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Approved Handler Qualifications

Explosives Used for Land Blasting Operations

**Approved Code of Practice
Under the Hazardous Substances and New
Organisms (HSNO) Act 1996**

Code of Practice HSNO COP 26-1
Date of Approval: June 2008

Preface

This Code of Practice (HSNO COP 26-1) is approved pursuant to Sections 78 and 79 of the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act. The Environmental Risk Management Authority has delegated the power to approve Codes of Practice to the Chief Executive of the Authority, and this code is approved in accordance with that delegation. It is confirmed that the requirements of Sections 78 and 79 have been met.

This code is approved by ERMA as a code of practice under the HSNO Act as a means of compliance in respect of clauses 5(1)(a), 5(1)(b), 5(1)(c), 5(1)(d), 5(1)(e), 5(1)(g), 5(1)(h), 5(1)(i) and 5(2) of the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (Personnel Qualifications) Regulations 2001.

The publication date in the Gazette for the Notice of Approval of this Code of Practice is expected to be 3 July 2008.

Pursuant to Sections 80(1)(a) and 80(1)(b) of the Act, a copy of the code may be inspected at the Wellington office of ERMA New Zealand and the code is available from the ERMA New Zealand website (www.ermanz.govt.nz). The code is also available from Peggemma Properties Co. Ltd at peggemma@xtra.co.nz.

Approved this 25th day of June 2008.



ERMA New Zealand

Rob Forlong
Chief Executive
ERMA New Zealand

1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose.

This code has been developed by Peggemma Properties Co. Ltd, for use in their training courses for Land Blasting Operations using Explosives and sets out a practical means for meeting the performance requirements for training to achieve compliance with the HSNO Act and its Regulations in respect of being an Approved Handler for Agricultural Land Blasting Operations.

1.2. Scope of This Code.

This code applies to persons intending to become approved handlers for explosives for land operations using explosives.

This code is approved by ERMA as a code of practice under the HSNO Act as a means of compliance in respect of clauses 5(1)(a), 5(1)(b), 5(1)(c), 5(1)(d), 5(1)(e), 5(1) (g), 5(1)(h), 5(1)(i) and 5(2) of the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (Personnel Qualifications) Regulations 2001.

1.3 The HSNO Act and the place of Codes of Practice

The HSNO Act provides for Codes of Practices approved by ERMA New Zealand to identify acceptable solutions to comply with the specified regulatory requirements. An Approved Code of Practice provides users with a method of meeting the control requirements with a degree of prescription and assistance.

Unless specifically required by the legislation, failure to follow a Code of Practice is not an offence under the HSNO legislation. However, implementing a relevant Code of Practice provides a defence against being prosecuted for failing to comply with a particular regulatory control requirement.

1.4 Definitions

A **rural locality** is a locality which is a country locality or a non urban locality, which may be designated for the production of primary products (agricultural, pastoral, horticultural, forestry etc), as a reserve, or such similar activities.

1.5 Limitations

This code is limited to persons who undertake the use of explosives at rural localities.

This code is limited to locations where explosives are stored, handled or used. It is not intended for use in transport operations.

2. Requirements for Approved Handler Certificates

In order to qualify as an Approved Handler of Explosives for Agricultural Land Blasting Operations the applicant MUST provide evidence of achieving the requirements of Regulation 5 of the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (Personal Qualifications) Regulations 2001. This includes:

- A. Competency in all aspects of the relevant unit standards as established in section 3 of this code; and
- B. The practical experience as established in Section 4 of this code and have fired, as a minimum, the number of shots stated in section 4.1 of this code.

3. Relevant Unit Standards:

3.1 Land Operations Using Explosives.

Unit 17694: Demonstrate knowledge of explosives and their properties.

Unit 21152: Store explosives for use in extractive industries.

Unit 17700: Design blasting layouts and carry out blasting operations for land work.

3.2 HSNO Act

Unit 20645: Describe the requirements of the HSNO Act 1996 relevant to approved handlers; Level 3 Credit 3, and

4. Practical Experience.

To obtain a certificate as an approved handler, the candidate must satisfy the test certifier that they have the relevant practical experience.

4.1 Number of Shots.

Applicants must partake in a minimum of fifteen (15) shots, ten (10) of which must be the sole work of the applicant and fired by the applicant.

For the purpose of this code a shot is defined as the planning, preparation, initiation and tidying up afterwards of a controlled explosion.

A multiple shot is considered to be one single shot.