest program shall be conducted to identify the machinability and associated hazards. These HE qualification tests should be performed in facilities set aside for these purposes.
  - (1) Machining overtests shall be conducted remotely.
  - (2) Operations performed during sample preparation may include gauging and assembly, but shall not include any contact cutting, scraping, or other material-removing operations on the explosives specimens.

#### 12.4.5 Specific Machining Operations

##### a. Drilling

- (1) Drilling operations should be set up to maximize the ease of achieving and maintaining proper alignment and to facilitate removal of explosives chips, fines, and powder.
- (2) Length of fluting on the drill bit shall exceed the depth of the hole to be drilled by a minimum of 1.3 cm or one hole diameter, whichever is greater.
- (3) The depth of a hole shall not be extended more than 1.5 times the hole diameter (up to a maximum of 2 cm) during a single insertion of the drill into the material. After each insertion, it may be advisable to

withdraw the drill completely and remove loose explosives from the cavity and drill bit before reinserting.

- (4) Coolant flow (when used) shall be directed to the explosives/cutting edge interface. Drill bits that have coolant channels to the tip of the drill should be used. Pulsating high-pressure types of coolant supplies are recommended for drills of 6-mm diameter or less.

b. Coring

- (1) Coolant flow (when used) shall be directed at the explosives/cutting edge interface.
- (2) The coring will be accomplished in increments if the hole is not positioned to provide continuous breakout. When done in increments, no more than 1.5 times the diameter of the hole shall be cored at one time. Before the maximum distance has been cored, the tool shall be totally retracted from the hole and cleaned. The hole shall be flushed with coolant.

c. Sawing

- (1) The feed rate of the saw blade or work piece shall not exceed 7.5 cm per minute.
- (2) For band saws, coolant flow should be directed onto the saw blade at the cutting interface, guide rollers, and the drive wheel/saw blade interface. For circular saws, the coolant flow should be directed at the explosives/cutting edge interface.

### 12.5 Dry Screening

Screening of dry explosives is often required for size classification or to remove extraneous objects. Use of magnetic

separators is often advisable for removal of ferrous materials that may have passed through the screens. The following guidelines shall be observed for screening operations and equipment.

- a. Screening operations using mechanical screens shall be performed by remote operations. Equipment shall be designed and operations performed to avoid subjecting explosive materials to pinching, friction, or impact.
- b. Screening small samples may be performed as a contact operation where approved by facility management.
- c. Equipment shall be electrically bonded and grounded. Resistance-to-ground shall be 10 ohms or less and shall be inspected on a regular basis. Equipment used to transfer electrostatic-sensitive explosives to or from screens shall be conductive and electrically bonded to the screen during transfer.
- d. Operations and equipment shall be set up to minimize and control dust generation.
- e. The operating area and equipment therein shall be cleaned frequently to avoid accumulation of explosives dust.
- f. Precautions shall be taken to prevent metal-to-metal rubbing during vibration of the screens. Particular attention shall be paid to frequent inspection of vibrating equipment for development of cracks subject to contamination by explosives.

#### 12.6 Blending

- a. Dry blending of explosives shall be performed remotely. However, dry, hand blending of small samples may be performed as a contact operation when approved by facility management.

- b. Equipment should be designed and operations performed to minimize generation and dispersion of explosives dust.
- c. Equipment shall be electrically bonded to provide a continuous path-to-ground. Resistance-to-ground shall be 10 ohms or less and shall be inspected on a regular basis. Equipment used to transfer electrostatic-sensitive explosives to or from blenders shall be conductive and electrically bonded to the blender during transfer.

#### 12.7 Melting

- a. The heat for melting explosives shall be supplied by saturated steam, hot water, or other temperature-controlled medium. The steam pressure shall be controlled in accordance with paragraph 12.1.2b of this chapter.
- b. Temperatures used for contact melting of TNT-based explosives [except those containing PETN (e.g., pentolite)] and keeping them molten shall not exceed 121EC. The temperature limit for TNT explosives containing PETN shall be 109EC.
- c. Feeding of the melt kettle and the melting operation shall be controlled or regulated to prevent the formation of large chunks of explosives.
- d. Alarms shall be provided on the melt temperature and on melt kettle agitation when the operation will be left unattended. Alarms shall sound if the temperature exceeds the specifications of paragraph 12.7b, above, or if agitation ceases.
- e. Wherever possible, valves, piping, and threaded bolts and fasteners should be eliminated from melted explosives handling systems.



- f. Provisions should be made for emergency emptying of melt kettles in the event of temperature control problems or power failures.
- g. Melt kettle construction materials shall be corrosion resistant. Construction shall not contain blind holes, threads, or cracks in areas exposed to melted explosives. Welds shall be inspected and found free of cracks and porosity.

## 12.8 Assembly and Disassembly

During assembly and disassembly operations, hand tools and electrical and pneumatic tools that may subject the explosives to abnormal frictional forces, pinching, or excessive pressure, or cause significant deformation, shall not be used. They may, however, be used on nonexplosive components.

### 12.8.1 Assembly Operations

During assembly operations, the operator should be alert for mismatching parts and misalignment of components. Hard surfaces contacting explosives shall be precisely machined to mate with the explosives or lined with cushioning material, or other methods shall be used to keep sharp corners or projections from being forced into explosives.

### 12.8.2 Loading Assemblies with Plastic or Extrudable Explosives

- a. The workability and plasticity of plastic and extrudable explosives improves with an increase in temperature. Plastic explosive Compositions C-3 and C-4 may be softened by warming to between 21EC and 38EC before working. Extrudable explosives LX 13 and Extex should be kept as cool as practical to prevent premature curing.
- b. Contamination of these explosives with abrasive or foreign substances shall be avoided.

- c. The assembly shall be loaded with small increments of the explosive and may be tamped with suitable non-metallic tools to eliminate air voids.

#### 12.8.3 Disassembly Operations

- a. Before beginning disassembly, the condition of the device shall be assessed to determine if it can be safely handled.
- b. The disassembly operation shall be planned before actual disassembly. Possible problem areas caused by method of construction or physical condition shall be considered. A safety procedure for all disassembly should be written and reviewed.
- c. Pressurized units shall be thoroughly depressurized before beginning disassembly, if disassembly would normally cause release of the pressure or if there is a credible hazard of the pressure causing components to fly apart.
- d. If approved for use, compressed air shall be applied cautiously during disassembly operations to avoid causing components to fly apart. This may require remote operation. Use hydraulic pressure if possible.

#### 12.8.4 Personnel Protection for Disassembly Operations

- a. The operator and all other personnel shall be provided complete protection from disassembly operations involving conditions that are known or expected to require the use of abnormal force. This requires either remote operation or the use of an operational shield. The shielding shall be designed to protect personnel at any other operation or location from blast and missiles arising from a possible explosion.
- b. When disassembly is required to be performed with the operator protected by an operational shield, disassembly shall be defined as complete separation (threads or other connections) of component parts. For example, parts shall

not be loosened while the operator is properly protected and then separated without the same protection.

## 12.9 Inspection

This section deals with the following types of explosives inspection operations: (1) inspection of incoming explosives raw materials and pressed explosives billets for foreign bodies or cracks that could cause operating or safety problems in processing operations; and (2) measurement of physical parameters of explosives pieces and assemblies.

- a. To enhance the safety of process operations, positive steps shall be taken to ensure that explosives used are properly identified and that foreign material is kept from entering the operation via the explosives raw materials or via materials in process (i.e., pressed explosives billets). Some of the means by which this can be accomplished include:
  - C screening,
  - C visual inspection,
  - C magnetic separation,
  - C radiographic inspection, and
  - C chemical analysis.
- b. In the design and operation of explosives inspection equipment, the following principles shall be followed.
  - (1) Pinch points shall be eliminated or steps taken to preclude explosives contamination of pinch points.
  - (2) Threaded fasteners or threads of measuring equipment shall be protected from explosives contamination. Care shall be taken to prevent any parts of the measuring or handling equipment from becoming loose and getting into the explosives.
  - (3) Where inspection fixtures are used, they shall be designed to hold the explosives piece or assembly securely to prevent toppling, rolling, or dropping

during measurement operations. This is especially critical if the explosives assembly is in motion (i.e., spinning, vibrating, etc.) during measurement.

## 12.10 Synthesis

Synthesis and other chemical processing of new explosives compounds are ongoing activities at DOE weapons facilities. Synthesis operations are conducted both on laboratory and pilot scales, and new operations and materials will be approved by the Explosives Development Committee (EDC) (see Chapter VIII). In the laboratory, the new material will initially be prepared on a small scale and characterized as to sensitivity, physical, and explosive properties. Also, the laboratory will develop processing techniques for the material. If the explosive is of continuing interest as a result of the laboratory studies, it may be advanced to the Pilot Plant where processing techniques will be refined and scaled up. The Pilot Plant will produce sufficient material for larger-scale physical, explosive, and sensitivity characterizations.

### 12.10.1 Laboratory-Scale Synthesis

- a. Before initiation of work, the professional staff member who is directing or conducting the synthesis work shall analyze each experiment involving explosives or potential explosives for type and magnitude of hazards. This staff member shall be responsible for planning the proper selection of conditions, quantity of explosives, and safety devices to be employed.
- b. Experiments should be designed to minimize the amounts of explosives involved and to use the mildest conditions that will yield the desired information.
- c. New explosives materials shall be afforded extra protection against impact, pinching, friction, pressure, sparks, contamination, and deterioration. If it is necessary to subject explosives to any of these conditions, the operation

shall be conducted remotely or adequate personnel shielding shall be provided.

#### 12.10.2 Pilot- or Processing-Scale Synthesis

- a. When operations are conducted using flammable or toxic liquids or gases, local ventilation shall be provided to preclude the formation of hazardous vapor concentrations in the work area.
- b. Alarms should be provided for coolant flow to the reactor, for reaction vessel agitation, and for reactor temperature. These alarms should be energized whenever coolant supply or agitation is critical to prevent a runaway reaction. Also, if agitation is critical, the reactor should be equipped with at least two sources of power to maintain agitation in the event of failure. For example, a reactor might employ an air or inert gas bubble tube as a backup for a mechanical agitator.
- c. The reaction vessel should be equipped with an emergency system. Upon activation, it will automatically cool the vessel or open or close a vessel dump valve as required by the process.
- d. The building exhaust ventilation system shall be operating during all synthesis operations involving flammable liquids.
- e. An alarm or monitor should be provided for the critical exhaust ventilation system to warn operating personnel if air flow rates drop below a predetermined level.
- f. Emergency plans shall be established for the synthesis area, specifying action to be taken in the event an alarm sounds.
- g. Before operating, all equipment shall be set up and checked for proper function. Any new equipment, or equipment that is not used frequently, shall be tested in a "dry run" before being used with any hazardous material.

- h. All explosives synthesis process equipment shall be inspected and maintained on a routine basis. Equipment found to have any defects that could affect safe operations shall be tagged to prevent its use until repairs are completed.
- i. Before any process operation is started, the transfer lines to be used should be properly labeled and their function specified in the operating procedure.
- j. Transfer hoses and portable equipment not involved in the process shall be removed from the work area and stored in their proper places.
- k. All control valves shall be correctly identified according to function.
- l. Safety equipment and clothing shall be worn as defined in the individual operating procedures.
- m. Agitator blades on reactors and mixers shall be inspected for proper clearance at regular intervals. This is to ensure that there are no pinch points or metal-to-metal contact. The inspection schedule shall be set up and approved by local facility management.
- n. Explosives warning signs shall be conspicuously displayed on any processing vessel in which explosive materials are to be left overnight.
- o. Any vessel that can be sealed and that can operate above atmospheric pressure shall be equipped with overpressure protection.
- p. All closed vessels should be purged with inert gas before introducing flammable liquids.
- q. Inert gas pressure should be used for transferring flammable liquids when gravity flow or pumping are not practical.

## 12.11 Formulation

Formulation operations considered in this section are those involving the combining of compounds or mixtures when one or more of the ingredients being combined is an explosive. This combining of ingredients is commonly accomplished at DOE explosives-handling facilities to obtain some desired physical property, combination of properties, or reaction parameter(s).

### 12.11.1 General

- a. Explosives may be loaded as a contact operation (operator attended) into mixers, mills, and deaerators. However, the starting, operating, and stopping of such equipment with explosives present shall be accomplished remotely. Exception: mixing-type operations involving a low energy transfer may be allowed as a contact operation. Examples: slurry coating and melt agitation.
- b. Equipment used for explosives formulation shall be checked for proper operation before adding explosives. In particular, equipment shall be examined for proper clearances and for metal-to-metal rubbing of moving parts potentially contacting explosives. Bearings should be sealed to preclude contamination with explosives.
- c. Fast-action deluge systems shall be considered for equipment (e.g., mixers, mills, and deaerators) used for easily ignitable explosives formulations.
- d. Hot or cold water or steam can be applied to mixers and mills, but heating fluid temperatures shall not exceed known safe operating temperatures for the particular explosive(s) involved. In the case of roll milling, allowance shall also be made for viscous shear heating of the explosives during working. Heated systems shall comply with the requirements of paragraphs 12.1.2a and b of this chapter.

### 12.11.2 Mixing

- a. Mixer seals and gaskets shall be checked on a regular schedule and cleaned or replaced as required.
- b. Checks should be made to ensure that maximum particle sizes of ingredients or hard agglomerates of proposed mixes are less than the blade-to-blade or blade-to-bowl clearances.
- c. Initial cleaning with solvents used for dissolving or suspending the explosives residues shall be done remotely (other than melt-mix or slurry coating vessels).
- d. Explosive powders and plastic-bonded explosives formulations may be mixed wet in a contact operation. This can be accomplished if the wet mixture cannot be initiated with energy sources available and if the viscosity is kept low and the possibility of isolated portions of the mix becoming dry is precluded.

#### 12.11.3 Ball or Jar Milling

- a. Balls that are porous or contain cavities shall not be permitted in mills for grinding explosives.
- b. Grinding media contaminated with explosives slurry shall be protected from excessive impact during emptying of the mill.
- c. After grinding, a careful inspection shall be made to ensure that the explosive is free of grinding media. Dispose of any explosives contaminated with broken media.
- d. After separation of the explosive, the grinding media shall be thoroughly cleaned and inspected before reuse or disposal.

#### 12.11.4 Roll Milling

- a. Positive stops should be installed on roll mills to prevent rolls from rubbing each other.



- b. Before a milling operation is started on a roll mill, the contact of the scraper blade with the roll should be adjusted to the minimum pressure necessary to perform the operation.
- c. Roll gaps should be set as wide as possible while still allowing adequate working of the material. Minimum gap setting shall be 0.1 mm.
- d. Roll rpm should be held at the minimum required to process the material adequately.
- e. All roll mills that may be contact operated (e.g., with nonexplosive materials) shall be equipped with emergency stop devices (breaker bar, chain) within easy reach of the operator.

#### 12.12 Concurrent Contact Operations

Arranging explosives operations so that each operation is performed in a separate location to preclude any adverse operation interaction is preferred. Since such an arrangement is frequently impractical, concurrent operations may be permitted if the following conditions exist.

- a. Potential equipment-operator interactions between the two operations have been analyzed and the risk is not appreciably greater than that for both operations considered separately.
- b. Explosive materials in either operation are not exposed to stress conditions such as elevated temperature (melting or heat conditioning), elevated pressures (pressing or extruding), or deformation/shear (machining or cutting).
- c. Mixing of materials in the concurrent operations will not create compatibility problems.

- d. Each operator is aware at all times of concurrent operations in his or her area.

#### 12.13 Contamination Prevention

- a. When two or more incompatible explosives or materials are handled on a line or within a building or room, precautions shall be taken to avoid mutual contamination. This includes vacuum systems and explosives scrap collection. Inadvertent mixing of incompatible explosives materials can be hazardous not only to manufacturing facilities and personnel but also to the user if such materials are loaded into explosives devices.
- b. When two or more explosives are used in a line or within a building and mixing is not intended, the materials shall be segregated in separate locations. The containers shall be clearly marked with the weight and contents identification. Care shall be exercised to properly segregate material in service magazines as well as in operating buildings.
- c. When a different explosive is to be used in process equipment, the equipment shall be thoroughly cleaned, and excess explosive from the previous job should be removed from the bay. This eliminates the hazards caused by mixing materials.
- d. In any explosives operation, all permanent service lines shall be labeled as to contents. All valves and switches on service lines whose operation can result in a hazardous situation shall be labeled as to function.

#### 12.14 Hand-Cutting and Finishing Operations

Hand-cutting and finishing may include cutting, trimming, coring, and lapping (surface polishing) explosive materials. Hand operations shall be performed using the mildest energy input that will accomplish the task safely and efficiently. The safety of hand-cutting and finishing operations shall be reviewed by the

facility's EDC, approved and incorporated into an operating procedure prior to performing the operation.

#### 12.15 Use of Low-Pressure Fluids

Low-pressure fluids (liquid pressure less than 1,500 psig) may be handled as in a contact operation to aid in explosives dissolution, rinsing, system flushing and similar operations under the following conditions:

- a. The fluid system shall have a pressure relief device installed to prevent the system from being over pressurized.
- b. Low-pressure fluid operations may be used with those explosives that have impact sensitivity properties less sensitive than PETN. Such operations may be used on other explosives only after analysis of the energies involved.
- c. Solvents must be compatible with the explosive material. Controls for their use must be specified in operating procedures.
- d. See paragraph 12.4.2e of this chapter for use of pressures above 1,500 psig.

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## 13.0 TESTING

### 13.1 General

This section covers the following types of testing operations.

- a. Explosives test shots, gun firings (both small arms and large caliber), and environmental, physical-property, and sensitivity testing of explosives specimens.
- b. Explosives-related experiments or tests for which the explosive material is used to provide desired results such as a seismic yield, overpressure effects, pulse energy, or other special applications.

### 13.2 Test Planning

#### 13.2.1 Hazards Analysis

- a. Every proposed testing program shall be examined for all foreseeable hazards involved in the test. This shall be done with a knowledge of the construction and operation of all standard and nonstandard equipment to be used, as well as the type of explosives involved.
- b. Those tests that are unique in their application or pose obvious hazards shall adhere to the requirements contained in Chapter VII, Section 2.1.
- c. In the case of large-scale tests that have the potential for propelling missiles off Government land, a formal risk analysis of worst-case conditions for each different test type shall be performed. Such analysis shall address both the probability of a hazard occurring and the potential severity of the hazard with respect to injury and property damage.

### 13.2.2 Firing Areas

- a. A secured firing area (danger zone) shall be established for each test to ensure that personnel are not exposed to hazardous blast overpressure, firebrands, fragments, or projectiles from an explosives shot or gun firing.
- b. Firing areas shall be selected for their suitability to conform to the requirements of DoD 6055.9-STD, DoD Ammunition and Explosives Safety Standards.
- c. Firing areas shall be selected so as to not adversely affect the environment or have a potential to cause secondary fires.

### 13.3 Test Firing

#### 13.3.1 General Range Standards

Procedures shall be established at each DOE explosives test site to ensure that no site personnel or transients are exposed to firebrands, fragments, or excessive blast overpressure from a test shot. In establishing these procedures, the following guidelines shall be considered.

- a. Personnel access to each test site shall be controlled during actual testing operations. If unattended roadblocks, gates, or doors are used to prevent personnel from entering the danger zone during a test, they should be interlocked or locked with specially controlled keys.
- b. All firing site personnel and visitors shall be accounted for and in a safe place before test firing.
- c. A visual inspection of the danger zone shall be performed immediately before each test shot or series of shots as applicable, to ensure that no transients are present.

- d. The danger zone shall be free of service personnel (such as telephone repairmen, surveyors, road maintenance crews, etc.) during test operations. The control point shall notify service personnel of the specific requirements under which they may safely work when testing is not in progress. In addition, the control point shall notify firing site personnel of the presence and location of service personnel in their areas.
- e. Clearance for a test or test series shall be coordinated with all test sites and other potentially affected areas. A warning shall be provided to every affected area immediately before each firing.
- f. Detonation of very large explosive shots, numerous smaller shots, or gun firings may result in hearing damage and may exceed the DOE allowable limits for impulse noise. Perform a noise evaluation of these activities to ensure that adequate hearing protection is provided to those involved.
- g. During test operations, all personnel assigned to the test area shall be continuously alert for movement of personnel, vehicles, and aircraft.
- h. Test firings often create hazardous conditions for aircraft operating in the airspace near the danger zone. If this airspace is periodically subject to air traffic, precautions shall be taken to ensure that the airspace will be clear of traffic at the time of firing.
- i. Each firing site shall establish personnel limits based on the number of people actually needed to conduct an operation and the number of transients that should be present. These personnel limits shall be enforced by the responsible person at the firing site.
- j. Testing of explosives can result in personnel exposure to toxic decomposition products such as carbon monoxide, hydrogen chloride, hydrogen fluoride, hydrogen cyanide, and

nitrogen oxides. It is good practice to allow the detonation cloud to disperse before leaving protective bunkers. Fragment-danger-zone distances are normally adequate to allow cloud dispersal and protect outside personnel from excessive exposure.

- k. If the nature of a proposed test is such that hazardous conditions of abnormally long duration may exist following the test, the procedure shall require a suitable waiting period before personnel leave their shelter or safe haven area.

### 13.3.2 Test Setup

In setting up a test, all work should be done that can be done before receipt of the explosives. Such work includes the following items.

- a. All firing site safety devices shall be checked at regular intervals. Such safety devices include warning lights, door and gate firing circuit interlocks, emergency firing circuit cutoff switches, grounding, etc. (including those that are remote from the firing bunker).
- b. All firing pad and shot stand setup work that requires power tools or other potential spark-producing devices should be completed. The firing pad shall be cleared of all unnecessary gear. Special precautions and procedures will be developed and implemented if power tools or other spark-producing devices are needed after the explosive has been received at the firing pad.
- c. If a special structure is required, as much work as possible should be accomplished on the structure, including assembly of all materials.
- d. When possible, all diagnostic equipment shall be set up, checked, and dry runs performed.



### 13.3.3 Pin Switches and Other Noninitiating Circuits

Whenever pin switches and other noninitiating circuits are to be checked (such as for charging current or leakage) and are in contact with or close proximity to explosives, the check should be performed remotely. Other noninitiating electrical circuits include strain gauges, pressure transducers, thermocouples, etc., that may be affixed to or close to the explosives within an assembly. If a continuity-only (resistance) check is desired, this may be accomplished as a contact operation with an electrical instrument approved for use with the particular explosive device. When low-firing-current actuators are involved, it may be advisable to conduct these tests remotely (see paragraph 13.8 of this chapter).

### 13.3.4 Lightning Storms

All operations in open, test-firing areas shall be discontinued during lightning storms when explosives are present. Completion of a test after receipt of a lightning alert may be allowed only if test preparation has progressed to the extent that discontinuance of testing would represent a greater personnel exposure than completion of testing.

### 13.3.5 Low-Energy Electroexplosive Devices

When using hot-wire or low-energy electroexplosive devices (EEDs) for a test firing, apply the following requirements.

- a. Procedures shall be established to ensure that RF, FM, and television transmitters that have sufficient output energy to initiate an EED at the test site are either restricted to a safe distance from the site or not operated. Tables 11-1, 11-2, and 11-3 specify minimum safe distances for the various types of transmitters at several output power

Table 11-1. Minimum safe distances between RF transmitters and electric blasting operations.

Transmitter power (watts)	Transmitter power (watts)	Minimum safe distances (feet)				
		MF <sup>a</sup> Commercial broadcast	HF <sup>a</sup> AM transmitters	VHF(1) <sup>a</sup> HF transmitters	VHF(2) <sup>a</sup> transmitters other than AM broadcast	UHF <sup>a</sup>
100	5 <sup>b</sup>	---	---	---	---	---
500	10	750	40	100	40	750
1,000	50	750	90	220	90	1,700
4,000	100	750	125	310	130	2,400
5,000	180 <sup>c</sup>	---	---	---	---	---
10,000	250	750	200	490	205	4,800
25,000	500 <sup>d</sup>	850	---	---	209	5,500
50,000	600 <sup>e</sup>	1,300	300	760	315	7,600
100,000	1,000 <sup>f</sup>	2,000	400	980	410	12,000
250,000	10,000 <sup>g</sup>	2,800	1,200	---	1,300	17,000
MF	1.6 to 3.4 MHz		Industrial			
HF	28 to 29.7 MHz	3,900	Amateur		24,000	
VHF(1)	35 to 44 MHz	8,800	Public use		55,000	
VHF(2)	50 to 54 MHz		Amateur			
UHF	144 to 148 MHz		Amateur			
UHF	150.8 to 161.6 MHz	Public use				
UHF	450 to 460 MHz	Public use				

<sup>b</sup> Citizens band radio (walkie-talkie), 26.96 to 27.23 MHz and cellular telephones, 3 watts power, 825 to 845 MHz; minimum safe distance; 5 ft.  
<sup>c</sup> Maximum power for 2-way mobile units in VHF, 150.8- to 161.6-MHz range, and for 2-way mobile and fixed-station units in UHF, 450- to 460-MHz range.  
<sup>d</sup> Maximum power for major VHF 2-way mobile and fixed-station units in 35- to 44-MHz range.  
<sup>e</sup> Maximum power for 2-way fixed-station units in VHF, 150.8- to 161.6-MHz range.  
<sup>f</sup> Maximum power for amateur radio mobile units.  
<sup>g</sup> Broadcast Frequency Range  
 (0.535 to 1.605 MHz).  
<sup>h</sup> Present maximum for International Broadcast.

Table 11-2. Minimum safe distances between TV and FM broadcasting transmitters and electric blasting operations.

Effective radiative power (watts)	Minimum safe distances (feet)		
	Channels 2-6 & FM	Channels 7-13	UHF

Levels.

- b. Blasting caps and other low-firing-current igniters or detonators shall be kept separate from explosives at all times, except during actual test charge assembly and setup.
- c. The entire wiring system of the explosive charge and of any low-firing-current initiators shall be kept insulated at all times from every possible source of extraneous current except for weapon components that have an exposed electrical ground by design. Connections that are made using weapon wiring connectors and/or cables are acceptable without further modification. Shunts shall be left on all low-energy initiators or lead wires until actual connections are to be made. Connections shall be taped or otherwise insulated.
- d. Test units containing low-firing-current actuators or detonators shall be clearly marked. No contact operations involving electrical testing shall be permitted on this type of unit unless an electrical meter for the specific application is used.

### 13.3.6 Explosives Storage in Firing Areas

- a. Explosives or ammunition storage at a firing area shall be located such that ignition or detonation is improbable in case of a fire or unplanned detonation in the area.
- b. Those tests that require explosives or ammunition to be stored at the firing site beyond a day's event shall conform to the requirements of Section 17 of this chapter.

### 13.3.7 Warning Signals

Each DOE explosives testing facility shall use standard audible signals to warn personnel of any impending firing in a test area. Signals shall be established by each facility and approved by facility management.

### 13.3.8 Grass Fires

Evaluation shall be made before a test shot outside firing pads to determine the necessity to control any grass fires that may be initiated by the test.

### 13.3.9 Firing Leads

All detonator lead wires shall be electrically insulated. Firing leads or cables of low-energy detonators for explosive assemblies shall be kept properly shorted during setup on the firing point.

### 13.3.10 Unattended Test Assemblies

If necessary, a test assembly may be left unattended on the firing pad during off-shift hours under the following minimum conditions.

- a. If explosives are present, appropriate safety warning signs shall be displayed at all entrances to the firing pad.
- b. Protective services and fire department personnel shall be notified of the explosives location. This location must be in a controlled-access or secured area.
- c. If low-energy detonators are present on the assembly, their leads or cables shall be shorted.

#### 13.3.11 Postfiring Controls

- a. If the firing appears to be normal, a suitable waiting period shall be observed before test personnel leave the protective shelter. The waiting period shall be sufficient to ensure adequate dissipation of smoke and dust and shall be specified by the facility or test procedure. In some cases, it may be helpful to develop and analyze the diagnostic film for misfires.
- b. During the waiting period, all power to the firing units shall be turned off or disconnected. Whenever possible, detonator cables should be disconnected from the firing units, shunted, and grounded, and the firing unit capacitor grounded.
- c. After the waiting period, one qualified operator or technician shall inspect the firing pad in person or by remote television to determine the results of the shot before other personnel leave the shelter.
- d. If the inspecting operator is certain safe conditions exist, the lead operator shall signal "all clear."

- e. After any test misfire, suspected misfire, or partial detonation, the firing area shall be inspected for unreacted explosives after the minimum waiting period (see Section 13.7 of this chapter).
- f. Recovered explosives from a test shot shall be considered as potentially contaminated and/or partially reacted material and stored in Group L storage facilities (see Section 17.4 of this chapter) or stored separately pending disposition.

### 13.3.12 Contamination of Firing Areas

Most test firing areas are subject to explosives contamination due to incomplete detonations or to detonation failures when the explosives are subjected to varying forms of energy input. Most, but not all, of this contamination will be cleaned up in the postshot inspection of the test sites. The following steps shall be taken to reduce the hazards from residual explosives contamination.

- a. The contamination zone for each firing area shall be established and permanently annotated on facility site plans.
- b. Personnel access to explosives-contaminated areas shall be controlled.
- c. Service personnel shall not work in the area without the permission of testing-area management and only when supervised by a person approved by management.

### 13.3.13 Test Range Firing Circuit Criteria

The following criteria are guidelines for the design of electrical circuits that are used to arm and initiate squibs, igniters, detonators, and similar electroexplosive devices (EEDs) during test firing activities.

- a. The fire control circuit shall include both an ARM switch and a FIRE switch. In the case of low-firing-current initiators, the safe mode of the arming circuit should not only interrupt the firing circuit, but also short-circuit and ground the EED terminals. Manual shorting and grounding is permitted.
- b. Every electrical ARM and FIRE circuit on a test range shall include an interlock device consisting of a safety plug or a key-operated switch to prevent inadvertent energization.
- c. The safety plug design and configuration shall be unique for its application and use to prevent unauthorized or accidental activation of a firing circuit. Key-operated switches for ARM and FIRE circuits shall be designed to lock in the safe (off) position when the control key is removed. Duplicate keys or safety plugs shall not be permitted in any one test area.
- d. During shot-preparation operations, the key or safety plug for a firing site shall be in the control of the lead operator at all times.
- e. All FIRE control circuits in test operation areas shall be properly documented for operational control purposes. Documentation shall include complete wiring diagrams, electrical schematics, and cable function lists. All changes or modifications to FIRE control circuits shall be reviewed for safety and approved by other appropriate departments before being incorporated into the circuits.
- f. Each FIRE control circuit shall be adequately isolated from all other circuits. A shielded, twisted pair of wires with an outer insulating jacket or coaxial cable should be employed for each circuit.

- g. All programmers (sequential timers) used in firing circuits shall be "fail-safe." That is, failure of a component or circuit must not energize the firing circuit.
- h. Test current from the electrical instruments used to perform resistance checks shall not exceed 10% of the no-fire rating of the EED in the circuit.
- i. Firing circuits shall be clearly marked or otherwise identified in a distinctive manner, and shall be installed so as to prevent their inadvertent energization by other circuits.

#### 13.4 Test Firing in Tanks or Chambers

Small quantities of explosives may be detonated in cubicles or in pressure vessels. The following requirements apply to such vessels.

- a. The firing vessel and flanges shall be capable of withstanding and confining the effects of the explosion and properly safeguarding personnel.
- b. The firing circuit should be interlocked with the vessel access door latch in such a manner that the door must be closed and latched before the explosive can be fired.
- c. Inspections of the vessel by qualified engineering personnel shall be made periodically to ensure that structural integrity is maintained after repeated detonations.
- d. Test firing is often conducted inside large containment vessels that allow personnel entry but provide a confined working space and limited egress. The requirements for ventilating and evaluating the atmosphere of the tank or chamber before personnel entry must be included in the SOP.

#### 13.5 Gun Firings



- a. No work, adjustment, or observation shall be permitted on any gun while a live round is in the firing chamber. The only exception is to check azimuth and elevation.
- b. Precautions shall be taken to protect against errors in assembly or preparation of equipment and ammunition that may create hazards to personnel or equipment. In particular, the following areas shall be checked.
  - C Adequate filling of hydraulic recoil mechanisms.
  - C Safe function of the firing mechanism. (Firing mechanisms shall be tested before use, particularly in the case of electric firing mechanisms, to ensure that mere insertion of the round or closing of the breech will not result in firing.)
  - C Absence of obstructions in the bore.
- c. With the exception of manually fired small arms, test weapons should be equipped for remote control of the safety and for remote cocking. The safety shall not be advanced to the fire position and the weapon shall not be cocked until all personnel are in a safe location.
- d. Guns used to fire projectiles at explosives targets shall meet the following criteria.
  - (1) The gun shall be rigidly mounted in such a way that the impact area is defined and controlled.
  - (2) The target shall have an adequate backstop.
  - (3) Provision should be made for remotely moving the gun, remotely removing the propelling charge, or removing the explosives from the line of fire in the event of a gun misfire.

- (4) Provisions shall be made for the collection and removal of undetonated explosives from the chamber or area.
- e. When hydrogen gas is used in the firing of a light gas gun, the operation shall be remote while hydrogen is present in the gun pressure tanks or in the gun barrel and catch tank after firing. The hydrogen shall be purged from the entire system with inert gas and the atmosphere checked before personnel are allowed to reenter the gun bay.

### 13.6 Ballistic, Environmental, Physical Property, and Sensitivity Testing

#### 13.6.1 Checkout of Dynamic Engineering Test Equipment for Explosive Assemblies

- a. To minimize the possibility of an incident during dynamic testing of explosive assemblies, load-bearing members of the test equipment or the explosive assembly should be proof-tested and examined if:
  - (1) the test equipment is new or has undergone a design modification;
  - (2) existing test equipment is to be used under unusually severe test conditions (i.e., conditions of velocity, vibration, pressure, load, etc.); or
  - (3) a new or modified explosive assembly that affects the loading characteristics of the equipment is to be tested.
- b. Proof-testing of the explosive assembly or test equipment should be conducted before running tests involving actual systems with explosives.

- c. As a minimum, proof-testing should consist of the following sequence of checkouts.
  - (1) Check out load-bearing members (i.e., lifting devices, hold-down mechanisms, fixtures, vehicle cases) to at least 125% of rated load using simulated loads (see Section 14.4 of this chapter).
  - (2) "Dry run" tests of actual systems with mock materials in place of explosives and hazardous radioactive materials.
- d. In the event of a part failure in either of the two checkout tests given above, no tests involving explosives or radioactive material shall be run until additional checkout tests have demonstrated that the failure cause has been eliminated.

#### 13.6.2 Testing of Explosives and Hazardous Radioactive Materials

Explosives and hazardous radioactive materials (i.e., plutonium, enriched uranium, etc.-depleted uranium and natural thorium are not considered hazardous radioactive materials for this purpose) shall not be included in the same test or operation if the test or operation is not contained and involves:

- a. Application of high-energy stimuli (i.e., high shock, impact, or friction levels) to the explosive.
- b. Heating the explosive to within 10EC of the heating limit determined for the explosive system without hazardous radioactive materials consistent with paragraph 12.1.1d of this chapter.
- c. Intimate contact of incompatible material with the explosive as determined by compatibility testing.

- d. Unacceptably high risk of accidental application of stimuli listed in (a), (b), or (c) above.

### 13.6.3 Heating of Explosives Test Specimens

- a. Heating of an explosive shall be preceded by a thermal analysis and preparation of a written procedure consistent with paragraph 12.1.1 of this chapter. See paragraph 12.1.2 of this chapter for requirements on heating equipment.
- b. Contact operations on explosives specimens undergoing thermal conditioning may be permitted if (1) the specimen will not be subjected to excessive friction, impact, or spark stimuli during normal operations or during a credible accident scenario and (2) the explosive involved has satisfied appropriate scale-up sensitivity and stability criteria (see Chapter VIII) and has sufficient handling history to reveal any special characteristics affecting its safe use.
- c. If an explosives test specimen in a contact operation is discovered to have exceeded the established heating limit for the explosive system, the test shall be terminated and the specimen cooled to ambient temperature. A procedure should be prepared and approved for the required corrective action (i.e., disassembly or disposal).

### 13.6.4 Instrumentation

- a. Instrumentation directly applied to explosives in a test specimen shall be physically disconnected, isolated, or grounded before personnel may enter the test cell. Only those instrumentation channels that contain devices that limit the current below the level capable of initiating the explosive are exempt.

- b. Environmental control transducer leads, not attached to the test specimen and permanently installed in an approved control system, do not need to be grounded or disconnected.

#### 13.6.5 Explosives Limits

Explosives specimens shall not be permitted to accumulate in a test cell beyond the number required to sustain the test. For short-term testing (less than 1 day), specimens present shall not exceed a 4-hour supply.

#### 13.6.6 Drop Testing

After an explosives drop test, personnel shall wait a minimum of 5 minutes before leaving the control bunker to inspect the test pad. If smoke or flame is observed at the drop test area, entry shall not be permitted until at least 30 minutes after all visual signs have disappeared.

### 13.7 Test Failures and Misfires

#### 13.7.1 Explosives Misfire

- a. If no audible detonation is heard after once pulsing the firing circuit, the firing circuitry and detonator(s) may be checked for continuity. This checking shall be accomplished from within the control bunker or from a protected location. If the firing circuits and detonator(s) appear operative, one or more attempts to fire may be made.
- b. If the shot still does not fire, the following precautions shall be taken:
  - (1) Disconnect and deenergize all electrical power sources connected to the shot.

- (2) Ensure that all personnel in the danger zone are aware that a misfire has occurred and that they must remain under cover until notified otherwise.
- (3) Before any personnel are permitted to leave the cover of the bunker, a preestablished waiting period shall be observed. It is advisable in most situations to establish this waiting period at 30 minutes minimum.
- (4) A carefully prepared review of the situation, in consultation with another knowledgeable person, should be initiated.
- (5) Before other personnel are permitted to leave cover of the bunker and after an agreement has been reached, one qualified person should carefully approach and examine the setup to verify that it is safe.

#### 13.7.2 Misfire of a Remotely Fired Gun

- a. When a misfire occurs, several more attempts to fire the gun may be made. If these subsequent attempts are also unsuccessful, the following precautions should be taken.
  - (1) Disconnect all electrical circuitry to the gun to ensure that the firing system cannot be energized.
  - (2) If the gun is light-gas driven, ensure that it is in a safe condition by venting all pressure in the gun breech before approaching the gun. To reduce the risk of a gas explosion in the case where the driving gas is flammable, the gun breech shall be purged with inert gas after venting.
  - (3) An appropriate waiting period shall be observed before approach to the gun is permitted. In no case shall the waiting period be less than 10 minutes.

- (4) If there is any indication that powder is burning when the gun is approached, personnel shall return to a safe area and observe an additional waiting period of at least 20 minutes.
  - (5) The gun shall not be approached within the known recoil distance behind the breech or from the front. Approach to and work on the gun shall be from the sides.
  - (6) If the gun is a separate loading type (i.e., propellant charge is loaded separate from projectiles), the propellant igniter shall be disconnected from the firing mechanism and removed from the gun before any other gun operations.
  - (7) If possible, the powder chamber of the gun shall be checked for the presence of pressure and vented to the atmosphere before opening the chamber.
- b. If an unforeseen failure situation arises (e.g., the explosive projectile is stuck in the bore), an emergency procedure shall be prepared and followed to resolve the situation.

### 13.8 Electrical Instruments for Use with Explosives Systems (except those covered by DOE O 5610.11, NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVE SAFETY)

#### 13.8.1 Classification

Test instruments shall be assigned to categories on the basis of electrical characteristics that affect their safe use with explosives systems. Specifically, the instrument categories shall be established so that each category can be safely applied to one or more of the following classes of explosives systems: (a) low-energy or hot-wire initiators (blasting caps, actuators, squibs, etc.); (b) high-energy initiators (exploding bridgewires, slappers, etc.); and (c) noninitiating electrical circuits.

Test instruments that do not meet the safety criteria may only be used on an explosive system if the activity is considered a remote operation and adequate personnel shielding or separation distance is provided.

### 13.8.2 Certification

- a. Each DOE facility engaged in the use of electrical test instruments on explosives systems shall establish a formal system for the purpose of reviewing and certifying these instruments. Procedures for marking instruments to show their approved use and restrictions on their use should also be established.
- b. Every individual test instrument designated for use on explosives systems shall be certified and prominently labeled with its approved use and with a warning if there is a restriction on its use.
- c. Inspection and calibration of certified instruments shall be required at prescribed intervals or whenever the instrument is opened for servicing or repair. Access to internal circuitry of certified instruments shall be controlled to prevent unauthorized repairs, maintenance, or alteration.
- d. Records of all instrument types certified shall be maintained by each DOE facility using electrical instruments to test explosives systems. These records should include type, manufacturer, model, electrical specifications, wiring diagrams, and failure mode analyses. The Explosives Safety Committee chairperson shall be notified in writing by DOE facilities when they approve new electrical instruments for use with initiating systems. The chairperson shall disseminate this information to all committee members.

### 13.8.3 Electrical Instruments for Use with Initiating Electrical Circuits



Instruments in this category are used with electrical initiation circuits connected to electroexplosive devices (EEDs). Instruments may be further categorized for use with either low-energy initiators or high-energy initiators. All test instruments used for this purpose shall be current-limited. Before being used on initiating circuits, every individual instrument wiring diagram and internal circuitry design shall be analyzed, examined, and certified for the following.

- a. The output current through a resistance, equivalent to that of the minimum resistance initiator of the class, should not exceed 1% and shall not exceed 10% of the no-fire rating for the most sensitive initiator of the class. The current-limiting features of the test instrument shall be internal to the instrument and shall not depend on test circuit load characteristics.
- b. The internal circuitry shall ensure isolation features that require, as a minimum, two independent failure modes before the specified output current can be exceeded.
- c. A comprehensive (point-to-point, if possible) wiring check should be made to ensure that the wiring corresponds to the diagram and that all components are functioning properly and within specifications.

#### 13.8.4 Electrical Instruments for Use with Noninitiating Electrical Circuits

Instruments in this category are used with electrical circuits connected to strain gauges, pin switches, pressure transducers, thermocouples, electrical components, etc., that are affixed to or within an assembly with explosives. These instruments shall meet the following requirements.

- a. Each specific use of the instrument shall be analyzed to ensure that there is no credible scenario whereby the normal

test energy from the instrument can ignite explosives charges or initiators in the test. Guidance on operational requirements is contained in paragraphs 13.3.3 and 13.6.4 of this chapter.

- | b. When an instrument is used to make measurements on sensors directly applied to explosives (e.g., bonded strain gauges or pin switches), the instrument shall be certified and have met the requirements of paragraph 13.8.3.
  
- c. Instruments used with noninitiating electrical circuits shall be prominently marked with the restrictions on use. Many of these instruments do not meet the requirements for use with initiating systems and must be marked to prevent their use on this type of circuit.

## 14.0 MATERIALS HANDLING

### 14.1 General

- a. The distance that explosive materials can fall, if accidentally dropped during handling, shall be maintained at a minimum.
- b. Hard surfaces and edges of equipment that could be struck by accidentally dropped, consolidated explosives should be padded with cushioning mats or coverings whenever possible and needed. (Protective padding includes both sheet material on work surfaces and on equipment and approved floor coverings.)
- c. Explosives handling shall be permitted only where handling areas are free of obstructions and where the walkway surfaces provide positive footing with no slipping or tripping hazards (e.g., explosives shall not be handled on walkways coated with snow or ice).
- d. Explosives and materials that are not compatible shall not be handled together.
- e. Detonators, actuators, EEDs, and other items that would normally be shipped as Hazard Class/Division 1.4 explosives, should be kept in nonpropagating trays or containers unless handled individually.
- f. Dry explosive materials that generate dust shall be transported in closed containers.
- g. Containers of explosives or explosive assemblies shall be labeled for contents identification during handling, storage, and transportation.
- h. Any explosives items that cannot be identified and labeled shall be submitted for disposal.

- i. Only those components or devices that contain no explosives may be labeled/marked "Inert" or "Dummy."

#### 14.2 Manual Handling of Bare Consolidated Explosives

- a. Manual handling shall be minimized as follows:
  - (1) One person may lift or carry up to 25 kg of explosive (if it can be securely gripped).
  - (2) Two people may lift or carry 50 kg of explosive (if manual lifting and handling tooling is provided).
  - (3) Any explosive item over 50 kg in weight or that cannot be securely gripped should not be manually handled.
- b. Explosives should not be carried up or down stairs except when in protective containers.
- c. Operations shall be arranged to minimize the handling distance in all manual explosives handling situations.

#### 14.3 Carts or Hand Trucks

- a. Explosives that cannot be manually handled shall be handled only on suitable carts or hand trucks. Carts used for bare explosives handling shall be provided with a padded surface to support the explosives. These carts shall be equipped with either a lip, sides of sufficient height, or tiedown straps to prevent the explosives from sliding or rolling off the cart. The cart-explosive load combination shall have a center of gravity low enough to prevent tipping in the event of a sudden stop caused by a wheel contacting an obstruction.
- b. Explosives handling carts or hand trucks should be provided with brakes. Carts containing explosives shall be positively secured (e.g., setting wheel brakes or chocking)

when the cart is stationary.

#### 14.4 Mechanical Handling Equipment

- a. All items of mechanical handling equipment (i.e., cranes, hoists, slings, etc.) used to lift and move explosives or assemblies containing explosives shall be initially proof-tested, periodically inspected, and maintained in first-class working condition. The DOE Hoisting and Rigging Handbook (1090-95) may be used as a guide for testing, inspection, and maintenance.
- b. Equipment for vacuum lifting of consolidated explosives must comply with the following requirements.
  - (1) The lifting equipment shall be designed so that jerks or other irregular motions in the hoisting apparatus or bumping of other equipment will not dislodge explosives from the vacuum head.
  - (2) Equipment shall be designed to monitor the available vacuum and to control loss of vacuum in the event of a power failure or vacuum-source failure.
  - (3) Any handling where a loss of vacuum would allow the explosive to drop an excessive distance shall incorporate some safety device (collar, net, strap) to prevent dropping. "Excessive distance" shall be defined as a distance greater than the minimum drop height that would cause drop-skid initiation for the explosive being handled. "Initiation" in the drop-skid test is used here to refer to any indication of sample decomposition. An alternative method of protection can be the use of a cushioning surface under and over all items that may be struck by the falling explosives.

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## 15.0 MATERIALS RECEIPT

The following guidelines shall apply to the inspection, receipt, and unloading of explosives materials.

### 15.1 Motor Vehicles

- a. Incoming motor vehicles loaded with explosives shall be carefully inspected by a competent person using an approved checklist at a designated inspection station.
  - (1) When an inspection reveals that an incoming tractor is in an unsatisfactory condition, the tractor should be disconnected from the trailer at the inspection station and moved to a position where it will not endanger any other explosives.
  - (2) When inspection reveals that a trailer or its load is in an unsatisfactory condition, the trailer shall be moved to a location that is at least inhabited-building distance for the particular material involved from inert and administration areas, hazardous locations, and the facility boundary. At this location, correction of unsatisfactory conditions shall be accomplished before moving the vehicle to its destination within the facility. When moving from the inspection station to the isolated locations, the route should be as far away as possible from built-up areas and areas where personnel concentrations are high.
  - (3) Vehicles that cannot be immediately dispatched to points where they are to be unloaded may be moved to a holding yard that shall be sited in accordance with Chapter VI, paragraph 3.2.3.
  - (4) Incoming or outgoing explosives-loaded trailers that cannot be exchanged directly between the carrier and DOE facilities may be moved to an interchange yard.

Quantity-distance provisions do not apply if the trailers are moved expeditiously.

- b. Vehicles shall not be backed up to a dock where explosives are resting and could be damaged if the dock were struck.
- c. The building doors at the receiving facility should be closed while the motor vehicle is in motion or the engine is running.
- d. Once the vehicle is in position, the engine shall be shut off, the brakes set, and the wheels chocked.
- e. After unloading, the vehicle shall be inspected for loose explosives materials, and any spilled material shall be cleaned up after the inspection. If a spill involves liquid explosives or explosives in solution, the spill shall be reported immediately to the building supervisor and appropriate cleanup procedures shall be used.

## 15.2 Railcars

Railcars containing explosives and ammunition entering a DOE facility must be inspected. This inspection comprises the examination of the outside and underside of each car for damage such as defective brakes, couplings, wheel flanges, etc.; for unauthorized and suspicious articles; and for correctness of the individual car numbers and seal numbers against bills of lading.

- a. Cars of ammunition or explosives showing a defect that could affect the facility or contents of the car should be removed to the suspect car spur for additional inspection (Chapter VI, paragraph 3.2.3b).
- b. Cars that satisfactorily pass the inspection outlined above may be considered reasonably safe, but care must be exercised in breaking car seals and opening car doors because of possible damage or shifting lading, leaking



containers, etc. Interior inspection should be accomplished after the cars have been spotted at the unloading point.

### 15.3 Damaged Shipments

- a. Explosives shipments shall be inspected for damage before storage.
- b. Contents of a damaged or broken container shall be removed to another container. Any spilled materials shall be cleaned up before continuing with loading or unloading.
- c. Any shipment received in damaged condition as a result of inadequate or improper blocking and bracing or as a result of not being loaded in accordance with appropriate DOT requirements shall not be reshipped until the damage is corrected.

## 16.0 TRANSPORTATION

### 16.1 Equipment

#### 16.1.1 General

- a. Explosives shipped on common carriers shall be packaged and shipped in accordance with DOT regulations.
- b. Explosives-containing items transported by weapons couriers in a Safe Secure Trailer (SST) or Safe Secure Railcar (SSR) are exempt from the equipment requirements given below.
- c. Security and authorized emergency vehicles carrying approved quantities of explosives in support of approved contingency plans are not considered "in transportation," as defined by 49 CFR Part 171.8.

#### 16.1.2 Motor Vehicles

- a. Motor vehicle shipments on public highways are governed by DOT regulations. All motor vehicle shipments from a DOE installation shall comply in full with the applicable portions of DOT regulations, and with state and municipal regulations, except as provided for in these regulations. Any motor vehicle that may be loaded with explosives (Hazard Class/Division 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3) and is designated for movement over public highways must be inspected and approved by a qualified inspector for compliance with an approved checklist. After loading, the loading must be inspected and approved. Driver selection, training, etc., for intraplant shipping and for operation of government-owned trucks on public highways shall be in accordance with pertinent requirements of 49 CFR, Parts 390-397.
- b. Before motor vehicles loaded with explosive materials leave a DOE facility, drivers shall be informed as to the nature

of their cargo and methods of fighting fires involving the vehicle or its cargo.

- c. Cargo-type trucks and truck-tractor drawn semi trailers are the preferred types of equipment for transporting explosives. Flat-bed semi trailers or trailers may also be used to transport large items in special containers for such movement. For transfer movement within facilities, open-body vehicles (other than flat-bed types) must have sides and tailgates or rear doors that are strong and securely fastened so that explosives are safely retained. Vehicles (including flat-bed types) partly or completely loaded shall have the lading blocked, braced, chocked, tied down, or otherwise secured to prevent shifting during transit.
- d. All DOE explosives-carrying vehicles for on-site transportation should be equipped as follows.
  - C Explosives placards plainly visible from all directions (except for vehicles transporting Hazard Class/Division 1.4 items).
  - C Tiedown bolts, rings, and straps with which to securely fasten the explosives items and which are adequate for the load.
  - C On trucks, a cargo area with no sharp projections. (Nonsparking lining is desirable when hauling explosives in transfer containers that are not DOT approved.)
  - C Chock blocks.
  - C A quick-disconnect switch on the battery if explosives are left on the vehicle overnight.
  - C Rear-view mirrors on both sides of the vehicle.

- C Two fire extinguishers with a minimum rating of 2A:10BC, one of which should be mounted outside the vehicle. Vehicles for transportation of Hazard Class/Division 1.4 explosives need just one extinguisher.
  
- e. Precautions must be taken to avoid ignition of explosives material by the exhausts of motor vehicles. When a motor vehicle approaches within 25 ft of the doors of a structure through which a shipment is to be moved, the doors must be kept closed until the motor has been turned off unless the exhaust system is equipped with a spark arrestor or no exposed explosives are present. Exposed explosives exclude finished items and explosives packaged for shipment in DOT or DOT-equivalent containers. No explosives shall be loaded into or unloaded from motor vehicles while their motors are running except when required to provide power to vehicle accessories used in loading or unloading and the vehicle exhaust is equipped with a spark arrestor.
  - (1) Security patrol and response vehicles are authorized to transport the minimum quantity of munitions needed to support approved contingency plans and to execute their security duties. Whenever possible, support munitions required for defense against hostile forces should be pre-positioned in readily accessible magazines. Security vehicles armed with a combination of up to 25 lb net explosives weight of Hazard Class/Division 1.1 and 1.2 munitions shall be exempt from explosives quantity-distance requirements when executing approved contingency plans or security duties. Vehicles so armed will not be used for administrative purposes and will be separated from inhabited facilities and property lines by a minimum of 125 ft when temporarily out of security service, and shall be downloaded into properly sited magazines or approved facilities when parked for periods in excess of 4 hours. Operation of vehicles loaded with

| explosives will be restricted to on-site locations and transported explosives must be secured within the vehicle. Smoking in explosives-loaded vehicles is prohibited. These vehicles shall be downloaded into properly sited magazines or approved facilities prior to repair or maintenance, except under emergency response conditions.

- (2) Security force personnel shall be allowed to transport on their person Hazard Class/Division 1.1 and 1.2 munitions issued to them for personal use in the execution of approved contingency plans and security duties without regard to explosives quantity-distance requirements. Appropriate safety precautions for the handling of ammunition shall be observed and the munitions shall be placed in an approved location if temporarily removed from the uniform/load-bearing equipment worn to carry such items.

### 16.1.3 Railcars

- a. A railcar must not be loaded with any Hazard Class/Division 1.1 and 1.2 explosives unless it has been thoroughly inspected by a qualified employee of the carrier who certifies that the railcar's condition conforms to DOT regulations. After a certified car has been furnished by the carrier, the shipper or an authorized employee of the shipper must, before starting to load any such car, inspect the interior thereof and, after loading, certify its proper condition. A certificate will be completed and signed where applicable. Shipments of Hazard Class/Division 1.3 explosives may be loaded in a closed car or container car in good condition (i.e., sparks cannot enter the car and the roof does not have unprotected decayed wood that constitutes a fire hazard). Wooden-floored cars must be equipped with spark shields. Such cars do not require a car certificate, but they must have a placard in accordance with DOT regulations.

- b. The railcar certificate, printed on strong tag board measuring 7 by 7 in. or 6 by 8 in., must be executed in triplicate. The original copy must be filed by the carrier in a separate file at the forwarding station, and the other two must be attached to the car, one to each outer side on a fixed placard board or as otherwise provided.

#### 16.1.4 Materials Handling Equipment

- a. Gasoline-powered materials-handling equipment (forklifts, etc.) may be used only in areas where all explosives are properly packaged and only if equipped in the following manner.
  - C Backfire deflectors shall be securely attached on the throat of the carburetor and shall be the oil-bath or screen type (certain types of air cleaners will serve the purpose).
  - C A tight-fitting cap, properly vented, shall be in place on the gasoline fill pipe at all times (except during refueling).
  - C A flame arrestor shall be installed in the fill pipe.
  - C If necessary, a deflector plate shall be installed to prevent any gasoline tank overflow from reaching the motor or the exhaust pipe.
  - C On gravity feed systems or on pump systems where siphoning might occur, a shutoff valve shall be installed at the fuel tank or in the feed line to permit shutting off the flow of gasoline in the event of an emergency or a break in the fuel line or carburetor.
  - C Provisions shall be made to prevent vibrational rupture of the fuel lines.

- b. Diesel-powered equipment may be used if all the precautions for gasoline-powered equipment (as specified above) are followed.
- c. Battery-powered equipment for handling explosive material shall comply with the criteria listed below.
  - (1) Battery-powered equipment and its use in hazardous locations shall comply with OSHA standards. All equipment shall be appropriately labeled for ready identification.
  - (2) Types E, EE, ES, and EX-rated, battery-powered equipment are satisfactory for handling all classes of properly packaged ammunition and explosives. Types EE and ES battery-powered equipment may be used for handling packaged explosives or explosive components in corridors or ramps connecting hazardous operations, provided the ramps and corridors are not Class I or II, Division 1, hazardous locations (NEC). Type EE equipment is authorized for use in Class II, Division 2, Group G hazardous locations, and Type ES equipment may be authorized on approval of facility management (see NFPA 505, Powered Industrial Trucks).
  - (3) Type EX equipment is the only equipment approved for use in specifically named Class I, Division 1, Group D or Class II, Division 1, Group G hazardous locations. At this time, EX equipment does not carry a dual rating and shall only be used in hazardous areas for which it is specifically rated.

#### 16.2 General Operation Guidelines

- a. Explosives-containing items transported by weapons couriers in SSTs or SSRs are exempt from the operation guidelines given below.

- b. Drivers shall be given special training that emphasizes caution, road courtesy, and defensive driving.
- c. The operator of an explosives-carrying vehicle shall have proper training in the general safety precautions for explosives handling.
- d. Congested areas should be avoided.
- e. Road vehicles shall stop at all railroad crossings.
- f. No personnel shall ride in the cargo area. There shall not be any loose items (e.g., handling gear) in the cargo compartment.
- g. No smoking is allowed in or within 25 ft of any vehicle containing explosives. Matches, lighters, or other fire-, flame-, or spark-producing devices shall not be in the vehicle or carried by personnel in the vehicle.
- h. The vehicle shall be subjected to regular maintenance checks.
- i. Before shipment, explosives materials being transported by commercial carrier shall be classified by testing or analogy in accordance with DOT regulations.
- j. Other than when opened for inspection, containers of explosives shall not be opened or repaired on any transportation vehicle.
- k. Except for emergency situations, fueling or maintenance of vehicles containing explosives is forbidden.
- l. Each facility shall have a special set of traffic rules governing the operation of explosives-carrying vehicles and the operation of other on-site vehicles in the vicinity of explosives-carrying vehicles.



- m. Industrial trucks shall not be used in locations where high concentrations of dusts or sublimation of explosives may result in contaminated surfaces (e.g., screening buildings, pouring bays, melt-pour units, drilling bays, consolidating bays, and explosive washout facilities).

### 16.3 Emergency Conditions

- a. Explosives should not be transported when hazardous conditions (such as storms, icy roads, or poor visibility) prevail. An emergency plan shall be prepared to provide instruction and guidelines in the event any of these conditions arises while an explosives-carrying vehicle is in transit. The plan should address the following issues:
  - C parking the vehicle;
  - C safeguarding the vehicle from other traffic;
  - C notifying appropriate authorities of the emergency situation; and
  - C leaving the vehicle unattended.
- b. A plan shall be prepared to provide for an explosives-carrying vehicle that has a mechanical breakdown. The plan shall address the following issues:
  - C removing the vehicle from the road as far as practical;
  - C posting emergency reflectors, signals, etc. (carrying flares on the vehicle is not permitted);
  - C reporting the problem;
  - C maintaining surveillance of the vehicle; and
  - C if necessary, removing the vehicle load to facilitate repair of the vehicle.

- c. If an explosives-carrying vehicle is involved in an accident, the following steps should be taken.
- (1) Inspect the load for evidence of fire.
  - (2) If there is a fire, but the explosives material is not presently nor imminently involved, attempt to prevent the fire from spreading to the load. The fire may be fought using the vehicle's fire extinguishers. If explosives items are removed from the vehicle, ensure their security.
  - (3) If there is a fire that presently or imminently involves the explosives load, evacuate all personnel to a preestablished safe distance. Block or divert other traffic from the vicinity of the accident. Evacuate any potentially affected area residents.
  - (4) Unless the explosive cargo is imminently involved in fire, direct the operator to stay with the vehicle until proper disposition of the cargo is accomplished.
  - (5) Immediately notify the fire department or fire brigade of the accident and inform them of the general type and approximate quantity of explosives involved.
  - (6) Inform proper authorities of the accident.

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## 17.0 EXPLOSIVES STORAGE

### 17.1 Storage Magazine Facilities

- a. Placard(s) shall be posted on or near each door of the magazine, specifying explosive and personnel limits and general safety precautions that should be observed during work in the magazine.
- b. Vegetation around storage magazines should be controlled to minimize potential damage to the magazine (see Chapter VI, paragraph 5.1).
- | c. At least two fire extinguishers, minimum rating 2A:10BC and winterized where necessary, should be provided and maintained for immediate use by personnel working around a magazine. These extinguishers may be permanently located in the area or available on an explosives transportation vehicle. The extinguishers are for the purpose of fighting small external fires or magazine fires where explosives are not involved.
- d. Suitably rated telephone or other forms of emergency communication equipment should be provided in magazine storage areas. All communications equipment located outdoors should be protected from the weather.
- e. Temperature Control
  - (1) In general, storage magazines should not be provided with heat. An exception shall be made in the case where heating may be necessary to prevent damage caused by sudden changes in temperature or where dimensional changes of components are undesirable.
  - (2) Magazines requiring heat should be heated with steam, hot water, or electrically heated hot water. Some magazines with tight temperature controls may require

both heating and air conditioning. Electrical systems with forced air through ducts may be allowed if the systems are located exterior to any explosive hazard.

- (3) Heating coils shall be arranged so that explosives material cannot come in contact with the coils. They shall be equipped with covers designed to prevent the storage of materials on top of the coils.
- (4) In all magazines where heat is supplied, maximum and minimum temperature monitors should be provided.

## 17.2 Storage Magazine Operations

- a. Explosives items shall be properly packaged and stored in either DOT-approved manufacturers' container/packages or in specified on-site containers (see paragraph 17.5 of this chapter).
- b. Explosives may be stored on magazine shelves, where provided. The bottom of the container should not be more than 2 m off the floor, except as permitted by paragraph 17.2c of this chapter.
- c. Explosives and explosives containers in storage shall be safely and securely positioned. If explosives containers must be stacked, they shall be placed in stable arrays.
- d. Permissible loading of all shelving should be determined for all magazines containing explosives. If there is a possibility of overloading, the loading conditions shall be posted.
- e. Materials shall not be left suspended by booms, cranes, or hoists in any explosives storage facility.
- f. Explosives in storage should be segregated by lot designation. Stacks of explosives should be arranged so

- l. that air freely circulates to all parts of the stack. Pallets or appropriate dunnage shall be used to ensure that containers are not stacked directly on the magazine floor.
- g. Aisles shall be wide enough to accommodate inspection, inventory, sampling, and materials handling operations on the stored explosives containers.
- h. A crew shall not be permitted to work in a position that requires passing the work aisle or the position of a second crew to reach the exit. Unobstructed aisles shall be maintained to permit rapid exit of personnel.
- i. Each crew working in a magazine must have its own exit route that does not interfere with exit routes for other crews.
- j. Magazines shall be locked at all times except when permissible operations are in progress or when a magazine is opened for ventilation. Personnel shall be present while the magazine is open for ventilation. All exit doors shall be unlocked and open when personnel are working in the magazine.
- k. An inventory of each magazine shall be taken at least annually to determine the total weight of explosives present (to ensure this weight conforms to allowable quantity-distance constraints) and to remove and destroy materials that are not properly identified or labeled.
- l. The liquid level in storage containers for wet explosives shall be checked and replenished if necessary at least once a year, and a log of the checks shall be maintained.
- m. Empty containers, tools, conveyors, lift trucks, skids, and other similar equipment should not be stored in a magazine containing explosives.

- n. Combustible materials such as excess dunnage, packing material, and boxes shall not be stored in a magazine containing explosives. Flammable liquids shall not be stored or used in explosives magazines unless the liquid is an explosive, is needed as an explosives-wetting agent, or is an integral part of an explosives device.
- o. Operations in and around magazines shall be prohibited when an electrical storm is in progress and minimized when it is evident that such a storm is approaching. Explosives-handling operations shall not be performed when magazine entranceways are ice-covered or, for any other reason, do not provide adequate footing.
- p. Unless excepted, no operation in which hazardous materials are involved shall be permitted in any magazine. The following exceptions are recognized.
  - (1) Those operations incident to storage or removal from storage.
  - (2) Inspection and surveillance sampling of compatibility Group D and bulk propellants of Group C materials (see paragraph 17.4c and Table 11-4 in this chapter), provided that each storage container sampled is in good condition (i.e., the container is not leaking, no evidence exists of seal failure or explosives contamination at the closure, and the closure is mechanically sound and free of excessive corrosion, etc.). Only one container of explosives shall be opened at one time in a magazine.
  - (3) Liquid addition to adjust the liquid composition level in which a Group D explosive is stored. [Water and alcohol mixtures may be used as the liquid. If only water is added to the explosive, the water should be distilled or deionized. Bacteria present in untreated water may produce gas during storage.]

### 17.3 Storage Review Program

Each facility shall have a program to review the explosive materials stored at that facility. In recognition of the fact that explosives may degrade during prolonged storage and the hazards of handling or using degraded explosives may increase significantly, the following procedure is provided as an example.

- a. A storage review date should be assigned to every bulk explosive placed in storage. The storage review date should be shown on or adjacent to the identification tag or sticker attached to every container or package of explosive in storage or should be listed in the inventory records.
- b. Storage review intervals should be based, whenever possible, on stability data. A safe storage interval should be considered as that time period, at maximum anticipated storage temperature, during which an explosive material can be conservatively expected to show an acceptable level of decomposition.
- c. A storage review committee should be designated or created by facility management to establish and approve storage review intervals for all explosives stored at the DOE facility. Also, the committee should prescribe for each explosive appropriate tests to permit an evaluation of the safety of handling and processing the material once it has exceeded its storage review interval. These tests may be referred to as "stability tests," although sensitivity, or other types of testing, may be included in the material evaluation program. In some cases, the review committee may simply require periodic stability testing of the material rather than establish a storage review interval (i.e., nitrocellulose, single- and double-base propellants, etc.).
- d. To store a new explosive, to increase (or decrease) the review interval for a previously approved material, or to



use different stability test data for an explosive, the following procedure should be observed.

- (1) A responsible person should communicate the request to the storage-review committee.
  - (2) If the request concerns storage of a new explosive, the individual should recommend a storage-review interval and stability-evaluation testing.
  - (3) Supporting data should be supplied with the recommended review interval and with the proposed stability tests for the explosive.
  - (4) The storage review committee should review the request and supporting data and then prescribe a storage review interval and/or stability tests.
- e. A new explosive should be assigned an interim storage review and stability test interval before Phase II scaleup (see Chapter VIII).

Table 11-4. Storage compatibility groups for explosives and explosive-containing devices.

---

Group A. Initiating explosives.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| C CP (5-Cyanotetrazol pentaamine Cobalt III Perchlorate) | C Nitrocellulose (dry)                       |
| C HMX (Cyclotetramethylene tetranitramine) (dry)         | C PETN (Pentaerythritol tetranitrate) (dry)  |
| C Lead azide   | C RDX (Cyclotrimethylene trinitramine) (dry) |
| C Lead styphnate   | C TATNB (Triazidotri nitrobenzene)           |
| C Mercury fulminate                                      | C Tetracene                                  |

Group B. Detonators and similar initiating devices.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| C Blasting caps                          | C MDF (mild detonating fuse) detonator assemblies |
| C Detonators excluding EBWs and slappers | C Pressure cartridges                             |
| C Explosive bolts                        | C Primers   |
| C Fragmenting actuators                  | C Squibs  |
| C Igniters                               |   |

Group C. Bulk propellant, propellant charges, and devices containing propellants with or without their own means of initiation.

- C Smokeless powder
- C Pistol and rifle powder
- C Rocket-motor solid propellants

Group D. High explosives (HE) and devices containing explosives without their own means of initiation or articles containing a primary explosive substance and two or more effective protective features.

- C Ammonium picrate
- C Baratol
- C Black Powder
- C Boracitol
- C Compositions A, B, and C (all types)
- C Cyclotols (not to exceed a maximum of 85% RDX)
- C DATB (diaminotri nitrobenzene)
- C Detasheet
- C Detonating cord (primacord or mild detonating fuse)
- C bis-Dinitropropyl adipate
- C bis-Dinitropropyl glutarate
- C bis-Dinitropropyl maleate
- C Dinitropropane
- C Dinitropropanol
- C Dinitropropyl acrylate monomer (DNPA)
- C Dinitropropyl acrylate polymer (PDNPA)
- C EBW and slapper detonators
- C Elastomeric plastic bonded explosives
- C Explosive D
- C HMX (Cyclotetramethylene tetranitramine) (wet)
- C HMX/wax (formulated with at least 1% wax)
- C HNS (Hexanitrostilbene)
- C Linear-shaped charge
- C Methyl dinitroperoxyacetate
- C Nitrocellulose (wet)
- C Nitroguanidine
- C Octol
- C Pentolite
- C PETN (Pentaerythritol tetranitrate) (wet)
- C PETN/extrudable binder
- C Plastic Bonded Explosives, PBX (a Group D explosive formulated with a desensitizing plastic binder)
- C Potassium picrate
- C RDX (Cyclotrimethylene trinitramine) (wet)
- C TATB (Triamino tri nitrobenzene)
- C TATB/DATB mixtures
- C Tetryl
- C TNT (Trinitrotoluene)

Group E. Explosives devices without their own means of initiation and with propelling charge.

- C Artillery ammunition
- C Rockets (e.g., 66 mm LAW)

Group F. Explosives devices with their own means of initiation and with or without propelling charge.

Group G. Pyrotechnic material and devices that produce an incendiary, illumination, lachrymatory, smoke, or sound effect.

- C Smoke pots
- C Flares
- C Incendiary ammunition

Table II-4 (Continued).

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Group L. Explosives or ammunition not included in other compatibility groups that present a special risk requiring isolation of each type.

- C Damaged or suspect explosives devices or containers
- C Explosives that have undergone severe testing
- C Experimental explosives, explosives of temporary interest, newly synthesized compounds, new mixtures, and some salvaged explosives

Group S. Explosives, explosives devices, or ammunition presenting no significant hazard Propellant cartridge actuated devices (that yield a nonfragmenting, nonflame-producing controlled reaction). Examples include the following:

- |  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| C Cable cutters  | C Safety fuze           |
| C Cartridge actuated valves                                  | C Small arms ammunition |
| C Linear actuators (e.g., diaphragm, piston, bellows motors) | C Thermal batteries     |

Materials and systems that need not be stored or labeled as explosives unless they are near other explosives that could initiate them.

When near explosives, these materials become Group D, unless otherwise indicated.

- C FEF0/SOL (35 wt% or less FEF0 in ethyl acetate)
  - C FEF0/solution
  - C Group D explosives in inert solvents (explosive concentration not exceeding 25 wt%)
  - C Nitrates; treat as Group C when with other explosives
  - C Perchlorates; treat as Group C when with other explosives
  - C Small arms ammunition classified for shipment by DOT as ORM-D (Other Regulated Material Class D) rather than Hazard Class/Division 1.4 explosives. Normally consists of ammunition not exceeding 50 caliber for handguns and rifles and 8 gauge for shotguns.
- 

f. The following general guidelines are offered to assist the storage-review committee in establishing review intervals in cases where there is insufficient stability information to predict storage life.

- (1) If there is no available information on a new material relative to storage stability, a review interval of 90 days or less should be assigned.
- (2) A new formulation should be assigned a storage review interval not exceeding that of its least stable component.

- (3) If the compound or formulation is new to DOE, but DoD agencies have extensive experience with it, the DoD information should be used conservatively.
  - (4) If a manufacturer has an assigned shelf life for a formulation or ingredient, a review interval that exceeds the recommended shelf life should not be assigned unless additional DOE tests indicate such storage is warranted.
- g. A storage review interval of up to 20 years should be permissible for an explosive if a conservative evaluation of stability data indicates that such an interval is justified.

#### 17.4 Storage Compatibility

- a. Explosives shall not be stored with materials or items that increase the risk of initiation or decomposition of the explosives. Examples are mixed storage of explosives with flammable or combustible materials, acids, or corrosives.

Table II-5. Storage compatibility mixing chart.

Group s	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	L	S
A	x	z							
B	z	x	z	z	z	z	z		x
C		z	x	x	x	z	z		x
D		z	x	x	x	z	z		x
E		z	x	x	x	z	z		x
F		z	z	z	z	x	z		x
G		z	z	z	z	z	x		x
L								x	
S		x	x	x	x	x	x		x

NOTES:

- An "x" in a block of the above chart indicates that these groups may be combined in storage. Otherwise, mixing is either prohibited or restricted according to the following paragraphs.
- A "z" in a block of the above chart indicates that when warranted by operational considerations or magazine availability, and when safety is not sacrificed, these groups may be combined in storage. Combinations that violate the principles of paragraph 17.4 in Chapter II require justification by an exemption.
- No mark in a block indicates that combined storage is not permitted.
- Refer to ~~DPE~~DOE DNA TP 20-7 for warhead storage compatibility and hazard class.

- b. Different types of explosives may be stored in the same magazine if they are compatible. Explosives shall be assigned to a storage compatibility group when they can be stored together without significantly increasing either the probability of an accident or, for a given quantity of explosive, the magnitude of the effects of such an accident.
- c. Each type of explosive shall be assigned to an appropriate storage compatibility group (A through G, L, and S) for the purpose of storage at DOE facilities. The nine groups are

defined in the following paragraphs. These definitions and Table 11-5, the storage compatibility mixing chart, are in accordance with the principles and tables in DoD 6055.9 STD, DoD Ammunition and Explosives Safety Standards. Table 11-4 presents some examples of commonly used materials that are assigned to each storage compatibility group. This list does not enumerate all materials that may be included in each group.

- (1) Group A--Initiating explosives. Bulk initiating explosives that have the necessary sensitivity to friction, heat, or shock to make them suitable for use as initiating elements in an explosives train. Examples are lead azide, lead styphnate, mercury fulminate, and tetracene.
- (2) Group B--Detonators and similar initiating devices not containing two or more independent safety features. Items containing initiating explosives that are designed to initiate or continue the functioning of an explosives train. Examples are detonators (all types, excluding EBWs and slappers), blasting caps, small arms primers, and fuzes.
- (3) Group C--Bulk propellants, propellant charges, and devices containing propellants with or without their own means of initiation.\* Items that will deflagrate, explode, or detonate upon initiation. Examples are single-, double-, triple-base, and composite propellants, rocket motors (solid propellant), and ammunition with inert projectiles.
- (4) Group D--High explosives (HE) and devices containing explosives without their own means of initiation and without a propelling charge, or articles containing a primary explosives substance and containing two or more effective protective features. This group shall include explosives and ammunition that can be expected

to explode or detonate when any given item or component thereof is initiated.

- (5) Group E--Explosives devices without their own means of initiation\* and with propelling charge (other than one containing a flammable or hypergolic liquid). Examples are artillery ammunition and rockets.
- (6) Group F--Explosives devices with their own means of initiation and with or without propelling charge.\*
- (7) Group G--Pyrotechnic materials and devices containing pyrotechnic materials. Examples are devices that when functioning, result in an incendiary, illumination, lachrymatory, smoke, or sound effect.
- (8) Group L--Explosives or ammunition not included in other compatibility groups that present a special risk requiring isolation of each type. This group shall include explosives or ammunition having characteristics that do not permit storage with other similar or dissimilar materials. Examples are damaged or suspect explosives devices or containers, explosives that have undergone severe testing, fuel/air explosive devices, and water-activated devices. Also included are experimental explosives, explosives of temporary interest, newly synthesized compounds, new mixtures and salvaged explosives until they have been established to be compatible with the original materials. Types presenting similar hazards may be stored together.
- (9) Group S--Explosives, explosive devices, or ammunition presenting no significant hazard. Explosives or ammunition so designed or packed that, when in storage, all hazardous explosive effects are confined and self-contained within the item or package. An incident

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\* See definitions of Initiation, Chapter 1, Section 6.



may destroy all items in a single pack, but must not be communicated to other packs.

- d. Newly synthesized compounds and mixtures shall be stored in Group L storage facilities. After more complete evaluation, those compounds or mixtures of continuing interest shall be assigned by the Explosives Development Committee (see Chapter VIII, Section 1.1) to the appropriate compatibility group, and stored according to the following considerations.
- (1) The material's sensitivity to initiating stimuli (i.e., friction, impact, spark, shock, and thermal) is similar to that of other explosives in the group.
  - (2) The material's reactions and the effects of these reactions, in the event of application of initiating stimuli, are similar to other members of the group.
  - (3) The material is chemically compatible with other members of the group. Sensitivity and compatibility testing is described in Chapter VIII.
- e. Mixing of storage compatibility groups may be permitted as indicated in Table II-5. Items from storage compatibility groups B, C, D, E, F, G, and S may be combined in storage if the net quantity of explosives in the items (or in bulk) does not exceed 1,000 lb and if the items are in approved containers. Each article of storage compatibility groups B and F shall be segregated in storage from those of other compatibility groups by means that will prevent propagation of those articles. In addition, samples of explosives up to 2 kg total, may be stored in the same cubicle without regard to the above compatibility groupings if the cubicle walls

are designed to prevent propagation and the cubicle is designated for one of the following groups of explosives:

- C high explosives;
- C propellants;
- C detonators, actuators, and similar devices; or
- C primary and static-sensitive explosives.

#### 17.5 Containers (On-Site)

- a. Explosives containers shall be designed and constructed so they will not leak and will protect their contents from excessive movement, external stimuli, contamination, or spillage during handling, transportation (including transportation to disposal sites), and storage. Container closures shall prevent spilling or leakage of contents if the container is overturned. Screw-type container closures should not be used.
- b. Explosives containers should be constructed of, or lined with, nonabsorbent materials that are compatible with the explosive contents. Use of glass containers is discouraged, except for small samples. Glass containers shall be used only when the explosive reacts with other materials or when a high degree of purity is required.
- c. Metal containers for materials that are potential dust producers shall be constructed without seams or rivet heads. Seams and rivet heads can provide locations for dust accumulation.
- d. Containers for cast or pressed explosives pieces that are larger than 0.3 m at their greatest dimension or weigh more than 5 kg loaded should be provided with handles or some other type of handhold. If the loaded container weighs more than 50 kg, provisions should be made to allow handling by mechanical handling equipment.

- e. All explosives containers shall be labeled.
- f. Whenever possible, explosive pellets and items containing small quantities of explosives (e.g., detonators) shall be packaged in containers constructed so the functioning of one item will not propagate to the remaining items in the container. When a nonpropagating array is not possible, the pellets or detonators shall be stored inside a closed container and shall be labeled to indicate the total weight of the explosive contents.
- g. Container closures shall be the type that will not apply excessive pinching or rubbing forces to explosives during closing and opening. The closures and surfaces of container openings shall be kept thoroughly clean of explosives contamination to minimize any hazard during closing and opening.
- h. Explosives and ammunition in damaged containers shall not be stored in a magazine with other explosives and ammunition. Damaged containers shall be repaired, or the contents transferred to new or undamaged containers, or the container plus contents moved to a Group L storage magazine.
- i. Open containers and containers with covers not securely fastened shall not be stored in magazines. Containers that have been opened shall be properly reclosed before being returned to storage.

## 17.6 Storage In Buildings Other Than Storage Magazines

### 17.6.1 Packing and Shipping Buildings

In buildings specifically designated for packing and shipping, explosives may be stored subject to the following rules.

- a. Incoming shipments shall not be allowed to accumulate and shall be distributed as soon after receipt as practical.

- b. Items for outgoing shipments should not be accumulated before receipt of orders covering each specific shipment.
- c. Separate rooms shall be provided for the temporary storage of explosives awaiting shipment and for their preparation for shipment (i.e., assembling, crating, marking, etc.). The rooms shall be divided by walls or separated from each other so an explosion in the preparation area will not propagate to the temporary storage area.
- d. The combined total amount of explosives permitted in shipping/receiving buildings, platforms, and transportation vehicles shall be based on quantity-distance constraints. If there is an adequate barricade (sufficient to prevent sympathetic detonation) between transportation vehicles and the adjoining building or platform, the quantities on each side of the barricade may be considered individually to determine quantity-distance requirements.
- e. If required by operational necessity, explosives and pyrotechnics that are part of the work in process within the building may be stored during nonoperational hours in operating buildings provided: (1) explosives limits are not exceeded, (2) containers of bulk explosives or pyrotechnics are properly secured and covered, and (3) processing equipment, such as hoppers and pipelines, is empty.

#### 17.6.2 Service Magazines

The guidelines presented above in paragraphs 17.1 through 17.5 of this chapter for storage magazines shall also apply to service magazines, except as modified below.

- a. An explosives item should be stored for no longer than necessary in a service magazine (with a maximum of 180 days).

- b. The inventory of each service magazine should be reviewed every 3 months. Any material that has been in the service magazine for a period approaching 180 days and is not expected to be used immediately should be disposed of or removed to an appropriate storage magazine.
- c. When practical, explosives stored in service magazines shall be in containers. Unpackaged explosives-containing devices and unsealed bulk explosives containers may be present in a service magazine. However, these items and unsealed containers shall be stored in a manner that renders them stable and unlikely to be dropped or spilled.
- d. Minimum/maximum temperature monitors are not normally required for service magazines.

#### 17.6.3 Warehouses

- a. Hazard Class 1.4 materials (see Chapter VI, Section 3.1) packaged as Hazard Class/Division 1.4, storage compatibility group S, may be stored in warehouses if they are placed in segregated and specifically designated areas.
- b. Articles in Hazard Class/Division 1.4 and storage compatibility group S are considered inert for storage purposes and are not subject to quantity-distance requirements as long as they are stored with inert items or other Hazard Class/Division 1.4S items only. This applies only if Hazard Class/Division 1.4 and storage compatibility group S articles remain in their original packaging containers or are proven to be self-contained. When stored with items in a storage compatibility group other than S, normal quantity-distance requirements must be observed.

#### 17.6.4 Pre-positioned Storage of Security Response Munitions

- a. When required for defense against hostile forces, and in support of response and contingency plans, limited quantities of authorized response force munitions may be pre-positioned at locations other than bulk-storage magazine areas. Compliance with quantity-distance and compatibility criteria is not required during the heightened security condition. Munitions will be kept in their original shipping containers unless operational necessity dictates otherwise.
- b. Personnel charged with the responsibility of overseeing storage of munitions at guard stations and contingency deployment sites shall be trained in explosives storage and transportation, as required in Chapter V of this Manual.
- c. In the event Hazard Class/Division 1.2 is stored inside or at less than inhabited-building distance from inhabited buildings, fragment barriers will be provided. Any of the following is a minimally acceptable fragment barrier:
  - 0.25 in. of mild steel plate; one layer of sand bags; 12 in. of loose sand or dirt, or other equivalent protection.

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## 18.0 DECONTAMINATION AND CLEANING

### 18.1 General

- a. Operating procedures shall be prepared to specifically cover decontamination procedures. These procedures should cover methods, inspection, marking, control, dismantling, maintenance, final disposition, etc.
- b. Hot water or steam may be used to clean up explosives or remove explosives contamination from equipment. Solvents that have been tested for and are compatible with explosives can be used if necessary. Controls for their use must be specified in operating procedures. Only clean cloth rags, paper wipes, and approved non-metallic brushes or scrapers should be used in conjunction with hot water, steam, and solvents, to clean or remove explosives material from equipment, work surfaces, and floors.
- c. The disposal of waste generated during decontamination shall be coordinated with site environmental/waste management personnel.

### 18.2 Cleaning Contaminated Equipment

- a. Items to be cleaned should be positioned so that water and residue will drain directly into an approved collection system. See Sections 19 and 20 of this chapter for guidance concerning waste collection and waste disposal.
- b. Personal protective equipment as required shall be used by personnel decontaminating facilities and equipment. Emergency shower and eyewash shall be provided where needed.
- c. Exhaust ventilation may be required to remove toxic explosives fumes or vapors and/or steam from the decontamination area.



### 18.3 Cleaning Screw Threads

- a. To avoid the necessity of cleaning explosives from threads, explosives processing techniques shall be designed to avoid the deposition of explosives on threaded fasteners. When it is necessary to use screw threads, some type of covering or protection (i.e., RTV cement) over the exposed threads should be provided.
- b. Threads should be cleaned by judicious use of approved non-metal "picks," solvent, or hot water, or steam. Soaking in solvents and the application of a penetrating oil may be useful.
- c. After decontamination of threads of screws, bolts, pipe, etc., it may still be advisable to provide operator protection to facilitate their disassembly.

### 18.4 Final Decontamination and Disposal of Equipment

- a. If the item to be decontaminated has only smooth, flat surfaces (i.e., no cracks, seams, voids, or other places where explosive residue may be inaccessible), hot water, steam, or solvents may be employed to effect total decontamination. Any explosives contamination of concern will be visible to the unaided eye and will have dimensions (length, width, and depth).
- b. If the item to be decontaminated has tight places where explosives may remain lodged following normal cleaning procedures, the item shall be subjected to final decontamination techniques. To facilitate cleanup, some items may have to be partially disassembled during the decontamination operation.
  - (1) Final decontamination by thermal techniques shall be done by subjecting the item to sustained heating at a temperature at least 60EC higher than required for

decomposition of the most thermally stable explosive substance present. The item shall be kept at that temperature for a sufficient period of time to ensure that all parts have reached the temperature and all explosives material is decomposed. This is usually done by placing the item(s) to be decontaminated in a high-temperature sustained fire (see TB 700-4, Decontamination of Facilities and Equipment). This operation shall be conducted remotely or with operator protection.

- (2) Final decontamination may also be accomplished by immersing the item in a chemical cleaning agent. The period of immersion shall be of sufficient duration to ensure that all explosive material is chemically decomposed. The chemical cleaning agent shall be one that is approved for use by the Department of Army TM9-1300-214, Military Standards. Chemical cleaning agents for decontamination or destruction of explosives should not be used for more than about 1 oz. (or about 28 g) of explosives. Reference U.S. Department of the Army TM9-1300-214 for decontaminating chemicals for explosives and for color tests for identification of energetic materials.
- (3) Before subjecting the item to final decontamination by thermal or chemical techniques, as much explosive as possible shall be removed by the approved means (hot water, steam, and approved solvents in conjunction with cloth or paper wipes and non-metallic brushes or scrapers).

### 18.5 Inspection

After decontamination procedures are complete and before transfer to a nonexplosive area, the item shall be inspected. The degree of decontamination shall be determined and documented, and the item shall be labeled to indicate its decontaminated state.

Inspection should be accomplished by representatives of at least two departments, such as the operating department and the safety department.

#### 18.6 Identification and Control of Decontaminated Items

- a. Decontaminated items shall be marked to indicate the degree of decontamination and stored separately from non-contaminated items until final disposition is made.
- b. Degrees of decontamination shall be designated and items shall be tagged and/or marked with this designation.
- c. Guidelines for establishing a system for designating degrees of decontamination are provided below.
  - (1) X – A single X indicates the facilities or equipment have been partially decontaminated. Further decontamination processes are required before facilities or equipment are moved or any maintenance, repair, etc. is performed. This degree would generally be applied to facilities or equipment that have been subjected to routine decontamination performed by an operator on a piece of equipment, room, bay, or building at the close of the workday.
  - (2) XXX – Three Xs indicate the equipment or facilities have been examined and decontaminated by approved procedures and no contamination can be detected by appropriate instrumentation, test solutions, or by visual inspection on easily accessible surfaces or in concealed housings, etc. and are considered safe for the intended use. Items decontaminated to this degree cannot be furnished to qualified, DOE, DoD, or industry users or be subjected directly to open flame (cutting, welding, high-temperature heading devices), or operations that generate extreme heat, such as drilling

and machining, unless the following two conditions are met:

- (a) It is determined that decontamination to the XXXXX level will destroy the usefulness of the item;  
and,
  - (b) Decontamination to a degree less than XXXXX in combination with administrative and technical safeguards will eliminate risk of injury. As a minimum, an approved SOP (setting forth the specific operational limitations, precautions to be observed, and monitoring necessary to ensure safety) will be available and decontamination will be performed under the direction of the inspector(s) who will certify decontamination.
- (3) XXXXX – Five Xs indicate the equipment or facilities have been completely decontaminated, are free of hazard, and may be released for general use or to the general public.
- (4) 0 – A (Zero) indicates the item, although located in a contaminated area, was never directly exposed to contamination.
- d. Reference U.S. Department of the Army TB700-4, "Decontamination of Facilities and Equipment" for decontamination methods and marking.

#### 18.7 Decontamination of Real Estate

For decontamination of real estate reference DoD 6055.9-STD.

#### 18.8 Decontamination and Cleaning References

In addition to this Manual, the following are reference sources for decontamination and cleaning.

- C DoD 6055.9-STD, Department of Defense Ammunition and Explosives Safety Standard, Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management and Personnel), Chairman Department of Defense Explosives Safety Board, 2461 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22331.
- C Department of the Army Technical Bulletin TB 700-4, Decontamination of Facilities and Equipment, Army AG Publications Center, St. Louis, MO.
- C Department of the Army Technical Manual TM9-1300-214, Military Explosives, Army AG Publications Center, St. Louis, MO.

## 19.0 WASTE COLLECTION

### 19.1 General

- a. Provision shall be made for removal of explosives waste from any area in which explosives waste is generated. Removal of explosives waste may be accomplished by collecting dust/fines in a wet or dry vacuum system, collecting dust/fines or chips in a slurry of water or nonflammable solvent, or by collecting solid waste in receptacles (see also Chapter 11, Sections 9, 10, and 11).
- b. Explosives waste shall be collected and maintained separately from conventional waste.
- c. Mixing of incompatible explosives shall be avoided. Receptacles shall be clearly labeled to indicate the type of waste permissible.

### 19.2 Solid Wastes

- a. Each explosives area in which solid explosives wastes are generated (that are not removed by vacuum or liquid systems) shall be equipped with a seamless or lined receptacle in which explosives wastes can be collected. The receptacle should never be more than half full.
- b. Explosives waste shall be removed from the collection point on a regular basis, frequently enough to keep the aggregate explosives levels within the explosive weight limits.
- c. Rubbish not contaminated by explosives or containing noncombustible materials shall not be placed in an explosives waste receptacle.
- d. Rubbish contaminated by explosives shall be placed in separate waste containers and also segregated as combustibles and noncombustibles.

- e. Before being transported, explosives waste shall be packaged to prevent spillage, leakage, or exposure to initiation stimuli. Incompatible materials shall not be packaged together. All packages of explosives waste shall be clearly labeled to indicate the nature and approximate quantity of contents.

### 19.3 Vacuum Collection of Explosives Dusts

- a. Explosives dusts should be collected by a vacuum system, preferably the wet type. When using a wet vacuum system, the dust should be maintained in a wet form using a wetting agent that is kept close to the point of origin; the dust should also be kept wet in the collection system until removed for disposal. Water-soluble explosives such as Explosive D should be collected dry.
- b. Storage compatibility group A explosives may be collected by a vacuum system, provided they are maintained in a wet form using a wetting agent that is kept close to the point of intake. Use of a vacuum system for collecting these more sensitive materials should be confined to operations involving small quantities of explosives.
- c. Dry-type dust collection chambers, except portable units, should be located in the open and outside operating buildings; they may be inside if adequate shielding is provided. The quantity of explosives collected shall not exceed the capacity of the shielding to protect operating personnel. This limit shall be determined by the degree of barricading and the appropriate intraline distance.
- d. If dry dust collection outside the building is not practical, a separate room or shielded area within the building shall be designated for this purpose. This room or shielded area shall not contain other operations, nor shall it be used as a communicating corridor or passageway between

other operating locations within the building when explosives are being collected.

- e. Stationary and portable wet-type collectors may be placed in the explosives operating bays or cubicles if the quantity of explosives in the collectors does not exceed 2 kg. If placed in separate cubicles, the explosive weight limits may be increased by an amount determined by the extent of the cubicle walls' capabilities to serve as operational shields.
- f. Collection systems and chambers shall be designed to prevent explosives from being pinched between metal parts. See Sections 9 and 10 of this chapter for additional design information.
- g. Two collection chambers shall be installed in series ahead of the pump or exhauster to prevent explosives dust from entering the vacuum producer in dry vacuum collection systems. In addition, nonsparking fans and dust-tight motors shall be used.
- h. Dry-type portable vacuum collectors shall not be located in a bay or cubicle where explosives are present or in enclosed ramps, but may be positioned outside the building or in a separate cubicle. The building or cubicle walls shall provide adequate shielding for at least 2 kg of explosives and the explosives limits shall be defined by shielding and quantity-distance constraints.
- i. Explosives dust shall be removed periodically from the collection chamber to eliminate unnecessary and hazardous explosives concentrations. The entire system should be cleaned periodically, dismantling the parts if necessary. A



cleaning schedule for the collection chamber and the entire system shall be established using the operating hours as a basis.

- j. The entire explosives-dust collecting system shall be electrically bonded and grounded with resistance-to-ground not exceeding 10 ohms. The grounds shall be tested periodically.

#### 19.4 Explosives Slurries

- a. Machine tools shall be fitted with wet boxes to catch and direct water and explosives fines to an explosives waste gutter system.
- b. Wastewater that might contain explosives materials shall be kept from contaminating potable water or conventional wastewater systems.
- c. Settling tanks shall be regularly inspected to monitor the accumulation of waste. Records shall be kept of waste removals.
- d. If pumping is involved in removing the settled explosives from a slurry settling tank, the operation shall be arranged to preclude exposure of the explosive material to any pinching in the operation.
- e. Explosives materials in the settling basins shall be kept wet until removed and the materials shall be maintained wet until spread out for disposal. Explosives materials containing powdered metals shall be kept sufficiently wet to prevent a dangerous temperature rise resulting from a reaction of the metal with water. The possibility of hydrogen generation in this situation must be anticipated.

#### 19.5 Metal Scrap

- a. Metal scrap shall be inspected to detect explosives-contaminated items and shall be certified by qualified responsible personnel to be free from explosives before disposition.
- b. If the scrap is found to be contaminated with explosives, it shall be decontaminated in accordance with final decontamination procedures (see Section 18.4 of this chapter).

#### 19.6 Explosives Recovery and Reuse

- a. Salvaged explosives materials shall be thoroughly inspected by operating supervisors and reused, screened, reprocessed, or destroyed as the situation warrants.
- b. Salvaged explosives materials shall be classified as storage compatibility group L until they have been established to be compatible with the original material.

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## 20.0 WASTE DISPOSAL

### 20.1 Preparation for Open Burning

- a. Preparations for burning explosives waste on a pad or in a pit, or for placing explosives waste, shall not begin until 24 hours after the previous burn at the same burning point. The only exception is if the burning area has been thoroughly soaked with water and inspected by qualified personnel to ensure the safety of personnel during subsequent burning operations. In any case, the burning point shall be inspected for residual embers or hot spots before loading with explosives.
- b. Before beginning preparations, firing controls shall be disconnected from the power source and the circuit shunted and grounded.
- c. Incompatible explosives materials shall not be in the same pit or on the same pad at the same time.
- d. Containers of explosives materials shall not be opened less than 3 m from each other.
- e. Empty explosives waste containers that are to be reused shall be situated an adequate distance from the burning point to prevent charring or damage during the destruction operation.
- f. A layer of excelsior or similar material should be placed on the bottom of the pit or pad for placement of the explosives waste.
- g. Explosives in powdered, granular, or slurry form should be placed in a layer not more than 8 cm thick. Water-wet initiating explosives (storage compatibility Group A) shall not be allowed to become completely dry.

- h. Wood and heating oil may be used as an aid to ensure complete combustion of the explosives waste material.
- i. The ignition train should be set up to burn upwind.
- j. The firing circuit shall require a key for completion. Only one copy of the firing key shall exist, and it shall be in the lead operator's possession.
- k. Radio transmitters in the control shelter and vehicles at the burning site shall be turned off during setup and firing to protect against radio frequency currents.
- l. Precautions shall be taken to ensure that the firing system will not be unintentionally activated by extraneous electrical currents from any source.
- m. Priming of the burn shall be accomplished after all other preparation work is complete and with a minimum number of personnel present.
- n. Ignition shall be accomplished remotely.

## 20.2 Destruction by Burning or Flashing

- a. Explosives waste may be destroyed by burning (remotely) if it can be done with little chance of detonation. Explosives-contaminated waste may be burned remotely in a wire cage.
- b. An open furnace or burning area for explosives should be used for destruction of wet-machining cuttings and classified parts. The furnace or burning area may also be used for flashing casings after washout of an explosive charge.
- c. Explosives should not be burned in closed containers or casings, nor in large pieces likely to detonate. Special

attention should be given to the placement and orientation of large items and those in closed containers or casings. Approved incinerators may be used to destroy small devices such as detonators, actuators, etc.

- d. Concurrent burning operations shall not be conducted within 45 m of each other.
- e. When several pads are burned, the downwind pad shall be ignited first, followed by the others in succession to the upwind pad.

### 20.3 Ignition System Malfunctions

- a. If the ignition system fails to fire, check the circuit's continuity and refire if no open circuits are detected.
- b. If the squibs did fire but failed to ignite the ignition train, survey the area by remote means, and wait at least 30 minutes. If it then appears safe to emerge from the control shelter, disconnect, shunt, and ground the firing circuit and inspect the squibs, firing system, or ignition train.

### 20.4 Postburn Operations

- a. No entry shall be allowed into the pit area until at least 8 hours have elapsed following an open burn.
- b. The squib firing lines shall be disconnected, shunted, and grounded before the burn area is entered.
- c. Unburned or partially burned explosives materials remaining in the pit shall not be raked or otherwise disturbed. The burning operation shall be repeated to destroy any remaining explosives waste.

- d. At least 24 hours shall elapse before ashes are collected and the pit prepared for another burn.

20.5 Disposal Area

- a. Explosives waste destruction operations shall be separated from magazines, inhabited buildings, public traffic routes, and occupied operating buildings to ensure that personnel and facilities are not exposed to hazardous blast overpressure, firebrands, fragments, or projectiles from burning or detonation of explosives.

(1) Destruction by open burning or flashing shall not be performed within 730 m, unless carried out in pits or with other aids for limiting the range of fragments and debris in event of an accidental detonation. The pit shall not be located at less than 204 m for weights of 45 kg or less and 381 m for weights exceeding 45 kg. Sites should be located in relation to the direction of the prevailing winds so that sparks will not be blown toward explosives locations.

(2) The size of the danger zone for destruction by open detonation shall be determined by the formula  $D(m) = 131Q^{1/3}$  [ $D(ft) = 328W^{1/3}$ ]. The minimum separation distance shall be:

Non-fragmenting explosive materials	381 m
Fragmenting explosive materials	762 m
Bombs/projectiles with 5 in. caliber or greater	1,220 m

If known, the maximum fragment (debris) throw distances with an applicable safety factor may be used to replace the 762 m and 1,220 m minimum separation distances but not below 381 m.

- (3) Self-contained destruction facilities fully analyzed for the intended net explosives weight (NEW) are exempt from the above requirements.
- b. The maximum quantity of explosives that may be destroyed at one time shall be determined by starting with a small quantity, gradually increasing until an optimum amount, consistent with safe and efficient operation, is achieved.
  - c. Explosives waste and ordinary rubbish shall not be destroyed in the same destruction area at the same time.
  - d. When destruction operations are being carried out, the area within 60 m of the destruction point shall be kept clear of dry grass, leaves, and other extraneous combustible material. This clearance may be reduced to firebrand distance if aids for limiting the range of fragments and debris are provided for all the destruction points used within the disposal area.
  - e. Explosives waste awaiting destruction shall be stored at least in-trailine distance from the explosives being destroyed.
  - f. Provisions for emergency fire fighting shall be readily available at the waste disposal area.

#### 20.6 Destruction by Detonation

- a. Cased explosives should be removed from the case and burned or the cased item destroyed by detonation. Detonators, primary explosives, and other explosives that might detonate if burned should also be destroyed by detonation.
- b. The detonation should be initiated by a high-energy detonator (e.g., an EBW).



### 20.7 Use of Solvents

- a. Small quantities of explosives and explosive detonators may be prepared for destruction by solvent immersion.
- b. The items to be destroyed shall be soaked in a suitable, compatible solvent until all the explosives material is dissolved. Saturated solvent solutions shall not be reused.
- c. The solvent-explosives mixture shall be destroyed by burning.

### 20.8 Burial

- a. Burial is the least desirable method for disposing of explosives-contaminated equipment and should be used only if other methods are impractical, unsafe, or impossible. Waste material that is technically contaminated with explosives and cannot be disposed of by burning or other means may be buried if there is no conflict with prevailing environmental regulations.
- b. Visible explosives material shall be removed before burial.
- c. Burial sites shall be appropriately marked and protected from unauthorized personnel. The location of the burial sites shall be noted on facility drawings.
- d. Records shall be kept of the burial sites that identify the types and quantities of materials buried.

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## 21.0 LABORATORY OPERATIONS

### 21.1 General

- a. The safety guidelines presented in this section are applicable to general laboratory operations involving explosive materials. Laboratory operations shall be conducted in a manner that maintains employee exposures to hazardous chemicals at or below the permissible exposure limits (PELs) and complies with the facility chemical hygiene plan.
- b. Laboratory work involving explosives materials shall be performed only in accordance with the provisions of written operating procedures (see Chapter VII). Laboratory operations shall comply with the requirements of NFPA 45, "Fire Protection for Laboratories Using Chemicals," including the requirements for electrical equipment and wiring.
- c. The quantity of explosives present in the laboratory shall be the minimum required for the experiment and in all cases shall be at or below assigned limits. Explosives not being worked on shall be stored in closed containers.
- d. No explosives other than those in process shall be left in the laboratory during nonworking hours. They must be secured in an approved storage container or in a service magazine (see paragraph 17.6.1e of this chapter).
- e. Smoking and open flames shall be prohibited in laboratories where explosives or flammable solvent vapors are or may be present.
- f. Disposal of explosives through laboratory drains shall be forbidden unless the drain plumbing has no traps and is designed to handle explosives (i.e., is provided with a sump or other device for the collection of solids). Even if a drain is designed to handle explosives, deliberate disposal

of explosives in these drains should be avoided. These drains should be used only for the purpose of cleaning up explosives spills. Special care should be exercised to prevent entrance of compounds into drains that may react with iron or rust to form sensitive salts (e.g., picrates and picric acid).

- g. Solvents or other substances that are flammable shall be protected against electrical sparks, heat, and open flames.
- h. Suitable guards shall be provided for all glass or fragile equipment that must withstand reduced or elevated pressure.

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Chapter 11  
Revision 8

## 21.2 Safety Shields



Table 11-6. Safety shields for explosives laboratory operations.\*

Shield	Minimum distance from explosive (cm)	Explosives limit
Leather gloves, jackets or coats, and plastic face shields	----	50 mg
	8	50 mg
3-mm tempered glass	15	2.5 g
7-mm Lucite/equivalent material	15	10 g
20-mm Lucite/equivalent material	20	20 g
	30	50 g
15-mm laminated resistant glass	30	50 g (steel confined)
25.4-mm Lexan/Lexguard		
2 units each of 25.4-mm plate glass laminated with 12.4-mm polycarbonate with a 9.5-mm air gap between units (glass sides facing the explosive)		

\* The material of choice for a transparent safety shield is either polycarbonate or laminated safety glass. When designing and/or replacing a safety shield with a polycarbonate, it should be UV stabilized, treated for abrasion resistance, and have met Mil Spec P-46144C. When designing and/or replacing a safety shield with laminated glass, it should be coated with a 0.1-mm fragment resistant film on the viewer's side to minimize spalling. The shield, shield frame, and anchoring system shall be designed to resist maximum credible overpressure and fragments.

- a. If a laboratory operation involves an explosion hazard, personnel should be protected by safety shields or the operation should be performed by remote control. Table 11-6 lists shields that have been tested and found acceptable for the indicated quantities of explosive. Shields listed in this table were not tested for metal-fragment penetration (unless specifically indicated) and thus may not offer effective protection when the explosive is closely confined in a heavy-walled metal container. ("Heavy-walled" is defined here as wall thickness to diameter ratio greater than 0.01.)
- b. If an experiment presents a metal-fragment hazard (as opposed to a glass-fragment hazard), and the experiment cannot be conducted remotely, the proposed shield should be tested and approved under conditions simulating an explosion in the experimental setup but with at least 125% of the anticipated explosive content.
- c. The shield shall be anchored to the hood frame or bench top when it is being used for protection against more than 5 g of TNT equivalent.
- d. Other shields may be used after successfully passing a test of 125% of the rated explosive charge and being approved.
- e. For confined areas, a blast vent having less strength than the shield should be provided.
- f. When explosives operations require personnel to reach around a shield to manipulate equipment, exposure shall be minimized.

### 21.3 Heating Operations

- a. During synthesis, formulation, or experimental work, heat may be applied to initiate or maintain reaction, to increase solubility, etc., if the principles below are followed.



- (1) Heat shall be applied indirectly using steam, a water bath, oil bath, or an approved laboratory electrical heating device such as a mantle.
  - (2) Utmost caution shall be exercised to ensure that reactive material does not come in direct contact with the heating elements.
  - (3) If an experiment must be conducted behind a shield, any heating device shall be mounted so that temperature can be controlled from the operator side of the shield. The heating device should be mounted so it can be quickly separated from the reaction vessel without operator exposure. Consideration should be given during design of the experiment to providing emergency cooling for the reaction vessel or its contents.
  - (4) Heating of explosives with devices without proper controls shall be monitored at all times, and if the operator must leave for any reason, the heating device should be turned off. Heating systems that will be operated unattended shall have dual controls, an override shutoff, or some other protection against failure of the primary heating control. Systems capable of total containment of the effects of an explosion may be exempted from this requirement.
- b. Periodic checks should be made to ensure that an experiment is proceeding satisfactorily and that the apparatus is not boiling dry, malfunctioning, or the like. In the case of remotely controlled operations, provisions shall be made for such observation, using such equipment as mirrors, television monitors, etc.

#### 21.4 Laboratory Setups

Good workmanship and laboratory practice shall be exercised in making and operating laboratory setups. In particular, cognizance must be taken of the following points.

- a. Equipment and apparatus shall be clean, in good condition, and in good working order.
- b. All glassware and apparatus shall be inspected for cracks, defects, etc., before use. Defective or damaged equipment shall be removed from service.
- c. Setups shall be geometrically and structurally stable.
- d. Work areas should be as neat and uncluttered as circumstances will permit.

#### 21.5 Low Concentration of Explosives in Solution

- a. After explosives are in dilute solution (less than 33% explosives by weight), the primary hazard shall be considered as that associated with the solvent and not with the explosive.
- b. Until the explosive is in solution, or if for any reason the explosive recrystallizes or precipitates out of solution, the safety guidelines for pure explosives shall apply.

#### 21.6 Explosives Sample Control

- a. Samples shall be delivered to the laboratory only at specific designated locations.
- b. Each sample shall be properly identified and labeled.
- c. Upon completion of the required tests or analyses, the sample should be removed from the laboratory.

- d. All samples of new experimental explosive material submitted to a laboratory for analysis should be accompanied by an information sheet giving available safety information.

## 22.0 EMERGENCY CONTROL

### 22.1 Placarding and Fire Symbols

Buildings and areas shall be placarded to warn of potential hazards from explosives and to provide information crucial to dealing with emergency situations. This includes the use of appropriate fire symbols as specified in DoD 6055.9-STD or the NFPA 704 Standard, provided placarding is applied consistently throughout the entire facility.

### 22.2 Explosives Emergency Control Plans

- a. Each installation shall have a written plan, prepared specifically for that installation (it may be necessary to break it down for each operating area), for the control of emergencies involving explosives. The explosives emergency control plan may be part of the overall emergency control plan for the facility. All facility personnel shall be trained in the content of the plan applicable to their area. The plan shall be available to all personnel for ready reference.
- b. Emergency situations that should be covered, as applicable to the facility, are as follows:
  - (1) fires and explosions;
  - (2) floods;
  - (3) extreme weather conditions;
  - (4) conditions resulting in environmental disturbances;
  - (5) civil disturbance;
  - (6) threats and bomb scares;

- (7) enemy attack; and
  - (8) any other emergencies that require rapid mobilization of personnel and equipment to minimize death and injury to personnel or to prevent the spread of damage and destruction.
- c. Subjects that should be addressed by the plan include:
- (1) reporting an emergency;
  - (2) decision to activate the emergency plan;
  - (3) authority and responsibility for administering and executing the plan;
  - (4) mobilizing personnel to combat the emergency or disaster;
  - (5) roles of operating personnel in combatting the emergency;
  - (6) procedures for combatting the emergency or disaster;
  - (7) accounting for and evacuation of personnel; and
  - (8) plant and document security.

CHAPTER III  
EXPLOSIVES AND PERSONNEL LIMITS AND CONTROL

1.0 EXPLOSIVES LIMITS

The quantity of explosives at an operating location shall be the minimum necessary to carry out the operation in a safe and efficient manner. When practical, this quantity shall be subdivided and adequately separated to prevent propagation of detonation. Supplies exceeding this minimum quantity shall be removed from the operating area.

In no case shall the quantity of explosives permitted in an operating building exceed the maximum permitted by the quantity-distance criteria. Quantity-distance criteria and guidelines for application of these criteria are presented in Chapter VI of this Manual.

2.0 PERSONNEL LIMITS

The number of personnel at an operating location shall be the minimum consistent with safe and efficient operation. In establishing personnel limits, the following principles shall be followed.

- a. Jobs not necessary to the performance of a hazardous explosives operation should not be performed in the same location as the hazardous operation. Personnel not needed for the hazardous operations will not be allowed in hazardous locations.
- b. Personnel limits shall allow for necessary casualties.
- c. Sufficient personnel shall be available to perform a hazardous operation safely and, in the event of accident, to obtain help and aid the injured.

- d. No person shall work alone performing explosives activities that have a high risk of serious injury. Prompt and easy communications with other employees shall be provided. Facility management shall specify which explosives activities may be performed alone.

### 3.0 LIMIT CONTROL

#### 3.1 Posting and Recording

All rooms, bays, and buildings containing explosives shall have posted in a conspicuous place a standardized placard stating the maximum amount of explosives and the maximum number of workers and casuals permitted in the control unit at any one time.

Maximum explosives and personnel limits for all buildings and bays for each explosives area shall be recorded and maintained on file.

#### 3.2 Limit Review and Approvals

Management personnel with authority and jurisdiction over an operating bay or building shall periodically review explosives and personnel limits for each location and recommend changes as required. If the use of a location changes, personnel and explosives weight limits shall be reviewed at the time of use change and limits reestablished as required.

Changes in explosives and personnel limits shall be reviewed and approved in the same manner as operating procedures (see Chapter VII).

A procedure shall be established for the approval of temporary changes in explosives and personnel limits for an operating location.

#### 3.3 Personnel Controls

A system shall be established to control the presence of personnel within explosive operating areas.

#### 4.0 IHE LIMITS

When no other explosives are present, IHE weight limitations shall be based on separation distances for Hazard Class 1.3 explosives (see Chapter VI, Section 3.1) or equivalent protection provided by facility design features. The quantity of IHE at an operating location shall be the minimum necessary to carry out the operation in a safe and efficient manner. This quantity should not exceed an 8-hour supply.

IHE limits for pressing should be the same as those established for other explosives pressing operations.



CHAPTER IV  
PERSONAL PROTECTIVE CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT

1.0 CLOTHING AND PERSONAL EQUIPMENT

1.1 Clothing

Each operation shall be analyzed to determine when personnel working with explosives and toxic materials must wear approved coveralls or laboratory coats to prevent contact with the materials and to prevent contaminating personal apparel. Flame-retardant coveralls may be desired for certain explosives operations when the possibility of a flash fire exists. These coveralls shall not have cuffs and should not have metallic fasteners. Written procedures shall include protective clothing and equipment requirements.

Cotton (or other antistatic material) outer and undergarments, including socks, should be worn where generation of static electricity would create a hazard.

1.2 Footwear

Personnel working in a building or area where electrostatic-sensitive explosive powders or materials are handled shall wear conductive, nonsparking footwear. Exception: personnel working on electrical or electronic equipment shall not wear conductive footwear unless protected by insulated mats, ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCI), etc. Personnel working in other areas where explosives contamination may be present shall wear nonsparking footwear or bootie shoe coverings.

1.3 Respirators

Appropriate, approved respiratory protection shall be used when exhaust ventilation is not available, or does not adequately control airborne particulates, gases, or vapors liberated during

explosives operations. The employee must have current approval to wear respiratory protection (medical exam, respirator fitting, and training).

#### 1.4 Eye Protection

Suitable eye protection devices must be worn by all personnel when working or visiting in eye hazard areas, particularly when electroexplosive devices (EEDs) are handled. The type of explosives operation shall be evaluated for eye hazard risks. Contact lenses shall not be considered as an appropriate eye protection.

#### 1.5 Gloves

Skin contact with some explosives, and with some materials used in conjunction with explosives, can result in dermatitis or absorption across the skin barrier. Each type of operation that uses these materials must be evaluated for potential skin contact hazard and the need for the proper type of glove.

### 2.0 MAINTENANCE AND TESTING

#### 2.1 Equipment Maintenance and Inspection

Personal protective equipment shall be properly maintained; the operator's life may depend on the proper functioning of the equipment. An appropriate inspection schedule shall be established.

#### 2.2 Conductivity Testing

When conductive footwear is required, the conductivity shall be tested initially and regularly thereafter to ensure continued conductivity from person to ground.

#### 2.3 Cleaning and Disinfecting

Provision shall be made for the laundering and disinfecting of protective garments and devices. Attention to cleaning and disinfecting is especially important for equipment worn about the face. Because laundering affects the flame-retardant properties of fabric, flame-retardant coveralls should be tested to establish the maximum number of laundering cycles permitted.

#### 2.4 Contaminated Clothing

If clothing becomes contaminated, as much contaminant as possible should be removed by wiping or dusting; compressed air shall not be used for this purpose. If obvious contamination remains, clothing shall be changed.

## CHAPTER V TRAINING

### 1.0 GENERAL

Personnel shall be properly trained before they are assigned to any explosives operation or operate any explosives-carrying vehicle. The training for explosives work, which serves to assist in conducting work safely and developing safety awareness, shall ensure that personnel:

- C develop and maintain a safe attitude towards work with explosives;
- C define and understand the potential hazards involved;
- C learn correct skills for safe performance of the task;
- C are prepared for unexpected hazardous conditions; and
- C read and understand the appropriate operating procedures.

### 2.0 SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITY

The supervisor shall be responsible for the following:

- C determining the training required for the worker (or researcher);
- C verifying that the worker is adequately trained to perform the task safely and efficiently;
- C ensuring that the worker can perform required emergency duties;
- C providing on-the-job training for the worker; and

C continually updating worker training.

### 3.0 TRAINING AND QUALIFICATION PROGRAMS

Each organization shall have a training and qualification program. The following is an example.

a. After successfully completing training for an assignment, the worker should be qualified for that task for a specific period of time. Maintenance of qualification should be governed by the following items:

(1) At the end of the initial qualification period, qualification may be extended for subsequent specific time periods if:

C the worker has successfully performed the task during the preceding 6 months and has read and understands the current operating procedures; or

C the worker receives refresher training and is again determined to be qualified by his/her supervisor.

(2) Retraining in the specific area of weakness should be required of workers who do not demonstrate job proficiency or who subsequently violate safe practices.

(3) If an operating procedure is modified substantially, all personnel using that procedure should be retrained in the use of the new procedure.

(4) A person should not be permitted to continue working with explosives if the supervisor, with counsel from medical personnel, determines that the person is unable to perform the task safely. Possible reasons include:

C physical injury or illness;

C disease; and

- C mental or emotional disturbances.

(5) Records should be maintained for each worker, including:

- C description and dates of training received;

- C description and dates of refresher training;

- C a signed "statement of understanding" for operating procedures;

- C attendance at safety meetings and participation on safety committees; and

- C qualification review by supervisor.

(6) The supervisor may temporarily authorize an employee who has not completed the required training to perform the task if the following conditions are satisfied.

- C The supervisor determines that the employee has a working knowledge adequate to perform the task safely.

- C The work is directly supervised by a qualified person.

b. Employee hazardous materials information and training programs are required for personnel working with explosives and hazardous materials used in conjunction with explosives operation. Training should include:

- C information on the physical and health hazards;

- C the purpose and proper use of engineering controls, work practice controls, and protective equipment;

- C Labeling systems and Material Safety Data Sheet terms;  
and
- C detection methods for the presence or release of a  
hazardous material in the work area.

CHAPTER VI  
QUANTITY-DISTANCE AND LEVEL-OF-PROTECTION CRITERIA  
FOR EXPLOSIVES ACTIVITIES

1.0 GENERAL

| This chapter establishes quantity-distance and level-of-  
| protection criteria for all DOE operations involving explosives.  
The purpose of these criteria is to provide specific levels of  
protection from the effects of potential fires and explosions for  
personnel and property within and outside of DOE installations.

The cardinal principle to be observed at any location or in any  
operation involving explosives, ammunition, severe fire hazards,  
| or toxic materials is to limit, in a manner consistent with safe  
| and efficient operation, the exposure to a minimum number of  
personnel, for a minimum time, and to a minimum amount of the  
hazardous material.

2.0 APPLICABILITY OF CRITERIA

2.1 Specific Applications

| The criteria presented in this chapter shall be applied to the  
| following activities:

- a. establishing maximum explosives limits for explosives facilities and operations;
- b. planning explosives activities to be performed in existing facilities; and
- | c. designing and siting new explosives facilities and  
| operations and siting other facilities and operations in the explosives area.

2.2 Explosives Limits



When defining working explosives limits, those limits shall never exceed the minimum required for efficient, safe operation (see Chapter III).

### 2.3 Areas Where Criteria Are Not Applicable

The quantity-distance and level-of-protection criteria in Section 4 of this chapter are not applicable to portable buildings used at specified nuclear test shot locations.

### 3.0 QUANTITY-DISTANCE CRITERIA

Quantity-distance criteria must account for the types and severity of hazards presented by each explosive material, the construction and orientation of facilities to which the criteria are applied, and the degree of protection desired for facilities and personnel adjacent to the explosives operations. The hazard classification system recommended by the United Nations Organization (UNO) defines types and severities of hazards for explosives. The guidelines presented below specify minimum degrees of protection for various categories of facilities. These guidelines also describe how the quantity-distance tables are to be applied to facilities of various construction and orientation with respect to adjacent facilities.

#### 3.1 Hazard Classes and Class Division

Explosives shall be classified on the basis of their reactions to specific initiating influences. The hazard classification system recommended by the UNO shall be used for DOE explosives classification. The UNO system consists of nine classes for dangerous goods, with explosives included in Class 1. The explosives hazard class is further subdivided into "divisions" that are based on the character and predominance of the associated hazards and on the potential for causing personnel casualties or property damage. Table VI-1 lists the six divisions of Class 1.

Table VI-1. Divisions of Class 1.

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Hazard Class and division designators	Hazards
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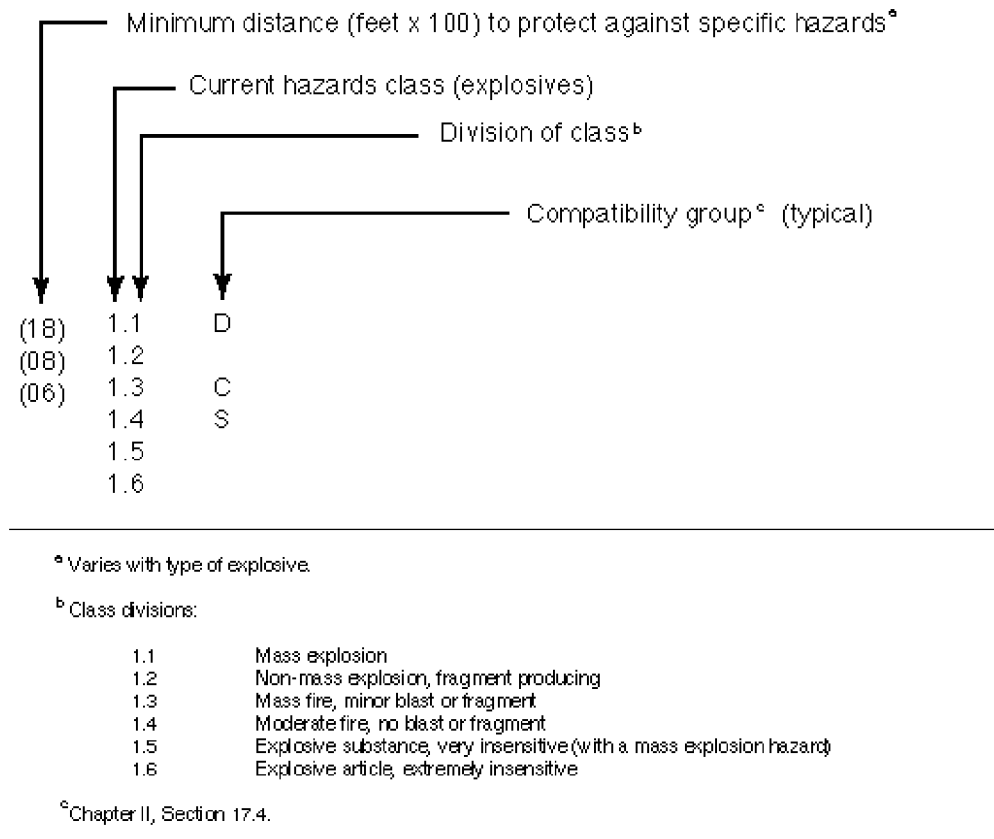
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1.1	Mass explosion
1.2	Non-mass explosion, fragment producing
1.3	Mass fire, minor blast, or fragment
1.4	Moderate fire, no blast or fragment
1.5	Explosive substance, very insensitive (with a
1.6	mass explosion hazard) Explosive article, extremely insensitive

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When required to properly describe the hazard, a numerical figure in parenthesis shall be placed to the left of the division designators 1.1 through 1.3 [e.g., (18) 1.1, (08) 1.2, and (06) 1.3]. This number indicates the minimum separation distance (in hundreds of feet) for specified levels of protection from explosive items for inhabited buildings, public traffic routes, and personnel in the open. A minimum distance number shall be used for all items in Class 1, Division 2, as shown in the



**Figure VI-1. Application of Hazard Classification System.**

applicable tables. Figure VI-1 illustrates the use of the UNO hazards classification system. Also, this figure lists the storage compatibility group opposite each hazard class. The listed compatibility group is typical for the expected compatibility to hazard class relationships. Note, however, that the two classification systems apply to different concerns.

- C Compatibility groupings define which explosives may be safely stored together without increasing the risk of initiation.
- C Hazard classifications indicate the initiation effects of the various explosives.

Classification tests (described by TB 700-2, Explosives Hazard Classification Procedures) and/or additional tests (as desired), including United Nations ST/SG/AC.10/1 and ST/SG/AC/10/11, shall be used in the assignment of energetic materials to the appropriate compatibility group and hazard division. These tests may be supplemented by other tests to characterize material hazards more fully if material properties or anticipated material environment are expected to significantly influence the explosives classification.

| Though DOT hazard classifications require the use of the Bureau  
| of Explosives' (BOE) Impact Apparatus to determine impact  
sensitivity, other impact apparatus may be used, providing:

- a. test results for at least two reference explosives are compared to results for the reference explosives on the BOE Impact Apparatus; and
- b. a minimum of ten trials each is run for the reference explosives and the explosives being classified.

### 3.2 Establishing Quantity of Explosives and Distances

#### 3.2.1 General

The principles and tables presented in DoD 6055.9-STD, DoD Ammunition and Explosives Safety Standards, shall be used to determine the following.

- a. The total quantities of explosives in adjacent magazines, operating buildings, or other explosives facilities that must be applied to quantity-distance tables.
- b. When the levels of protection required by Section 4 of this chapter for different types of facilities differ from the requirements of DoD 6055.9-STD, Section 4 shall take precedence.
- c. The minimum separation distances required for facilities are based on the desired level of protection and total quantities of explosives.
- d. The total quantity of explosives is determined by defining and examining the maximum credible event (MCE). If an explosives event occurs, the maximum credible explosives event is the largest credible amount of explosives that could be involved in the event (not necessarily the total quantity of explosives present).

### 3.2.2 Use of Metric System

Throughout DoD 6055.9-STD, the net explosive weight (NEW) is used to calculate distance by means of a formula of the type  $D = KW^{1/3}$ , when  $D$  is the distance in feet,  $K$  is a factor depending on the risk assumed or permitted, and  $W$  is the NEW in pounds. When metric units are used, the symbol  $Q$  denotes net explosive quantity (NEQ) expressed in kilograms. In the formula  $D = KQ^{1/3}$ , the distance  $D$  is expressed in meters. Thus, the respective units of  $K$  are  $\text{ft}/\text{lb}^{1/3}$  and  $\text{m}/\text{kg}^{1/3}$  in the two systems. The value of  $K$  in English units is approximately 2.5 times its value in metric units [e.g., if  $D(\text{m}) = 6Q^{1/3}$ , then  $D(\text{ft}) = 15W^{1/3}$ ].

### 3.2.3 Railcars and Transport Vehicles

Explosives-loaded railcars, motor vehicles, or any other transport vehicles in holding yards are considered as aboveground magazines for quantity-distance purposes. These railcars, motor

vehicles, or other transport vehicles shall be kept in groups, and each group shall be limited to a maximum of 250,000 lb of high explosives.

- a. When a railcar receiving yard or point is provided for the interchange of cars containing explosives between the common carrier and the facility rail system, quantity-distance provisions do not apply, provided that the cars are moved expeditiously to a suitable location.
- b. When inspection of a railcar of explosives indicates that it may be in a hazardous condition, the railcar should be moved at once to a suspect car spur track or an isolated section of track. This spur or section of track should be accessible directly from the inspection point. The distance between the spur or track and facility boundaries, classification yards, inhabited buildings, administration areas, operating buildings, magazines, inert storage locations, and public traffic routes should be the inhabited-building distance, which is based on the maximum quantity of explosives that the facility can receive in one railcar. Only one car is permitted at this location at any time.
- c. Incoming explosives-laden motor vehicles shall be inspected at a station located remotely from hazardous and populated areas.

#### 3.2.4 Utilities Installations

- a. Permanent DOE-controlled underground utilities installations (excluding building service lines) should be separated from explosives locations containing Class 1.1 materials (see Table VI-1.). Privately owned or operated utilities installations (aboveground and underground) shall be separated from explosives locations by at least public-

traffic-route distances. If these installations include structures, they should be separated from explosives facilities by inhabited-building distance.

- b. Certain types of auxiliary power facilities, transformer stations, etc., present fire hazards to explosives facilities. Transformers and associated electrical switching apparatus serving one explosives facility or complex that do not present a fire hazard to the facility (i.e., dry-type, "less flammable" oil-insulated, etc.) shall be located as specified by NFPA 70 and FM Data Sheet 5-4/14-18. Normal oil-insulated transformers shall be located at least 50 ft from an explosives facility or as specified in DoD 6055.9-STD.

### 3.2.5 Petroleum Storage Tanks

Aboveground tanks containing 500 gal or less of petroleum that serve equipment (such as oil heaters or diesel generators) located in or near explosives buildings shall be located a minimum of 50 ft from explosives locations and comply with NFPA 30. Tanks located near intentional detonation areas should be barricaded. Similar underground tanks complying with NFPA 30 do not require separation from explosives facilities. In both cases, the tanks shall be equipped with an anti siphoning device, unless the tank is installed such that siphoning is impossible.

## 4.0 LEVEL-OF-PROTECTION CRITERIA

### 4.1 Hazard Classes

The level of protection required for any specific explosives activity shall be based on the hazard class (accident potential) for the explosives activity involved. These four hazard classes are defined for explosives activities as follows.

- a. Class I. Class I consists of those explosives activities that involve a high accident potential; any personnel



exposure is unacceptable for Class I activities, and they thus require remote operations. In general, Class I would include activities where energies that may interface with the explosives are approaching the upper safety limits, or the loss of control of the interfacing energy is likely to exceed the safety limits for the explosives involved. This category includes those research and development activities where the safety implications have not been fully characterized. Examples of Class I activities are screening, blending, pressing, extrusion, drilling of holes, dry machining, machining explosives and metal in combination, new explosives development and processes, and explosives disposal.

- b. Class II. Class II consists of those explosives activities that involve a moderate accident potential because of the explosives type, the condition of the explosives, or the nature of the operations involved. This category consists of activities where the accident potential is greater than for Class III, but the exposure of personnel performing contact operations is acceptable. Class II includes activities where the energies that do or may interface with the explosives are normally well within the safety boundaries for the explosives involved, but where the loss of control of these energies might approach the safety limits of the explosives. Examples of Class II activities are weighing, some wet machining, assembly and disassembly, and environmental testing.
- c. Class III. Class III consists of those explosives activities that represent a low accident potential. Class III includes explosives activities during storage and operations incidental to storage or removal from storage.
- d. Class IV. Class IV consists of those explosives activities with IHE or IHE subassemblies. Although mass detonating, this explosive type is so insensitive that a negligible probability exists for accidental initiation or transition

from burning to detonation. IHE explosions will be limited to pressure ruptures of containers heated in a fire. Although the fire hazards of IHE or IHE subassemblies are not as great as those of other explosives, they are classified as Hazard Class/Division 1.3 (mass fire) to be consistent with DoD 6055.9 STD. Most processing and storage activities with IHE and IHE subassemblies are Class IV. However, the following examples of explosives activities with IHE and IHE subassemblies will remain Class I:

- C pressing;
- C some machining (see Chapter II, paragraph 12.4.2c);
- C dry blending;
- C dry milling; and
- C dry screening.

#### 4.2 Required Level of Protection

Each bay (i.e., storage, handling, or processing building) housing an explosives activity shall have levels of protection that are based on the hazard class determined for the activity. The levels of protection may be accomplished by equipment design, structural design, operation separation, or provision of operational shields. The levels of protection required for each hazard class are as follows and shall be required for all new facilities or redesign of any existing facilities where changes in activities will result in a change to a more hazardous class.

##### 4.2.1 Explosives Bay

- a. Class IV. Bays for Class IV (negligible probability of accidental initiation) activities shall provide protection from fire hazards effects. This protection may be achieved by Hazard Class/Division 1.3 aboveground-magazine distance separation or by a design that contains the effects of an accident. Because accidental detonation is not considered credible, Class IV bays shall be sited and designed as acceptors rather than donors for the effects of blast

overpressure, structural collapse, and missiles (hazardous fragments).

- b. Class III. Bays for Class III (low accident potential) activities shall provide protection from explosion propagation from bay to bay within buildings and between buildings that are located at intraline or magazine distance. If intermediate storage of explosives is within an operating building containing Class II or Class I operations, the intermediate storage or staging bay will require Class II level of protection. Minimum separation distances may be reduced when explosives bays are designed to adequately contain the effects of an accident (blast pressures and missiles).
- c. Class II. Bays for Class II (moderate accident potential) activities shall, in addition to complying with the requirements for Class III bays, include design to prevent fatalities and severe injury to personnel in all occupied areas other than the bay of occurrence. (For the purpose of this Class II Category, access ramps and plant roads are not considered occupied areas.) Prevention of fatalities and severe injuries is satisfied where personnel in occupied areas other than the bay of occurrence will not be exposed to the following.
  - C Overpressures greater than 100 kPa (15 psi) maximal effective pressure.
  - C Structural collapse resulting from overpressure or debris impact—structural collapse is the failure of a structural component as a direct result of loss of structural integrity of the facility being subjected to various loadings (judged in accordance with the ability of the structure to remain intact so that explosion propagation, fatalities, or severe injuries will not occur).

- C Missiles (hazardous fragments) generated in acceptor-occupied areas—hazardous fragments that can cause fatalities and severe injuries are defined as those having greater than 58 ft-lb impact energy. These values are taken from Chapter 3, Section III of TM5-1300. The threshold pressure for eardrum rupture is 34 kPa; one-half of the threshold pressure for lung damage is 100 kPa.
  
- d. Class I. Bays for Class I (high accident potential) activities shall, in addition to complying with the requirements for Class II bays, provide protection to prevent serious injuries to all personnel, including personnel performing the activity, personnel in other occupied areas, and all transient personnel. This protection may be achieved by controlling blast and debris through suppression, containment, or establishment of an exclusion area with positive access control. Prevention of serious injuries is satisfied where personnel will not be exposed to:
  - C overpressures greater than 34 kPa (5 psi) maximal effective pressure, and should not exceed 16 kPa (2.3 psi) peak positive incident pressure; \*\*
  
  - C structural collapse of the building from overpressure or debris impact—structural collapse is the failure of a structural component as a direct result of loss of structural integrity of the facility being subjected to various loadings (judged in accordance with the ability of the structure to remain intact so that explosion propagation and serious injury to personnel will not occur);

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\*\* This value is specified in DoD 6055.9-STD as required protection for all personnel exposed to remote operations (16 kPa is also the overpressure for public-traffic-route distance).

- C missiles (hazardous fragments)–hazardous fragments that can cause serious injuries are defined as those having greater than 11 ft-lb impact energy; and
- C thermal fluxes greater than 0.3 cal/cm<sup>2</sup>/sec. \*\*\*

#### 4.2.2 Bays for Joint Explosives-Plutonium Activities

Bays for joint explosives-plutonium activities shall comply with the requirements of paragraph 4.2.1 of this chapter for the class of explosives activity involved and DOE DNA TP 20-7. In addition, because of the potential for plutonium contamination, they shall comply with the following.

- a. Bays for Uncased Explosives–Plutonium Activities. Where it is necessary to store, handle, or process uncased explosives components in the same bay with plutonium, the enclosing structure and its associated ventilation, electrical, fire protection, and utility system shall be designed to ensure that, in the event all the explosives present should detonate, radiation exposures shall comply with DOE O 420.1 from the standpoint of hypothesized accidental releases. The quantity of plutonium allowed in such a bay will be governed by the safety analysis report. Activities may be performed in Class IV bays if only IHE, IHE subassemblies, or IHE weapons are present; however, the quantity of plutonium allowed will be governed by criticality considerations.
- b. Bays for Cased Explosives–Plutonium Activities. Where it is necessary to handle or process cased high-explosive components that contain plutonium, the enclosing structure shall be designed as a Class II explosives bay. Storage shall conform to Class III requirements. The limit of plutonium shall be 25 kg per bay. The plutonium limits for

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\*\*\* This value is specified in DoD 6055.9 STD, Chapter 4, paragraph D, as required protection for all personnel assigned to perform remote operations.

magazines are specified in DOE-DNA TP 20-7. Activities may be performed in Class IV bays if only IHE, IHE subassemblies, or IHE weapons are present; however, the quantity of plutonium allowed will be governed by criticality considerations.

## 5.0 FIRE PROTECTION

### 5.1 Vegetation Control

Vegetation around storage magazines and explosives-operating facilities should be controlled to minimize potential damage to the magazine or facility from grass, brush, or forest fires, or from erosion. A firebreak at least 15 m wide and free from combustible material should be maintained around each aboveground magazine or facility processing or containing explosives. If the aboveground magazine or explosive facility exterior is fire resistant, the firebreak need not be devoid of vegetation, but the growth must be controlled by mowing to prevent rapid transmission of fire to the magazine or facility. The maintenance of firebreaks around earth-covered magazines and the cutting of grass covering these structures are not normally required, except around ventilators to prevent transmission of a fire into a structure.

### 5.2 Fire Protection Criteria

These fire protection criteria shall be required for all new facilities or for redesign of any existing facilities where changes in activities will result in a change to a more hazardous class.

- a. Automatic fire suppression systems shall be installed in all buildings containing high explosives and plutonium, with the exception of storage magazines.
- b. For buildings containing explosives, but no plutonium, the need for fire suppression systems shall be determined by the

facility management, on the basis of maximum fire loss criteria and program mission interruptions and delays as outlined in DOE O 420.1, FACILITY SAFETY; DOE O 430.1, LIFE-CYCLE ASSET MANAGEMENT; and DOE O 440.1, WORKER PROTECTION MANAGEMENT FOR DOE FEDERAL AND CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEES.

- c. Where fire suppression is required, each explosives bay shall have an individual feed with its controls protected outside the bay and located so as to remain operable in the event of a detonation in any bay.
- d. Transmitted fire alarms shall distinguish between explosives and nonexplosives areas through the use of annunciator panels at safe locations; small non-high explosives areas are exempt from having separately transmitted alarms.

#### 6.0 EXPLOSIVES FACILITY SITING AND DESIGN CRITERIA REFERENCES

Explosives facilities shall comply fully with TM5-1300, Structures to Resist the Effects of Accidental Explosions, and DOE/TIC-11268, A MANUAL FOR THE PREDICTION OF BLAST AND FRAGMENT LOADING OF STRUCTURES.

Blast-resistant design for personnel and facility protection shall be based on the TNT equivalency of the maximum quantity of explosives and propellants. In accordance with TM5-1300, the TNT equivalency shall be increased by 20% for design purposes.

For an unproven facility design, either a validated model or full-scale test is required to ensure structural adequacy unless a high degree of confidence can be provided by calculations or other means. The contract administrator (Head of Field Organization) with competent engineering review shall concur in any determination regarding test requirements.

The design of all new facilities, or those with major modifications, shall conform to the DOE explosives safety requirements. For a tabular summary of the types of protective

design established by these criteria, see Table VI-2. Protective construction design features are specified in TM5-1300 and DOE/TIC-11268.

Studies necessary to provide the technical basis for location, engineering, design, and operation [under normal and potential design basis accident (DBA) conditions] of the buildings shall follow the stricter of this Manual and DoD 6055.9-STD, DoD Ammunition and Explosives Safety Standards, for establishing explosives quantity-distance separation.

DoD 6055.9 requires that the minimum distance for protection from hazardous fragments to facility boundaries, critical facility, and inhabited structures shall be 1,250 ft for explosives quantities of 101 to 20,000 lb and 670 ft for 100 lb or less of Hazard Class/Division 1.1 explosives, unless it can be shown that there will be no hazardous fragments or debris at lesser distances. The methods of calculation presented in the Department of Defense Explosives Safety Board (DDESB) Technical Paper No. 13 may be used to establish a smaller fragment exclusion zone. It is not intended that these minimum fragment distances be applied to operating facilities or dedicated support functions within an operating line. For these exposures, the DOE criteria presented in this Manual, for Class I, II, III, or IV activities with appropriate quantity-distance separations are the required protection levels.

In addition to this Manual, the following are resource documents for the siting and design of explosives facilities:

- | C DOE O 420.1, FACILITY SAFETY, 10-13-95, U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, D.C. 20545.
- C DOE O 430.1, LIFE-CYCLE ASSET MANAGEMENT, 8-24-95, Office of Project and Facilities Management, U.S. Department of Energy, Washington, D.C. 20545.
- C 10 CFR 830, Nuclear Safety Management.



DOE M 440.1-1  
3-29-96

Chapter VI  
Revision 8

Table VI-2. Explosives facilities: protective design requirements by activity type.

Type of Activity	DOE M 440.1-1 Operational Requirement for Activity Involved	Explosion Protection for Personnel in Other Occupied Areas Including Adjacent Bay	Explosion Protection for All Personnel (Remote Operation)	Control of Plutonium in Event of Explosion	High-Level Protection from Natural Phenomena	Normal Protection from Natural Phenomena	Radiological Considerations
<b>Class I Activities<sup>2</sup></b>							
Explosives Only	X	X	X			X	
HE-Pu Cased							
HE-Pu Uncased							
<b>Class II Activities</b>							
Explosives Only	X	X				X	
HE-Pu Cased	X	X					
HE-Pu Uncased	X	X		X	X		X
<b>Class III Activities</b>							
Explosives Only	X					X	
HE-Pu Cased			NOT PERMITTED				
HE-Pu Uncased			NOT PERMITTED				

- C TM5-1300, NAVFAC P-397, AFM 88-22, Structures to Resist the Effects of Accidental Explosions, Departments of the Army, the Navy, and the Air Force, Chairman, Department of Defense Explosives Safety Board, 2461 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22331.
- C DOE/TIC-11268, A MANUAL FOR THE PREDICTION OF BLAST AND FRAGMENT LOADING OF STRUCTURES, U.S. Department of Energy, Albuquerque Operations, Amarillo Area Office, Facilities and Maintenance Branch, P.O. Box 30030, Amarillo, TX 79120.
- C DoD 6055.9-STD, DoD Ammunition and Explosives Safety Standards, Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower, Installations, and Logistics), Chairman, Department of Defense Explosives Safety Board, 2461 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22331.
- C DDESB, Technical Paper No. 13, "Prediction of Building Debris for Quantity-Distance Siting," April 1991, Chairman, Department of Defense Explosives Safety Board, 2461 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22331
- C AMC-R-385-100, AMC Safety Manual, Headquarters, United States Army Materiel Command, 5001 Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria, VA 22333.
- C TR-828, Blast Environment from Fully and Partially Vented Explosions in Cubicles, W. A. Keenan and J. E. Tancreto, Civil Engineering Laboratory, Naval Construction Battalion Center, Port Hueneme, CA 93043.
- C AD 411445, Industrial Engineering Study to Establish Safety Design Criteria for Use in Engineering of Explosives Facilities and Operations, Process Engineering Branch, APMED Picatinny Arsenal, Dover, NJ; Defense Technical Information Center, Defense Logistics Agency, Cameron Station, Alexandria, VA 22314.

- C AFWL-TR-74-102, The Air Force Manual for Design and Analysis of Hardened Structures, Air Force Weapons Laboratory, Air Force Systems Command, Kirtland Air Force Base, NM 87117; AD B004152, Defense Technical Information Center, Defense Logistics Agency, Cameron Station, Alexandria, VA 22314.
  
- C HNDM-1110-01-2, Suppressi ve Shi el ds, Structural Design and Analysis Handbook, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Huntsville Division, HNDED-CS, P. O. Box 1600, Huntsville, AL 35807.

## CHAPTER VII OPERATING PROCEDURES

### 1.0 GENERAL

#### 1.1 Requirements

This section establishes requirements for preparing and controlling all procedures used for operations involving explosives at DOE installations. These requirements for procedures minimize the chances of an incident resulting from operations using outdated, inapplicable, or incomplete procedures, or from operations performed in violation of established practices.

This section also specifies that procedures must be generated for all explosives operations because the step-by-step reasoning process that is used in developing the procedure will identify many safety-related problem areas that might be overlooked otherwise. In addition, the approval system for new or revised procedures provides other viewpoints and knowledge that may not be available to the originator and may need to be incorporated into the procedure.

#### 1.2 Types of Procedures

Two general types of operating procedures are described in this chapter: (1) standard operating procedures (SOPs) and (2) nonstandard procedures, which include experimental and special procedures. SOPs are formalized documents prepared for performance of a task on a routine basis. Experimental and special procedures are documents prepared for performance of a task on a limited basis. For the purpose of this Manual, special procedures are those written to correct a problem encountered in an explosives operation.

### 2.0 GUIDELINES

The following general guidelines should be used in creating operating procedures.

### 2.1 Before Operation

- a. Before starting any operation involving explosives a hazard or risk analysis shall be undertaken to identify any abnormal problems that will require special training, equipment, or procedures to safeguard personnel conducting the operation.
- b. A thorough review shall be conducted to determine whether the operation will require a safety analysis report according to the current version of DOE O 5481.1B, SAFETY ANALYSIS AND REVIEW SYSTEM, which will establish if the operation is safe to field.
- c. General operating procedures shall be written and approved for each activity to ensure consistency and safety of operations.

### 2.2 Supervisory Responsibility

Supervisory personnel shall be responsible for enforcement of the provisions of all procedures that are used in their jurisdiction.

### 2.3 Preparation

- a. Procedures shall be prepared by responsible personnel with knowledge of the operations involved.
- b. All material in the procedure and operational steps called out shall be checked for compliance with the guidance in this Manual and other DOE directives that may be applicable per DOE O 440.1.

c. The specific types of equipment and building or area in which the operation is to be conducted should be designated in the procedure, when applicable.

| d. If similar operations in the same area involve differences in equipment or process, supplemental procedures or sections shall be written.

#### 2.4 Approval

a. All new or revised operating procedures shall be reviewed and approved prior to use. Levels of approval required should be based on the inherent risk in the operation and be established by each operating contractor. Review and approval requirements shall include, as a minimum, line and safety organizations.

b. Work control processes shall be in place prior to any operational activities.

#### 2.5 Control

| a. Distribution of procedures shall be controlled to ensure that each operating area has the most current revision. Superseded or inactive procedures shall be removed from operating areas. No operation shall be performed with a superseded, inactive, or unapproved procedure.

b. Files of active procedures should be maintained.

#### 2.6 Audits

a. An audit system should be established that will evaluate routinely the adequacy, availability, and currency of procedures. Also, audits should include an evaluation of operator knowledge and compliance with procedures.

- b. Groups conducting the audits should include personnel from other than the operating department or division using the procedure.

## 2.7 Reviews

- a. All active procedures should be reviewed a minimum of once a year by the appropriate departments.
- b. If the procedure is no longer completely applicable to the operation or if new safety considerations (i.e., compatibility, toxicity, ignition sources, etc.) have been identified, the procedure shall be revised.
- c. If a procedure is not expected to be used during the coming year, it may be placed in an inactive procedure file.
- d. Before an inactive procedure can be reactivated, it shall be reviewed and approved. Minimum approval shall be the same as that required for a new or revised procedure (see Section 2.4).

## 2.8 Content of SOPs

The following presentation is intended to specify procedures content, not format or organization. Each operating contractor can develop its own system for preparing safety procedures.

### 2.8.1 General Operating Procedures

- a. Introduction. The introduction to the procedure should include the following:
  - C** a statement of the scope of the procedure, defining what facilities and equipment are covered;
  - C** the name of the department and/or individual responsible for the operation; and



| C if the procedure serves as the basis for an exemption or waiver from the requirements of this Manual, a statement to this effect and a specific reference to the standard involved.

b. Safety and Health. The safety section of the procedure should present the following information or reference a safety manual that specifies the requirements.

C General safety rules to be observed and techniques to be applied that will ensure safety of operations, prevent injury or illness to personnel, and prevent damage to equipment. In particular, this section of the SOP should describe the personnel control features of the facility that protect personnel from exposure to hazardous operations, toxic materials, or tests.

C Personnel number and explosive weight limits.

C Additional or specific emergency controls not addressed by the facility emergency plan.

| c. Operations. The operations section should consist of general directions for operation of all major items of explosives-handling equipment. Particular emphasis should be placed on safety interlocks and controls, and the proper use of these systems.

If operation of a particular item of equipment or of an area requires that no other operation be performed simultaneously in this same work area, this requirement shall be clearly stated in the procedure.

## 2.8.2 Unit Operating Procedures

a. Introduction. The procedure introduction should include the following:

- C a statement of the nature of the operation and its objectives;
      - C the name of the department responsible for the operation and the procedure;
      - C a description of the range of work authorized by the procedure; and
      - C if the procedure serves as the basis for an exemption or waiver from the standards of this Manual, a statement to this effect and a specific reference to the standard involved.
- b. Materials and Equipment. The materials and equipment section should present the following information:
  - C all significant tools, supplies, chemicals, and equipment necessary to perform the operation should be listed in the SOP or in a separate required document;

- C specifications for approved chemicals, supplies, tooling, and equipment should be referenced where applicable; and
  - C an explanation of any specific hazard involved in the handling of chemicals or explosives for the operation, or a reference to a document that describes the hazards should be included.
- c. Safety. The safety section should present the following information or reference a safety manual that specifies the requirements:
- C safety rules that are specific to the operation;
  - C protective equipment that must be used during the operation; and
  - C emergency controls applicable to the operation that are not considered in the general operating procedures.
- d. Operations. The operations section should consist of sequential directions written or pictured in clear, concise steps that describe how to perform a particular operation. If a particular operation requires that no other operation be performed simultaneously in the same work area, this requirement shall be clearly stated in the procedure.

## 2.9 Content of Special or Experimental Procedures

| In addition to the applicable requirements listed in paragraph  
| 2.8 of this chapter, the following shall also be addressed.

- | a. Field operations that, due to their remoteness, will have to  
| factor in procedures to ensure that both fire and medical  
| emergency services will be responsive within a reasonable  
| time or be staged at the event site.

- b. Personnel involved with the operation shall be briefed or trained on any unique aspects of the operation and emergency procedures.

When a special or experimental operation will be conducted a number of times, an SOP should be written and approved.

## CHAPTER VIII FORMULATION SCALEUP

### 1.0 EXPLOSIVES DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

#### 1.1 Explosives Development Committee

A committee shall be established at each DOE facility engaged in explosives development to be the approving authority for each phase of an explosives development program. This committee will be referred to in this Manual as the Explosives Development Committee (EDC), but it may have a different name at each DOE facility. Individuals chosen to serve on the EDC should have considerable experience in explosives handling, processing, chemistry, sensitivity, and safety.

#### 1.2 Phase-by-Phase Approvals

The EDC shall review and approve data generated in each phase of a development project that involves a new explosive or new explosive formulation before the next phase begins.

#### 1.3 Modified Formulations

Compositional modifications to previously evaluated explosive formulations shall be approved by the EDC. However, the EDC may approve minor modifications to the explosives formulation for a given phase of development without requiring all of the developmental steps and tests.

#### 1.4 Sensitivity Data from Another Laboratory

If comparable sensitivity data for the subject material are available from another laboratory, the EDC may waive some developmental phase tests.

### 2.0 DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURES

## 2.1 General

- | All DOE explosives handling facilities shall establish an administrative procedure that defines the basic steps for developing and evaluating new explosives and explosive formulations. The procedure shall require that each development effort proceed in phases from small to large quantities. The quantities of materials that may be handled in each phase shall be limited. The EDC shall be responsible for establishing criteria for acceptable explosive behavior in each test of each phase of the explosives development

Table VIII-1. Scaleup procedure guidelines for new explosives and formulations.

Quantity of new material <sup>a</sup>	Recommended data <sup>a</sup>	Data desired	Additional recommendations
Synthesis Specified by the lab performing the synthesis	Impact, friction, spark, thermal stability	Before using the new ingredient in a formulation	_____
Formulation Compatibility testing: 2 g	Thermal compatibility of new ingredients with other ingredients of formulation	Before proceeding to Phase I	Materials should be processed remotely
Phase I:  10 g	Impact, friction, thermal stability	Before nonremote processing and handling in Phase I or scaleup to Phase II	Materials should be processed remotely before passing sensitivity and stability tests
Phase II:  500 g <sup>b</sup>	Compatibility, <sup>c</sup> impact, friction, spark, thermal stability, thermal characterization before elevated temperature pressing	<sup>d</sup>	<sup>e</sup>
Phase III:  Specified by EDC	Compatibility, high-speed machining, drop skid	Before Phase III machining or handling of billets 7 kg or greater	Composition of formulation shall be fixed

<sup>a</sup> Quantities and recommended data apply to both new formulations and explosive ingredients.

<sup>b</sup> The EDC may allow more than 500 g in Phase II when larger quantities are needed for some tests.

<sup>c</sup> Compatibility of explosives and formulations with materials contacting the explosives in test and production assemblies.

<sup>d</sup> Before proceeding to Phase III if:

(1) The formulation to be scaled up to Phase III differs from that tested in Phase I, or

(2) The explosive or formulation prepared for Phase II development is produced by techniques different from those used in Phase I.

Before proceeding to Phase II, if the composition of a formulation is modified so that the composition is

no longer within the limits specified by the EDC.

° Materials investigated in this phase should be produced by techniques similar to those that will be used

to produce larger batches in a subsequent phase.



procedure. The development procedure should consist of three phases plus a synthesis phase and compatibility testing, when required. Guidelines for establishing this procedure are proposed in the following paragraphs. Table VIII-1 summarizes these guidelines.

## 2.2 Synthesis Phase

Before mixing a new explosive with other materials, the sensitivity and stability of the explosive should be determined and should comply with the criteria set by the EDC. Recommended tests include the following:

- a. drop-weight impact;
- b. friction;
- c. spark;
- d. thermal stability (these tests should include two or more of the following):
  - C differential thermal analysis or differential scanning calorimetry;
  - C thermal gravimetric analysis;
  - C gas evolution rate at elevated temperature (chemical reactivity test, vacuum stability, etc.); and
  - C time-to-explosion analysis.

## 2.3 Compatibility Testing

- a. If a proposed formulation contains new ingredients (explosive or nonexplosive), the new ingredients should be tested for compatibility with the other ingredients before preparing batches for Phase I testing. Compatibility tests

- | should include any of the stability tests listed under paragraph 2.2d of this chapter.
- b. No more than 2 g of the new formulation should be prepared, handled, or stored before compatibility testing.
  - c. Formulations for compatibility testing should be processed remotely, whenever possible.

| 2.4 Phase I–Preliminary Explosives Testing

- a. The total quantity of material that may be processed, handled, or stored at any one time in Phase I should not exceed 10 g. Whenever possible, this material should be processed remotely.
- b. The new explosive or formulation should be subjected to sensitivity and stability tests. As a minimum, drop-weight impact, friction, spark sensitivity, and thermal stability tests should be run. Thermal stability testing need not be performed here if one or more of the compatibility tests listed under paragraph 2.2d of this chapter have already been conducted on the new formulation.
- c. If the new explosive or formulation is acceptable in the above tests, it may be scaled up to Phase II. The EDC may impose handling or processing restrictions or precautions on the material if its performance in any of the above tests is questionable.
- d. After Phase I testing of a formulation is complete, the EDC should define, on the basis of the test results, what variations in composition are permissible during Phase II development without retesting.

| 2.5 Phase II–Experimental Characterization and Development

- a. The total quantity of materials that may be processed or handled at any one time in Phase II should not exceed 500 g. No limit exists on the quantity that may be stored, other than the storage facility limits for Group L explosives.
- b. Materials investigated in Phase II should be produced by techniques similar to those that will be used to produce larger batches in a subsequent scaleup phase.

c. A thermal characterization test and evaluation should be run before pressing the new material at elevated temperature.

d. The Phase I sensitivity and stability tests should be rerun in Phase II if the following conditions apply.

**C** The formulation to be scaled up to Phase III differs from that tested in Phase I. In this case, testing should be completed before Phase III scale up.

**C** The explosive or formulation prepared for Phase II development is produced by techniques different than those used in Phase I. Testing should be completed before Phase III scale up.

C During Phase II, the composition of a formulation is modified to an extent that the composition is no longer within the limits specified by the EDC (see paragraph 2.4d of this chapter). Testing should be completed before proceeding with Phase II.

C The compatibility of explosives and formulations with materials that contact the explosives in test and production devices shall be evaluated before any such device is assembled. If compatibility testing is required, one or more of the tests listed under paragraph 2.2d of this chapter should be recommended.

## 2.6 Phase III—Full-Scale Testing and Production

- a. The maximum quantity of materials that may be processed or handled in Phase III should be defined in the EDC's grant of authorization to proceed with Phase III. No limit is imposed for the storage facilities except the limits imposed by the quantity-distance tables.
- b. All additional testing necessary to define storage compatibility grouping should be completed before committing bulk quantities of the material to storage (see Chapter II, Section 17.4).
- c. During Phase III development, the composition of all formulations should be fixed.
- d. Any new explosive material that is to be contact machined shall be subjected to a machining overtest. Reaction threshold should be determined if possible.
- e. If billets of 7 kg or greater are to be produced in Phase III, drop-skid testing should be performed and EDC criteria for this test should be met.

- | f. Paragraph 2.5e of this chapter should also apply to Phase III development.

CHAPTER IX  
INSENSITIVE HIGH EXPLOSIVES QUALIFICATION

1.0 INSENSITIVE HIGH EXPLOSIVES (IHE)

Some explosive substances, although mass detonating, are so insensitive that there is negligible probability of accidental initiation or transition from burning to detonation. Any explosive that is a candidate for classification as an IHE shall be subjected to the DOE qualification tests listed in Table IX-1. Test procedures, where not specified, are contained in MHSMP-84-22, IHE Material Qualification Tests, Description and Criteria. Test data for each explosive requested for this classification will be submitted by the DOE Laboratory or contractor through the appropriate Operations Office to DOE Headquarters Office of Field Support (EH-53). The DOE Explosives Safety Committee will independently analyze the data and recommend action on including the explosive in Table IX-2 as an approved IHE.

New candidate explosives formulations will not be classified by analogy as IHE until reviewed by the DOE Explosives Safety Committee. The general guidelines for requesting and obtaining an IHE approval by analogy are listed below.

C All requests, including rationale, must be submitted in writing to the DOE Explosives Safety Committee for their analysis and recommended action.

C Approved IHE(s) with complete test data must be used for baseline comparison purposes.

More specific guidelines will depend on circumstances surrounding the specific analogy request.

In many instances a partial analogy can be drawn, necessitating only partial testing. This will depend on the type and extent of

change in the candidate IHE relative to the baseline IHE and the potential effects of these changes on specific initiation mechanisms (shock, thermal, mechanical, impact, electrostatic, etc.). A candidate IHE can be placed in one of the following categories to define the tests required for approval.

- C** Case I (partial testing required). The candidate IHE formulation involves substitution of the inert binder component of the approved baseline IHE with a new inert binder component. Sufficient testing is required to verify that no chemical incompatibilities have been introduced that would destabilize the base IHE. In this case, test data normally generated by the requesting facility during their explosive development scaling phasing process may be submitted for approval consideration in lieu of the qualification tests of Table IX-1. During this development phase, each facility EDC may dictate restrictions consistent with an IHE internal to their facility only. Final approval as an IHE must be obtained through the DOE Explosives Safety Committee. Tests 1, 2, 3, and 7 of Table IX-1 or equivalent are required as a minimum.
  
- C** Case II (all IHE tests of Table IX-1 required; analogy inappropriate). The candidate IHE involves the addition of an untested (IHE tests) energetic component to the approved baseline IHE.

Or:

The candidate IHE involves the same energetic and inert components as the approved baseline IHE, the only change being a volume-% increase in the energetic component content.

Any data over and above that required in Table IX-1 will be considered by the DOE Explosives Safety Committee in its deliberations of the approval request.



## 2.0 IHE SUBASSEMBLIES

IHE subassemblies are composed of IHE hemispheres or spheres with booster charges, with or without detonators. Successful completion of the applicable DOE qualification tests listed in Table IX-3 is required for classification as an IHE subassembly. A test plan (defining specific test procedures) for candidates for this classification shall be submitted by the DOE contractor through the appropriate Operations Office to the DOE Explosives Safety Committee for review. On approval of the plan, tests shall be run and the DOE Explosives Safety Committee shall independently analyze the data and recommend approval or disapproval. DOE Headquarters will then issue a memorandum to appropriate Operations Offices and DOE Contractors classifying those configurations meeting the required test criteria as IHE subassemblies. Approved IHE subassemblies are listed in Table IX-4. Subassemblies will not be classified as IHE subassemblies by analogy until reviewed by the DOE Explosives Safety Committee. When no other explosives are present in the same location, these subassemblies are classified as Class 1.3 explosives (see Table IX-5) for storage, processing, and transportation purposes.

## 3.0 IHE WEAPONS

IHE weapons are those weapons listed in DOE-DNA TP 20-7 that are exempt from storage and transportation limits when stored or transported alone or in combination with each other. This classification is valid only if the spacing between individual units is that provided by storage containers, or if out of containers, by the spacing specified in TP 20-7. These weapons are classified as Class 1.3 explosives for storage, processing, and transportation purposes.

Table IX-1. DOE qualification tests for IHE.

1.	Drop-weight impact test <sup>a</sup>	Comparable to or less sensitive than Explosive D (ammonium picrate). Minimum of 20 drops per test series.
2.	Friction test <sup>b</sup>	No reaction on Pantex friction machine (10 trials).
3.	Spark test <sup>a</sup>	No reaction at minimum of 0.25 joules (10 trials).
4.	Ignition and unconfined burning test (small-scale burn)	TB 700-2 test procedures, any shape, minimum thermal path of 25 mm, no explosion.
5.	Card gap test <sup>b</sup>	No reaction at Explosive D 50% gap thickness (or less) using a Pantex modified NOL card gap test (6 trials). The test diameter must be greater than the unconfined failure (critical) diameter of the candidate IHE.
6.	Detonation (cap) test	TB 700-2 test procedures-no detonation (5 trials).
7.	Cookoff	No reaction of more than a pressure release using the large-scale ODTX test conducted such that a reaction must occur in not less than 4 hours (6 trials).
8.	Spigot test <sup>b</sup>	No reaction for 120-ft drop in LANL test (3 trials).
9.	Skid test <sup>b</sup>	No reaction up to 20-ft (or sample failure) drop at 14-15 degrees test angle using standard size billets (3 trials at worst-case condition).
10.	Susan test	Less than or equal to 10% TNT output at a minimum of 333 m/sec (3 trials).
11.	Bullet impact	No violent reaction with 5.56 mm and .50 cal. projectile impact on material in schedule 40 steel pipe with closures on each end (6 trials in axial orientation).

<sup>a</sup> These tests are not applicable to compacted explosives.

<sup>b</sup> These tests are not applicable for explosives powders.

Table IX-2. Approved IHEs.

---

TATB  
TATB/Kel-F Formulations

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Table IX-3. DOE qualification tests for IHE subassemblies. <sup>a</sup>

---

1.	Spigot test	No burning or violent reaction of main charge of 120-ft drop on booster in LANL test (3 trials).
2.	Bonfire	No detonation or violent reaction of main charge when engulfed in a fire (3 trials).
3.	Slow cookoff	No detonation or violent reaction of main charge when slowly heated to a reaction (3 trials).
4.	Multiple bullet impact	No detonation or violent reaction of main charge with a 3-round burst of 7.62 mm projectile impact on booster (3 trials).
5.	Skid test	No burning or violent reaction of main charge up to a 20-ft (or sample failure) drop at 14 to 15 degrees test angle using subassembly configuration modified for impact on the booster (3 trials at worst-case condition).

---

<sup>a</sup> Tests are not required for subassemblies when main charge and booster charge explosives have been qualified as IHE by tests in Table IX-1.

Note: The test plan shall specify applicable testing for cased and/or uncased configurations with or without detonators.

Table IX-4. Approved IHE subassemblies.

---

B61 <sup>a</sup> 3/4/6/7/8		W80 <sup>a</sup>	W85 <sup>a</sup>
B83 <sup>a</sup>	W84		W87 W89

---

<sup>a</sup> Approval limited to boosters of the size tested or smaller. Any redesign that dimensionally increase the booster size requires resubmission of an experimental plan and additional testing as another IHE subassembly.

Table IX-5. IHE hazard classification.

---

IHE alone	1.3
IHE at magazine distance or greater from Class 1.1	1.3
IHE at magazine distance or greater from Class 1.2	1.3
IHE with 1.1 items	1.1
IHE with 1.2 items	1.1
IHE with other 1.3 items	1.3
IHE with 1.4 items	1.3
IHE at less than magazine distance from Class 1.1	1.1
IHE at less than magazine distance from Class 1.2	1.1

---

Note: IHE may be stored with mock high explosives without regard to the quantity of mock high explosives.

#### 4.0 REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

The following documents set forth some of the non-DOE procedures to be used in the IHE and IHE subassembly testing required by Tables IX-1 and IX-3:

- C TB 700-2, NAVSEA INST 8020.8A, TO 11A-1-47, DLAR 8220.1, Department of Defense Ammunition and Explosives Hazard Classification Procedures, Departments of the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, and the Defense Logistics Agency, Washington, D.C.
- C MHSMP-84-22, IHE Material Qualification Tests, Description and Criteria (Rev. 1, July 1985), National Technical Information Service, U.S. Department of Commerce, 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, VA 22161.

INDEX

Acceptor(s), VI-8  
Access control, II-15, VI-9  
Access ramps, VI-8  
Accident potential, VI-6-8  
Accident, vehicle, II-88-89  
Accidental releases, VI-9  
Accounting procedure(s), II-5  
Actuators, II-64, 75, 77, 95-96, 99, 114  
Adiabatic heating, II-43  
Administration areas, II-81, VI-5  
Advisory requirements, I-2  
Agitation, II-39, 51, 55-56  
Aircraft, II-62  
Airspace, II-62  
Aisle(s), II-92  
Alarm(s), II-6, 10, 28, 41, 51, 55; VI-11  
Ammunition, I-10, 13; II-18, 61, 66, 70, 82, 85-86, 95-100, 108; VI-1, 3, 11-12  
Analogy, II-40, 88; IX-1-2  
Approval procedure, II-12  
Approved IHE, IX-1-2, 4  
Arm, I-5, 13; II-62, 69-71, 85, 97-98  
Arrestor, II-28, 85, 87  
Assembly, I-10; II-26-27, 34, 45, 47, 50, 53-55, 64-65, 68, 71-73, 77, 107; VI-7  
Audit(s), VII-3  
  
Ball or jar milling, II-58  
Bare explosive(s), II-6, 32, 50, 79  
Barricade, I-5, 12; II-102  
Battery-powered equipment, II-32, 87  
Battery-powered lights, II-32  
Bay of occurrence, VI-8  
Bay, I-5, 13; II-8-9, 12, 14, 18, 37, 48, 60, 72, 88, 108, 111; III-1-2; VI-7-10  
Bearing(s), I-11; II-20, 57  
Blast vent, II-121

Blast, I-13; II-7-10, 27, 54, 62-63, 116, 121; VI-2, 8-9, 11-12  
Blast-resistant door(s), II-9  
Blending, I-5; II-26-27, 33, 52; VI-6-7  
Blocking and bracing, II-83  
Bonding, II-19-20  
Booster, I-5, 9; II-48; IX-2, 4  
Brush(es), II-106-107  
Brushes or scraper(s), II-107  
Burial, II-117-118  
Burning area, II-114-115  
  
Cart, II-79  
Cased explosive(s), II-117; VI-10  
Casual, I-5, III-1  
Cell, I-5, II-8, 32, 73-74  
  
Checklist, II-3, 81, 83  
Chemical cleaning agent, II-106  
Chemical processing, II-54  
Chock block(s), II-84  
Class 1.1 material(s), VI-5  
Class 1, I-14; VI-2-3  
Class I, II-25-26, 28-29, 31-32, 86; VI-6-8, 11  
Class II, II-25-26, 28-29, 31-32, 86; VI-6-8, 10  
Class III, VI-7-8, 11  
Class IV, VI-7-10  
Classification test(s), VI-3  
Classified by analogy, IX-1  
Cleaning, II-11, 37, 57, 105-106, 108, 110, 119; IV-2  
Cleanup procedure(s), II-20, 82  
Closed circuit television, II-13  
Clothing, II-2, 11, 56; IV-1-2  
Cold trap, II-41  
Combustible material(s), I-5, 10; II-93, 97, 109, 116; VI-10  
Commercial carrier, II-87  
Common carrier(s), II-83; VI-5

- Communication equipment, 11-91
- Compatibility testing, 11-72, 99; VIII-2-5
- Compatibility, 1-5, 9; 11-43-44, 58, 72, 93, 95-99, 102, 110-111, 113; VI-3; VII-3; VIII-5
- Compliance with procedure(s), VII-2
- Concurrent burning operation(s), 11-114
- Concurrent contact machining, 11-47
- Concurrent operation(s), 1-6, 11-58
- Condensation, 11-42
- Conductive floor(s), 11-19-20, 22
- Conductive footwear, IV-1-2
- Conductive shoes, 11-20
- Conductive wristband(s), 11-20, 22
- Conductivity, IV-2
- Construction operation(s), 11-11
- Contact machining, 11-47-49
- Contact operation(s), 1-6; 11-40, 47, 50-51, 56-59, 64, 72; VI-7
- Container(s), 1-9-10; 11-26, 39, 43, 58, 77-78, 82-85, 87, 92-94, 96, 98-102, 109, 113-114, 119-120; VI-7; IX-2
- Contamination prevention, 11-58
- Contamination zone, 11-68
- Contamination, 1-9; 11-1, 20, 33, 35, 40, 51-53, 56, 58, 68, 93, 100, 105-107; IV-1-2; VI-9
- Control key, 11-69
- Control point, 1-6; 11-62
- Control procedure(s), 11-13, 15
- Cooking and eating, 11-15
- Cookoff, IX-3-4
- Coolant, 11-45-47, 49-51, 55
- Coring, 1-6, 11-47, 50, 59
- Coverall(s), IV-1-2
- Crack(s), 11-1, 21, 36, 49, 52-54, 107, 123
- Crane(s), 11-79, 93
- Critical temperature, 1-6, 8; 11-40-41
- Criticality, 11-4; VI-9-10
- Cubicle(s), 1-5; 11-37, 70, 100, 111; VI-12
- Curing, 11-53
- Current-limiting(ed), 11-76-77
- Cushioning material, 11-53
- Cutting or welding, 11-13
- Cutting tool(s), 1-11; 11-46, 49
- Damaged container(s), 11-101
- Danger zone, 1-6; 11-62-63, 74, 116
- Dangerous good(s), VI-2
- Deaerator(s), 11-57
- Debris impact, VI-7
- Decomposition, 1-9; 11-40-41, 64, 80, 95, 98, 107
- Decontamination, 1-7; 11-12-13, 106-109, 112
- Deflagration, 1-6
- Degraded explosive, 11-95
- Degree(s) of protection, VI-2
- Deluge system(s), 11-57
- Desiccator(s), 11-42
- Design and siting, VI-1
- Design criteria, 11-8; VI-11-12
- Detonation(s), 1-5-6, 10, 13; 11-7, 9, 63-64, 67, 69-70, 74, 102, 114-117; III-1; VI-6-8, 10; IX-1, 3-4
- Detonator cable(s), 11-68
- Detonator(s), 1-8-11, 13; 11-65, 68-69, 74, 78, 96, 98, 100, 100-101, 115, 117; IX-2, 4
- Development procedures, VIII-1, 3
- Deviations, NFPA 101, 11-8
- Diagnostic equipment, 11-64
- Die(s), 1-12; 11-43-44, 55
- Differential thermal analysis(es), 1-7; 11-31; VIII-3
- Disassembly, 11-34, 53-54, 73, 107; VI-7
- Disposal area, 11-116-117
- Disposal, 11-4, 36, 46, 58, 73, 78, 101, 106-107, 110, 112, 114, 116-117, 120; VI-6
- DNA TP 20-7, VI-9-10; IX-2
- Dock, 11-82
- Documentation, 11-5-6, 70
- DoD 6055.9-STD, 11-19, 28, 62, 98, 109, 124; VI-3, 5-7, 11-12
- Donor(s), VI-8

- Door(s), II-7, 9-10, 14, 18, 21, 31, 42, 63-64, 70, 82, 84-85, 92-93  
DOT regulation(s), II-84, 86, 88  
Drain(s), II-11, 38, 49, 106, 120  
Drilling, II-48, 50, 88, 108; VI-6  
Drop test, II-74  
Drop-ski d test, II-80; VIII-5  
Dry blending, II-52; VI-7  
Dry-type collector, II-36, 111  
Dry dust collection, II-111  
Dry machining, II-26, 48; VI-6  
Dry run(s), I-11; II-43, 49, 57  
Dry screening, II-50; VI-7  
Drying, I-7; II-26, 32, 38-41  
DTA, I-7, 9; II-30, 39-40  
Dual control (s), II-121  
Dual rated, II-32  
Dunnage, II-92  
Dust collection, II-20, 35-36, 43, 47, 110  
Dust generation, II-51  
Dust hazard, II-25  
Dynamic testing, II-71
- Eardrum rupture, VI-8  
EBW, I-7, 10-11; II-95, 97, 116  
EDC, II-54, 59; VIII-1-5; IX-1  
EED(s), I-7, 8, 11, 13; II-17, 20, 64, 68-69, 75, 77  
Egress, II-6, 8-9, 70  
Eight-hour supply, III-2  
Electric line(s), II-27  
Electric transmission lines, II-26  
Electrical bonding, I-7  
Electrical circuits, II-63, 68, 75-76  
Electrical equipment, II-23, 25, 28-30, 32, 119  
Electrical instrument(s), II-64, 69, 74-76  
Electrical resistance, II-18-20, 41  
Electrical service entrance, II-27  
Electrical storm(s), II-17-18, 93  
Electrical substation(s), II-27  
Electrical supply system, II-26  
Electrically bonded, II-50-51, 111
- Electroexplosive device(s), I-7; II-17, 20, 64; IV-1  
Electrostatic-sensitive, II-17, 50-51; IV-1  
Emergency condition(s), II-87  
Emergency control, II-123; VII-4-5  
Emergency cooling, II-121  
Emergency emptying, II-52  
Emergency exit(s), II-5  
Emergency plan(s), II-55, 87, 123; VII-4  
Emergency power, II-17  
Emergency procedure, II-74; VII-5  
Emergency stop device(s), II-58  
Emergency, II-5, 9, 17, 52, 55, 58, 63, 74, 83, 85-88, 91, 105, 116; V-1, VII-4-5  
Environmental regulation(s), II-117  
Environmental testing, VI-7  
Equipment design, VI-7  
Equipment maintenance, II-11; IV-2  
Equipment speed and feed rate(s), II-45  
Evacuation, II-6, 17, 124  
Excel si or, II-113  
Exceptions, NFPA 101, II-9  
Exemption(s), I-2-5, VII-3  
Exhaust ventilation, II-2, 35, 43, 55, 105; IV-1  
Exit(s), II-5-10, 17, 92  
Experimental characterization, VIII-4  
Experimental explosive(s), II-96, 99, 122  
Experimental operating procedure, I-7  
Exploding bridgewire (EBW), I-7, 8, 11; II-75, 95, 97, 116  
Explosion propagation, VI-8-9  
Explosive assembly(ies), I-1; II-68, 72, 78  
Explosive device(s), II-31, 65, 99, 100  
Explosive powder(s), II-7, 44, 58; IV-1  
Explosive projectile, II-75  
Explosive(s), I-1, 2, 4-5, 7-14; II-1-3, 5-9, 11-13, 15, 17-20, 22, 25-33, 36-64, 66-79,



- 81-89, 91-103, 105-111, 113-117, 119-123; III-1-2; IV-1-2; V-1-3; VI-1-12; VII-1, 4-5; VIII-1-5; IX-1-5
- Explosives activity(ies), I-5; III-1; VI-1, 6-7, 9
- Explosives billet(s), II-53
- Explosives classification, VI-2-3
- Explosives development, I-12; VI-6; VIII-1
- Explosives Development Committee, II-41, 55, 100
- Explosives dust(s), II-11, 25, 30, 35-36, 43, 51, 109-110
- Explosives formulation(s), II-42-43, 56-57; VIII-1; IX-1
- Explosives in solution, II-82, 122
- Explosives inspection, II-53
- Explosives limit(s), II-73, 101, 110; III-1; VI-1
- Explosives occupancy, II-7, 9
- Explosives recovery, II-111
- Explosives Safety Committee, I-1, 4-5
- Explosives shot, II-61
- Explosives slurry(ies), II-57, 111
- Explosives target(s), II-70
- Explosives waste container(s), II-113
- Explosives waste, II-37, 45, 109, 111, 113-116
- Explosives-carrying vehicle(s), II-17, 84, 87-88; V-1
- Exposed explosive(s), II-19-20, 22, 25, 30-31, 41, 84
- Extruding (sion), I-7; II-43-45, 58; VI-6
- Extrudable explosive(s), II-45, 52
- Eye protection, IV-1
- Facilities, I-1-2, 9; II-2, 5, 7, 13, 18, 25-28, 37, 49, 54, 56, 58, 68, 75, 81, 83-85, 87, 91, 97, 99, 105-108, 115; VI-2, 3-4, 6-7, 10-12; VII-3; VIII-1, 5
- Facility boundary(ies), II-81; VI-5, 11
- Facility management, I-2-3, 8; II-5, 12, 26, 28, 29-31, 40, 50-51, 56, 67, 86, 94; III-1; VI-10
- Facility operator, I-2, 8
- Facility siting and design, VI-11
- Facility, I-2-3, 7-9, 12-13; II-2-5, 11-12, 17, 26-32, 40, 50-51, 56, 67-68, 75, 81-82, 86-87, 93-94, 117, 119, 123; III-2; VI-5-6, 8-12; VII-4; VIII-1, 4; IX-1-2
- Fault tree analysis, II-3
- File(s), I-3; II-4, 18, 22, 85; III-2; VII-2-3
- Final decontamination(s), II-106-111
- Fire alarm(s), VI-11
- Fire control circuit, II-68
- Fire extinguisher(s), II-84, 88, 91
- Fire fighting, II-116
- Fire protection, II-8, 11-12, 28, 119; VI-9-10
- Fire symbol(s), II-123
- Firebrand(s), I-6, 8; II-61-62, 115
- Firing area(s), II-61, 64, 66, 68
- Firing circuit(s), II-63, 68-69, 73, 113-114
- Firing in Tank(s), II-69
- Firing key, II-113
- Firing lead(s), II-67
- Firing mechanism, II-70, 74
- Firing pad, I-8; II-63, 67
- Firing site, I-8; II-62-63, 66, 69
- Firing unit capacitor, II-67
- Firing vessel, II-69
- Flame-retardant coverall(s), IV-1
- Flammable gas(s), II-19, 22, 25-26
- Flammable liquid(s), I-8; II-20, 25, 55-56, 93
- Flammable vapor, II-20
- Flanged connector(s), II-35
- Flash point, I-8, II-11
- Flashing, II-114-115
- Flexible cords/wiring, II-29
- Floor cushioned, II-5
- Floor resistance, II-22
- Footwear, II-20; IV-1-2
- Foreign material, II-44, 53
- Foreign object(s), II-48
- Forklift(s), II-30, 85

- Formulation(s), I-1, 8; II-3, 39, 42-43, 45, 56-57, 96, 120; VIII-1-5; IX-1, 4  
Four-hour supply, II-73  
Fragment(s), I-6, 8; II-6-7, 28, 61-63, 103, 115-16, 120; VI-2, 8, 9, 11-12  
Friction air, II-40  
Fueling, II-87  
Full-scale testing, VIII-5  
Furnace, II-114
- Gauging, II-44, 49  
Gas gun, II-70  
Gasoline-powered, II-85-86  
Gate(s), II-62-63  
General operating procedure(s), VII-2-3, 5  
Glass container(s), II-100  
Glassware, II-122  
Glove(s), IV-2  
Grass Fire(s), II-67  
Grinding, II-25, 57  
Ground fault circuit interrupter, II-23; IV-1  
Grounding, II-19-20, 27, 63, 68  
Guard(s), II-31, 102, 119  
Gun firing(s), II-61-62, 70  
Gun(s), II-61-62, 70-71, 74
- Hand blending, II-51  
Hand tool(s), II-5, 52  
Hand truck(s), II-78  
Handling equipment, II-5, 11-12, 30, 54, 78, 85; VII-4  
Handling, I-1, 3; II-2-3, 5, 11-12, 18, 25-26, 30, 37, 51, 54, 56, 72, 77, 78, 85-87, 92-94, 100; VI-7; VII-4-5; VIII-1-2, 4  
Hard surface(s), II-52, 77  
Hazard and Operability Study (HAZOP), II-3  
Hazard class (activities), VI-6-7, 13  
Hazard class (explosives), II-77 83-85, 96, 102-03; III-2, VI-6, 11  
Hazard classification system, VI-2
- Hazard classification, explosives, II-6  
Hazard(s), I-5, 12, 14; II-2-9, 12, 15, 17, 19-20, 25-28, 30-31, 35, 49, 53-55, 59, 61, 68, 70, 77, 85, 91, 94, 96, 99, 100, 108, 120, 122-123; IV-1-2; VI-1-3, 6-7; VII-1, 5  
Hazard(s) analysis, II-3-4, 6-7, 61  
Hazardous condition(s), II-62-63, 87; V-1; VI-5  
Hazardous fragment(s), VI-8-9, 11  
Hazardous Locations (NEC), II-86  
Hazardous radioactive materials, II-40, 71-72  
Hearing protection, II-62  
Heat-producing equipment, II-12  
Heater control(s), II-42  
Heating coil(s), II-11, 91  
Heating control(s), II-40, 121  
Heating equipment, II-72  
Heating fluid, II-57  
Heating limits, I-8; II-39-40, 72  
Heating, I-6, 8; II-11, 25-26, 32, 39, 40, 42-43, 57-58, 72, 91, 106, 113, 120-121  
High accident potential, VI-6, 8  
High-energy initiator(s), II-75  
High explosive(s), I-9-10; II-6, 95, 97, 99; VI-5, 10; IX-1, 5  
High-hazard explosives, II-6, 8  
Hoist(s), II-78, 92  
Hoisting and rigging, II-12, 78  
Holding fixture(s), II-45  
Holding yard(s), II-81; VI-5  
Hole(s), I-6, 8-9; II-47, 49, 50, 52; VI-6  
Hot work permit(s), II-12  
Hot work, I-8; II-12  
Hot-wire initiator(s), II-75  
Hydraulic fluid(s), II-44  
Hydraulic pressure, II-53  
Hydraulically powered equipment, II-45  
Hydrostatic pressing, I-9; II-43
- Ignition train, II-113-114

- IHE subassembly(ies), I-9; II-47; VI-7, 9-10;  
IX-1-2, 5  
IHE weapon(s), I-9; VI-9-10  
IHE, I-9-10; II-47; III-2; VI-7, 9-10;  
IX-1-5  
In-process storage magazine, I-9  
Inactive procedure(s), VII-2-3  
Incinerator(s), II-114  
Incompatible explosive(s), II-58, 109, 113  
Industrial hygiene, II-2  
Industrial occupancy(ies), II-5  
Industrial truck(s), II-86-87  
Inert mockup, II-48  
Inhabited-building distance, I-9, 13; II-17, 26, 81, 103; VI-5-6  
Initiating explosive(s), II-95, 97, 113  
Initiating systems, II-75-76  
Initiation circuit(s), II-75  
Initiation stimulus(i), I-7-9; II-109  
Initiation, I-5, 7-11, 14; II-18-19, 29, 45, 54, 75, 79, 95, 97-98, 109; VI-3, 7; IX-1  
Insensitive High Explosive(s), I-9-10; IX-1  
Inspection equipment, II-53  
Inspection frequency, II-1  
Inspection station, II-81  
Inspection, I-5; II-1-2, 11, 18, 25, 35, 37, 42, 45, 51, 53-54, 56-57, 62, 68-69, 75, 78, 81-82, 87, 92-93, 107; IV-2; VI-5  
Instrumentation, II-28-30, 32, 72, 107  
Instruments, II-18, 22, 31, 69, 74-76  
Interchange yard, II-81  
Interlock(s), II-30, 41-42, 45, 48-49, 62-63, 68; VII-4  
Interlocked, II-30, 41, 45, 62, 69  
Interlocking, II-13  
Intraline distance, I-10; II-11-12, 110, 116  
Intraplant shipping, II-83  
Inventory, II-92, 94, 102  
Isostatic pressing, I-10; II-43  
Labeling, II-33; V-3  
Laboratory coat(s), IV-1  
Laboratory operation(s), I-10; II-2, 119-120  
Large-scale test(s), II-61; IX-3  
Laundering, IV-2  
LEL, I-10-11  
LFL, I-10-11  
Life Safety Code, II-5, 7  
Lifting device(s), II-71  
Lighter(s), II-15, 87  
Lightning arrester, II-27  
Lightning protection, II-17-19, 27  
Lightning storm(s), II-64  
Liquid addition, II-93  
Loss criteria, VI-10  
Low-energy EED, I-7, 11  
Low-energy initiator(s), II-64, 75  
Low-firing-current initiator(s), II-64, 68  
Lower explosive limit, I-10-11  
Lower flammable limit, I-10-11  
Lung damage, VI-8  
Machine speed, II-48  
Machining overtest, I-11; II-46, 49; VIII-5  
Machining, I-6, 11; II-25, 45-49, 58, 107, 114; VI-6-7; VIII-2, 5  
Magazine distance, I-11; II-17; VI-8; IX-5  
Magazine(s), I-9, 11-13; II-6, 8, 17, 32, 59, 84-85, 91-93, 97, 100-102, 115, 119  
Magnetic separation, II-53  
Maintenance, I-2, 6; II-11-12, 25, 33, 49, 62, 75, 78, 85, 87, 105, 107; IV-2; V-1; VI-10, 12  
Mandatory standard(s), I-3  
Mandrel(s), II-42-43  
Manual administration, I-3  
Manual handling, II-77  
Mass detonating, I-10; VI-7; IX-1  
Match(es), II-15, 87  
Material(s) handling, II-30, 77, 85, 92  
Maximal effective pressure, VI-8-9  
Maximum Credible Event, I-11; VI-4  
Maximum explosives limit(s), VI-1

- Mechanical handling equipment, 11-78, 100
- Melt agitation, 11-56
- Melting, 1-11; 11-51, 58
- Metal article(s), 11-15
- Metal chip waste, 11-45
- Metal container(s), 11-100, 120
- Metal scrap, 11-111
- Metal-to-metal, 11-1, 44, 51, 56
- Metal /explosive(s), 11-47
- Metric system, VI-5
- Milling, 1-11; 11-57-58; VI-7
- Mirror(s), 11-84, 122
- Misfire(s), 11-67-68, 70, 73-74
- Missile(s), 11-17, 53, 61; VI-8-9
- Mixed storage, 11-97
- Mixer(s), 11-56-57
- Mixing, 1-5, 11; 11-26, 32, 56-59, 97, 99, 109; VIII-3
- Mock, 1-7, 11; 11-1, 42, 46, 48, 71
- Motor vehicle(s), 11-81, 83-84; VI-5
- MSDS, 11-2
  
- National Electrical Code (NEC), 11-25-26, 28-29, 31, 86
- New equipment, 11-12, 55
- New explosive(s), 1-1-2; 11-5, 40, 43, 54, 94; VI-1, 6; VIII-1-5
- New explosives facility(ies), 1-2; 11-5
- No-fire rating, 11-69, 76
- Noise, 1-14; 11-5, 62
- Non-DOE facility personnel, 1-12; 11-11
- Noninitiating circuits, 11-63
- Nonpropagating array(s), 11-80
- Nonsparking footwear, IV-1
- Nuclear test shot location(s), VI-2
  
- Occupancies, 11-5-7
- Occupied area(s), 1-13; VI-8
- On-the-job training, V-1
- Open burning, 11-113, 115
- Open container(s), 11-101
- Open flame(s), 11-1, 107, 119
- Operating contractor, VII-2-3
- Operating procedure(s), 1-7, 13; 11-40, 55-56, 59, 105, 119; III-2; V-1; VII-1-5
- Operating temperature limit, 11-41
- Operation(s), 1-1, 3-6, 8-13; 11-1-5, 7-9, 11-13, 15, 17-20, 25-26, 28-29, 31-33, 35, 39-59, 61-64, 69-72, 74-78, 83, 85-87, 92-93, 101-102, 106-108, 110-111, 113-116, 119-120, 122; III-1-2; IV-1-2; V-1, 3; VI-1-2, 6-7, 8, 11-12; VII-1-2, 4-5; IX-1
- Operational shield(s), 1-6, 12; 11-53, 110; VI-7
- Outdoor operation(s), 11-17
- Oven(s), 11-15, 41
- Overpressure(s), 1-6; 11-6-7, 17, 26, 56, 61-62, 115; VI-8-9
- Own means of initiation, 11-95, 97-98
  
- Packing and shipping building(s), 11-101
- Packing material, 11-93
- Partially burned explosive(s), 11-115
- Pellet(s), 1-13; 11-47, 100
- Permanent wiring, 11-28, 32
- Personnel access, 11-62, 68
- Personnel barrier, 1-12
- Personnel casualty(ies), VI-2
- Personnel limit(s), 11-7, 63, 91; III-1-2
- Personnel protection, 11-6-8, 13, 53
- Pilot plant, 11-54
- Pin switch(es), 11-63, 76
- Pinch point(s), 11-53, 56
- Pit(s), 11-113-115
- Placarding, 11-123
- Plastic bonded explosive(s), 11-95
- Plastic explosive(s), 11-44, 52
- Plutonium, 11-6, 71; VI-9-10
- Pneumatic tool(s), 11-52
- Portable building(s), VI-2
- Powdered metal(s), 11-111
- Power tool(s), 11-63
- Power-operated door(s), 11-9
- Press setup procedures, 11-44

- Pressed explosive(s), II-53, 100  
Pressing, I-9-10, 12; II-1, 25, 42-44, 47, 58;  
    III-2; VI-6-7; VIII-2, 4  
Pressure controller(s), II-42, 44  
Pressure transducer(s), II-63, 76  
Pressure vessel(s), I-10; II-69  
Pressurized unit(s), II-53  
Primary explosive(s), I-7, 10; II-47, 95, 97, 116  
Process equipment, II-17, 29, 32, 55, 59  
Process hazard analysis, II-3  
Process operation(s), II-15, 53, 55  
Projectile(s), I-12-13; II-61, 70, 74, 97, 115;  
    IX-3-4  
Proof-tested(ing), II-71, 78  
Propagation, I-11, 13; II-99; III-1;  
    VI-8-9  
Propellant(s), I-1-2, 12; II-6, 19-20, 74, 93-99;  
    VI-11  
Property damage, VI-2  
Protective clothing, II-2, 11; IV-1  
Protective equipment, II-5, 105; IV-2;  
    V-3; VII-5  
Protective shelter, II-17, 67  
Public highway(s), II-83  
Public traffic route(s), I-12; II-13, 115; VI-3, 5  
Punch and die pressing, I-12; II-44  
Purging, II-12  
Pyrotechnic(s), I-1, 2, 7, 12, 14;  
    II-6, 19-20,  
    23, 95, 98, 101  
  
Qualification program, II-3; V-1  
Qualification tests for IHE, IX-1-5  
Quantity-distance, II-26, 81, 84-85, 93, 101-102,  
    110; III-1; VI-1-3, 5, 11; VIII-5  
Quick-disconnect switch, II-84  
  
Radio transmitter(s), II-113  
Radioactive material(s), II-40, 71-72  
Radiographic inspection, II-53  
Radiography, II-48  
  
Railcar(s), II-82-83, 85; VI-5  
Railroad car(s), II-17  
Railroad crossing(s), II-87  
Range standard(s), II-62  
Raw material(s), II-53  
Reaction vessel(s), II-55, 120-121  
Receipt, II-63-64, 81, 101  
Record(s), I-7; II-11, 18, 22, 75, 94, 111, 117;  
    V-2  
Reduced hazard classification, II-6  
Reduced-hazard explosives, II-6  
Refresher training, V-2  
Relative humidity, II-23  
Remote control, II-70, 120  
Remote operation(s), I-12; II-13, 42, 46, 49-50,  
    53, 75; VI-6, 11  
Remotely fired gun, II-74  
Repair(s), II-11-12, 18, 25, 49, 55, 62, 75, 85,  
    87-88, 100, 107  
Resistance check(s), II-69  
Resistance-to-ground, II-19, 50-51  
Respirator(s), IV-1  
Review, I-3-5, 7; II-73, 93-94, 96;  
    III-2; V-2,  
    VI-11; VII-1-3; VIII-1; IX-1-2  
Revolving door(s), II-9  
RF transmitter(s), II-64  
Risk analysis, II-61; VII-1  
Road(s), I-12; II-13, 62, 87-88; VI-8  
Roadblock(s), II-62  
Rocket(s), I-12; II-95, 97-98  
Roll milling, II-57  
Rubbish, II-109, 116  
  
Safe attitude, V-1  
Safe distance(s), II-64, 88  
Safe Secure Railcar (SSR), II-83  
Safe Secure Trailer (SST), II-83  
Safety analysis, I-12; II-5; VI-9;  
    VII-1  
Safety equipment, II-56  
Safety plug, II-68  
Safety procedure(s), II-52  
Safety shield(s), II-120  
Salvaged explosive(s), II-96, 99, 111  
Sawing, II-50

- Scal eup, II-43, 47, 72, 94; VIII-2, 4; IX-1
- Scrap collection, II-58
- Scraping, II-49
- Screening, I-12; II-25, 50, 53, 87; VI-6-7
- Screw thread(s), II-1, 35, 105
- Security response muni tions, II-102
- Sensi ti ve salt(s), II-119
- Sensi ti vi ty data, VIII-1-4
- Sensi ti vi ty testing, II-61, 71
- Seri ous i njury(ies), II-13; III-1; VI-8-9
- Service line(s), II-27, 59; VI-5
- Service magaz ine(s), I-9, 11, 13; II-59, 101-102, 119
- Service personnel, II-62, 68
- Settling basin(s), II-37, 111
- Severe i njury(ies), VI-8
- Shel f li fe, II-96
- Shi el d(s), I-6, 12; II-53, 69, 85, 110; VI-7, 14
- Shi pment(s), II-82-85, 87, 96, 101
- Shi ppi ng and recei vi ng, II-26, 101
- Shoe coveri ng(s), IV-2
- Shot stand, II-63
- Shunt(s), I-13; II-64, 114
- Shutdown of Operations, II-17
- Si ngle Exit, II-8
- Si ti ng, VI-1, 11-12
- Slapper detonator(s), I-8, 10-11, 13; II-95
- Slide escape(s), II-9-10
- Sl i ng(s), II-78
- Slurry coating, II-56
- Small arm(s), I-13; II-61, 70, 96-97
- Smoki ng, II-2, 15, 85, 87, 119
- Sol vent(s), II-2, 11, 19-20, 25, 41, 57, 59, 96, 105-106, 109, 116, 119, 122
- Sol vent-expl osi ves mi xt ure, II-116
- SOP(s), I-13; II-35, 70, 108; VII-1, 3-5
- Spark arrestor, II-84
- Spark-producing devi ce(s), II-15, 63, 87
- Speci al operati ng procedure, I-13
- Spray mi st coolant, II-49
- Squib(s), I-10; II-68, 75, 95, 114
- Stabi l i ty test(i ng), II-43, 94; VIII-2-4
- Stacks of expl osi ve(s), II-92
- Stair(s), II-78
- Standard operati ng procedure(s), VII-1
- Stati c electri ci ty, II-19, 23, 39; IV-1
- Stati c ground(s), II-19
- Stati c spark, II-19
- Steam, II-19, 40, 51, 57, 91, 105-106, 120
- Storage compati bi l i ty, I-6; II-95, 97, 99, 102, 110-111, 113; VI-2; VIII-5
- Storage contai ner(s), II-93, 119; IX-2
- Storage i n bui l di ng(s), II-101
- Storage magaz ine(s), I-9, 11; II-6, 8, 91-92, 100-102; VI-10
- Storage revi ew, II-93-94, 96
- Storage, I-1-2, 6, 9-11, 13; II-2, 6, 15, 18, 25, 28, 48, 66, 68, 77, 82, 91-102, 110-111, 113, 119; VI-3, 5, 8; VIII-4-5; IX-2
- Strai n gauge(s), II-63, 76
- Structural col l apse, II-17; VI-8-9
- Subl i mati on, II-26, 87
- Substanti al di vi di ng wal l, I-13
- Sump(s), II-37-38, 119
- Surge arrestor(s), II-27
- Surge capaci tor(s), II-27
- Survei llance sampl i ng, II-93
- Suspect car, II-82; VI-5
- Sweepi ng compound(s), II-11
- Synthesi s, I-1, 13; II-3, 26, 32, 54-55, 120; VIII-2-3
- Target(s), I-13; II-70
- TB 700-2, VI-3; IX-3, 5
- Team, II-3-4, 11
- Tel ephone, II-62, 91
- Temperature control, II-40, 43, 52, 91
- Temporary storage, II-101
- Test fi ri ng, I-8; II-62, 64, 68-70

Test instrument(s), 11-74-76  
 Test planning, 11-61  
 Test procedure(s), 11-30; IX-1-3  
 Test shot(s), 11-61-62, 67-68; VI-2  
 Test site(s), 1-4, 6; 11-62, 64, 68  
 The National Electrical Code (NEC), 11-25-26,  
     28-29, 31, 86  
 Thermal analysis, 1-7; 11-30, 39-41, 72; VIII-3  
 Thermal conditioning, 11-39, 72  
 Thermal flux(es), VI-9  
 Thermal stability, 11-30, 39, 43; VIII-2-4  
 Thermocouple(s), 11-63, 76  
 Threaded fastener(s), 11-54, 105  
 Threaded fitting(s), 11-33  
 Tiedown, 11-78, 84  
 TNT equivalent, 1-13; 11-120  
 Tool path control(s), 11-45  
 Tool speed, 11-48  
 Tooling, 11-42, 44, 77; VII-5  
 Toxicity, 11-2, 35; VII-3  
 Traffic rule(s), 11-87  
 Training, 11-3, 83, 87; IV-1; V-1-3; VII-1  
 Transfer line(s), 11-55  
 Transient(s), 1-13; 11-8, 13, 62-63; VI-9  
 Transmitters, 11-64, 113  
 Transportation, 1-1-2, 8-9; 11-12, 77, 83-84, 87,  
     91, 100-102; IX-2  
 Transportation vehicle(s), 11-87, 91, 101  
 Trap(s), 11-33, 41, 119  
 Trough(s), 11-37, 48

Unattended test assembly(ies), 11-67  
 Unit operating procedure(s), VII-4  
 Unloading, 11-81-82, 84  
 UNO, 1-13; VI-2-3  
 Utilities installation(s), VI-5

Vacuum chuck, 11-45, 48  
 Vacuum collection, 11-109-110  
 Vacuum drying, 11-41  
 Vacuum equipment, 11-33  
 Vacuum lifting, 11-78  
 Valve(s), 11-10, 27, 40, 51, 55, 59, 86, 96  
 Vapor concentration(s), 11-41-42, 55  
 Vault, 1-9, 13

Vegetation control, 11-91  
 Vehicle(s), 11-17, 31, 62, 71, 81, 83-85, 87-88,  
     91, 101, 113; V-1; VI-5  
 Vented, 11-41, 74, 86; VI-12  
 Ventilation, 11-2, 11, 20, 35, 43, 55, 92, 105;  
     VI-9  
 Viscous shear heating, 11-57  
 Visual inspection, 11-18, 53, 62, 107  
 Visual monitoring, 11-47

Waiting period, 11-63, 67-68, 73-74  
 Waiver(s), 1-2-3; 11-30; VII-3-4  
 Walkway(s), 11-5, 77  
 Warehouse(s), 11-102  
 Warning light(s), 11-63  
 Warning sign(s), 11-56, 67  
 Warning signal(s), 11-67  
 Wastewater, 11-111  
 Waste disposal, 11-105, 113, 116  
 Water-expl osives mixture(s), 11-30  
 Watertight equipment, 11-30  
 Weapons courier(s), 11-83, 87  
 Wet box(es), 11-111  
 Wet collector, 11-35  
 Wet or dry vacuum system, 11-109  
 Wet machining, 11-25, 45; VI-7  
 Wheels chocked, 11-81  
 Wiring, 11-25-32, 64, 69, 75-76, 119  
 Work alone, III-1  
 Work environment(s), 11-5, 7  
 Wristband(s), 11-19-20, 22

I ndex  
Revi si on 8

DOE M 440.1-1  
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DOE F 1325.8  
(2-92)

United States Government

Department of Energy

Oak Ridge Operations Office

# memorandum

DATE: April 10, 1996

REPLY TO

ATTN OF: AD-440:Edwards

SUBJECT: **REVISED DOE M 440.1-1, EXPLOSIVES SAFETY MANUAL**

to: Gerald Meyers, Office of Field Support, EH-53, 5th Floor, 19901 Germantown Road,  
Germantown, MD 20874

We have completed an editorial review of the subject Manual. Attached are a copy of the edited version (attachment 1) and diskettes of the edited version and the redline/strikeout version, which shows where changes from the original draft were made.

Karen Edwards, Leader  
Directives Management Group

cc:w/attachment:  
J. Whitman, HR-62

**Attachment 1**