

Title 154 - STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Chapter 3 - HANDLING OF EXPLOSIVES

001. Observance of Rules. Every employee and every person having supervision over employees where explosives are handled or used shall observe all rules which immediately concern or affect his or her conduct.

001.01. Locking Explosive Magazines. All magazines and all enclosures used for storage of explosives shall be kept locked by the owner or user thereof at all times except when opened by an authorized person while placing explosives therein or removing explosives therefrom, or for the inspection thereof.

001.02. Access to Explosives. No person unless duly authorized by the owner of the explosives shall have access to or enter magazines or explosives storage enclosures. Detonators or other explosives when removed from magazines shall not be left unguarded where children or other unauthorized persons may have access to them.

001.03. Smoking and Open Lights. No person shall smoke or carry open lights or other flame or spark-producing devices in or around any explosive magazine, or around any explosives. This shall not be construed to prohibit the lighting of fuses for the purpose of blasting.

001.04. Marking Explosives. No person shall own, possess, store, sell or use or authorize or permit the use of explosives, unless the original package or container is clearly marked so as to designate the class and type, the name and address of the manufacturer and the date of manufacture of said explosive. This requirement shall not apply to a purchaser of a broken lot on whose bill of sale such information shall appear. Every seller shall provide such bill of sale to every said purchaser.

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The date of manufacture may be in code, provided that the key to such code shall be furnished to the State Fire Marshal on request. All cases containing explosives for underground use shall be clearly marked with the fume classification of its contents. No explosives, other than those in fume classes 1, 2 or 3, shall be used in confined spaces.

001.05. Return of Explosives to Magazine. Every person using explosives and every employer whose employees are required to use explosives in the performance of their duties shall be responsible for the return of all unused explosives or ingredients thereof to the magazine, and shall prevent any explosives or ingredients thereof from being taken to any place not necessary to their use.

001.06. Opening Packages or Containers of Explosives. No person shall open packages or containers of explosives at any time within 50 feet of any magazine. In opening packages or containers of explosives, no tools except wooden wedges and either wooden, fibre or rubber mallets shall be used.

001.07. Containers for Storage of Liquid Nitroglycerin. Loaded containers of liquid nitroglycerin may be placed on shelves not more than 54 inches above the floor. Such containers shall not be stored more than one tier high.

001.08. Venting Containers. The closure of liquid nitroglycerin containers stored in magazines shall be loosened to permit venting. Such closure shall be securely tightened before removing containers from magazine.

001.09. Blasting Operations. Blasting operations can be carried on only under the direct supervision of a person or persons in possession of valid user's permits issued by the State Fire Marshal.

001.10. Charging. In charging holes for blasting, the blaster shall use only hardwood rods for tamping. No person shall use a metal bar or rod for tamping or loading a hole with explosives, nor shall the hardwood rod used for such tamping or loading have a metal tip or other metal parts.

001.11. Fuse Requirements. Any fuse which varies more than 10 percent from an average speed, when burned unconfined in the open at sea level in three foot lengths, shall not be used. Any fuse that burns faster than 90 seconds per three foot length with more than an allowable variation of 10 percent, when burned unconfined in the open at sea level shall not be used. Any fuse length less than 30 inches shall not be used. This shall not apply to log splitting wedges, the fuses for which may be not less than 12 inches in length.

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001.12. Notice of Blast. The blaster shall give timely notice of every blast to every person in danger thereof, and shall not explode any blast until all persons have been removed to a safe location.

001.13. Maximum Voltage of Electric Blast. The voltage used to explode a blast shall not exceed 440 volts.

001.14. Blasting Operations During Electrical Storms. All blasting operations and any handling of explosives shall be stopped immediately upon the approach of an electrical storm, and all persons shall immediately retire to a place of safety.

001.15. Destruction of Explosives.

001.15A. Any unserviceable or hazardous explosives or blasting agents which cannot be salvaged, or are unfit for their intended purpose, shall be destroyed by a qualified person in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

001.15B. Explosives which have deteriorated or have been damaged so that they are unfit for use shall not be used for blasting operations and shall be destroyed as mentioned above. Explosives which are deviated from normal color or condition (texture, size, etc.) shall be considered deteriorated until their exact condition is determined by expert opinion. A complete report of the destruction of explosives shall be submitted to the State Fire Marshal listing the date of destruction, reason, amount and type of explosives destroyed, manner of destruction, and name of person destroying the explosives.

001.15C. Explosives shall never be buried or covered by any materials as a means of disposal.

001.15D. Frozen explosives shall not be placed or used in drill holes. No attempt shall be made to thaw frozen explosives, but rather the manufacturer shall be consulted.

001.15E. No explosive shall be abandoned.

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001.16. No person shall store, handle, use, or transport explosives or blasting agents when such storage, handling, use or transportation of explosives or blasting agents constitutes an undue hazard to life or property.

001.17. No person shall possess, keep, store, sell, or offer for sale, give away, use, transport, or dispose of in any manner any explosive or blasting agent except upon the holding of a valid permit or the approval of the State Fire Marshal, provided, however, that this limitation shall not apply to small arms ammunition and components, cartridges for propellant-actuated power devices and cartridges for industrial guns.

001.18. No person shall sell, display or expose for sale any explosive or blasting agent on any highway, street, sidewalk, public way or public place.

001.19. Any theft or loss of explosives or blasting agents, whether from a storage magazine or area, a vehicle in which they are being transported, or from a site where they are being used or from any other location, shall immediately be reported by the person having control of such explosives or blasting agents to the State Fire Marshal, the local Sheriff and local and State police within 24 hours of discovery thereof.

001.20. Any person in possession or control of explosives or blasting agents required in the performance of his or her work or duties shall, when the need for such explosives or blasting agents no longer exists, either return the explosives or blasting agents to a magazine or shall destroy such explosives or blasting agents in a safe manner so as not to make them available to persons who might obtain them and use them in a manner prejudicial to the safety of life and property.

Statutory Authority: Neb. Rev. Stat. §§28-1213 to 28-1239; 81-502

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