

INFORMATION SHEET no. 66

Code of Practice: HSNOCOP 37-2
Version: 02-10
Date of Approval: February 2010

AS/NZS 60079.10.1

This Code of Practice is developed by ERMA New Zealand

Code of Practice for Hazardous Atmosphere Zones - AS/NZS 60079.10.1:2009

Codes of Practice: What are they and what is their significance?

Codes of Practice are documents approved by the Authority under Sections 78 and 79 of the HSNO Act. In practice they are approved by the ERMA New Zealand Chief Executive under delegated authority.

Codes of Practice are “how to” documents. They tell you how you can meet the requirements of the HSNO regulations and controls, in a way that is legally defensible. However, following the requirements in a code of practice is **not** mandatory. If you have other ways of meeting the requirements then you can adopt those instead.

Most Codes will be developed by industry or user groups rather than by ERMA New Zealand.

Where can you get a copy of this Code?

Code HSNOCOP 37-2 was developed by ERMA New Zealand. The code is available from ERMA New Zealand (www.ermanz.govt.nz) at the following link:
(http://www.ermanz.govt.nz/hs/compliance/codesofpractice.html#Completed_Codes_of_practice)

In addition, a hard copy of the Code will be held at reception in ERMA New Zealand’s Wellington Office for inspection.

What is the Code about?

The purpose of this Code of Practice is to provide an acceptable solution for the delineation of hazardous atmosphere zones. It has been developed to provide a means of compliance with regulation 58 of the Hazardous Substances (Classes 1 to 5 Controls) regulations 2001 in respect of standards for the delineation of hazardous atmosphere zones.

The purpose of this Approved code of Practice is to update the standards that can be used for the establishment of hazardous atmosphere zones at places where hazardous substances with classes 2.1.1A, 2.1.1B, 2.1.2A, 3.1A, 3.1B or 3.1C are contained.

What is in the Code?

It is not possible to give a full summary of the Code in this Information Sheet, but the following information will give you a good indication of what is covered in the Code.

Regulation 58 of the Hazardous Substances (Classes 1 to 5 Controls) Regulations requires hazardous atmosphere zones to be established when the threshold quantity is exceeded. This code enables the standard *AS/NZS 60079.10.1:2009: Explosive atmospheres - Classification of areas - Explosive gas atmospheres (IEC 60079-10-1, Ed.1.0(2008) MOD)* to be utilised. This standard provides a methodology for delineating the hazardous atmosphere zones using a principled basis and also provides examples.

The delineation of hazardous atmosphere zones should be undertaken with a good knowledge of the plant and processes involved as well as a good knowledge of the properties of the flammable substances involved i.e. the user should have the competency to determine whether the example as outlined in this standard is actually applicable.

Conclusion

This Information Sheet has been prepared to help you decide whether this Code would be of relevance to you. It is **not** in itself a Code of Practice.

The Code is primarily intended to assist the persons delineating hazardous atmosphere zones to adopt safe practices.

Further information or feedback

ERMA New Zealand publishes Information Sheets on a range of topics to provide background information on current issues or proposals being dealt with by the Authority.

All publications may be viewed and downloaded from our website at www.ermanz.govt.nz/resources/index.asp or may be requested by contacting ERMA New Zealand, PO Box 131, Wellington. Ph +64 4 916 2426 Fax +64 4 914 0433 Email info@ermanz.govt.nz