

NZ Extractive Industries Training Organisation (EXITO)
PO Box 2623
Christchurch

Approved Handler Certificates Explosives

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

Code of Practice HSNO COP 5-1
Date of Approval: 06/03/06

Preface

This Code of Practice (No. HSNO COP 5-1 02-06) 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.

Approval of the code is limited to those matters in the document that relate to legislative requirements under the HSNO Act and its regulations.

This code has been developed by the NZ Extractive Industries Training Organisation, and sets out 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 shotfiring and blasting with explosives.

The publication date in the Gazette for the Notice of Approval of this Code of Practice is 9th March 2006.

Pursuant to Section 80 (1) (a) of the Act, a copy of the code may be inspected at the Wellington office of ERMA New Zealand.

Pursuant to Section 80 (1) (b) of the Act, a copy of the code is available from the NZ Extractive Industries Training Organisation, (PO Box 2623, 96 Oxford Terrace, Christchurch).

Approved this 6th day of March 2006.

Rob Forlong
Chief Executive
ERMA New Zealand

1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this Approved Code of Practice is to provide a practical guide to those persons intending to become an Approved Handler of Explosives.

This code provides a means of compliance with the requirements of regulation 5 of the Hazardous Substances (Personnel Qualifications) Regulations 2001 in respect of handling explosives.

1.2 Scope of This Code

This Code of Practice applies to persons intending to become approved handlers for explosives for:

- Surface shotfiring;
- Underground coal shotfiring;
- Underground metalliferous or tunnel shotfiring;
- Construction blasting; *or*
- 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) (d), 5 (1) (h), 5 (1) (i) and 5 (2) of the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (Personnel Qualifications) Regulations 2001.

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

1.3 The HSNO Act and the Place of Codes of Practice

The HSNO Act provides for Codes of Practice 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.

2. Requirements for Approved Handler Certificates.

In order to qualify as an Approved Handler of Explosives for any of:

- Surface shotfiring;
- Underground coal shotfiring;
- Underground metalliferous or tunnel shotfiring;
- Construction blasting; *or*
- Land operations using explosives

the applicant MUST ACHIEVE:

A. Competency in all aspects of the “Relevant Unit Standards” as defined in this Code of Practice for each of the particular fields of usage being sought in section 3

B. The “Practical Experience” as defined in 4. below;

and

fired as a minimum the requisite number of shots stated in “Number of Shots” as defined in section 5. below;

C. One of the following unit standards to ensure that the applicant understands the HSNO Act 1996, as required by regulation 5 (1) (d) of the HSNO (Personnel Qualifications) Regulations 2001:

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

OR

- Unit Standard 20333: Outline the legal and operational requirements of mining and blasting for an approved handler; Level 4 Credit 10

3. Relevant Unit Standards:

3.1 Surface shotfiring.

Unit 21152; “Demonstrate knowledge of storing explosives for use in extractive industries”.

Unit 8907; “Design blasting layouts within quarries and aggregate production areas”.

Unit 8918; “Carry out shotfiring operations”.

Unit 17694; “Demonstrate knowledge of explosives and their properties”

3.2 Underground coal shotfiring.

Unit 21152; “Store explosives for use in extractive industries”.

Unit 8921; “Design blasting layouts and carry out shotfiring in underground coal mines”.

Unit 17694; “Demonstrate knowledge of explosives and their properties”

Unit 12632; “Test for gas in an underground extraction site”.

Plus ONE of the following:

Unit 7152; “Drill to blast using a jumbo in an underground mine”

OR

Unit 7155; “Drill to blast using a hand-held drill borer in an underground mine”.

3.3 Underground metalliferous or tunnel shotfiring.

Unit 21152; “Store explosives for use in extractive industries”.

Unit 8920; “Design blasting layouts and carry out shotfiring in underground metalliferous mines”.

Unit 17694; “Demonstrate knowledge of explosives and their properties”

Unit 12632; “Test for gas in an underground extraction site”.

Plus ONE of the following:

Unit 7152; “Drill to blast using a jumbo in an underground mine”

OR

Unit 7155; “Drill to blast using a hand-held drill borer in an underground mine”.

3.4 Construction Blasting

Unit 21152; “Store explosives for use in extractive industries”.

Unit 17694; “Demonstrate knowledge of explosives and their properties”

Unit 17697; “Design blasting layouts and carry out blasting operations for construction work”

Optional extras:

Unit 15247; “Manufacture ANFO explosives”

Unit 17698; “Demonstrate knowledge of blasting layouts for specialist blasting techniques”

3.5 Land Operation Using Explosives

Unit 21152; “Store explosives for use in extractive industries”.

Unit 17694; “Demonstrate knowledge of explosives and their properties”

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

Optional extras:

Unit 15247; “Manufacture ANFO explosives”

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.

The following minimum standard shall apply for all applicants for an Approved Handler's Certificate for explosives usage:

The Approved Handler will have a minimum of six (6) months experience in the handling, charging and/or firing of explosives in the area applied for.

5. Number of Shots:

5.1 The following minimum standard shall apply for all applicants for an Approved Handler's Certificate for explosives usage:

5.1.1 A minimum of twenty (20) shots are required to be fired by the applicant.

5.1.2 A multiple shot is considered to number one single shot of the required twenty shots.

5.1.3 These twenty (20) shots shall be fired within a period of twenty four (24) consecutive months.

Note: the applicant must serve a minimum period of six (6) months practical experience but may take up to twenty four (24) months to achieve the twenty (20) shots.