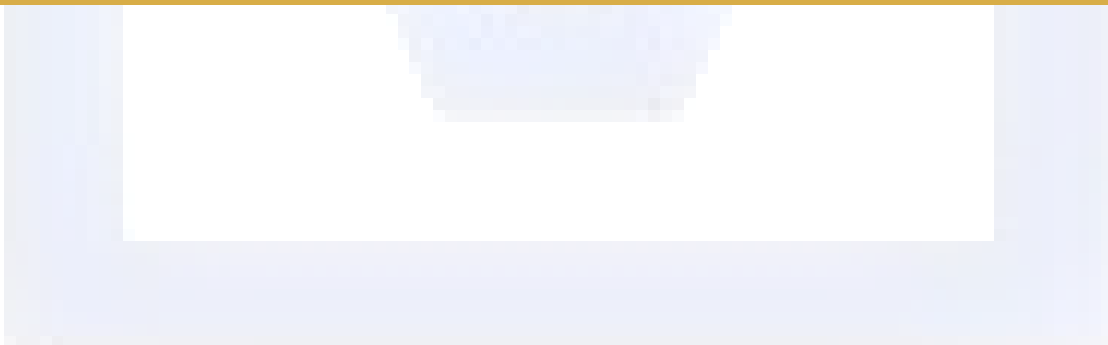




VULCAN MINE



Standard Operating Procedure TRANSPORTING, STORAGE & HANDLING EXPLOSIVES





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1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this procedure is to describe the requirements and to effectively manage the hazards and risks associated with Transport, handling and Storage of Explosives at Vulcan Mine.

To detail the procedures associated with transporting, storage, and handling of explosives, to meet all legislative requirements and protect the health and safety of people working at Vulcan Mine.

This procedure has been developed to ensure compliance with section 115 & 116(1) a,b,c,d,e,f & (2) of the CMSHR.

2. SCOPE

This procedure is applicable to all persons at the Vulcan Mine including employees, contractors, and visitors, and applies to all Coal Mine Workers (CMWs) who are involved in the transporting, storage and/or handling of explosives at Vulcan Mine and was developed from VUL-RSK-116 WRAC Explosives Management. Review and update of this procedure was conducted from VUL-RSK-116(a,b,c,d,e,f)_review_update_01032023.

3. DEFINITIONS

Authorised Person	A person who has the required competencies and who has been authorised by the Site Senior Executive, or their appointed representative to carry out a designated scope of duties.
CMSHA 1999	Coal Mining Safety and Health Act 1999.
CMSHR 2017	Coal Mining Safety and Health Regulation 2017.
CMW	Coal Mine Worker.
Competent Person	Competence for a task at a coal mine is the demonstrated skill and knowledge required to carry out the task to a standard necessary for the safety and health of persons. The CMW must be assessed as competent and authorised by the SSE or SSE delegate to perform the task.
DNRME	Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy.
IMS	Integrated Management System.
JHA	Job Hazard Analysis.



SHMS	Safety and Health Management System.
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure.
Take 5	Personal Risk assessment.
AEC	Australian Explosive Code

4. TRANSPORTING EXPLOSIVES

4.1. Hazards

Hazards associated with transporting explosives include, but are not limited to:

- Explosion in a transport vehicle;
- Theft and/or misuse of explosive product;
- Outbreak of fire;
- Explosion caused by vehicle
- Explosion caused by an explosive load not being secure or falling off of a truck.

4.2. Requirements

For all operations, check that operators have site authorisation to operate appropriate equipment and to perform agreed tasks

Any person who is required to transport explosives and explosive ingredients shall:

- Be competent and site authorised to operate the particular type of vehicle;
- Be competent and appointed by the SSE as either a shotfirer or shotfirer's assistant to handle explosives;
- Have a familiarity and understanding of this procedure and the relevant aspects of the Australian Explosive Code (AEC).
- A Shot Firer's vehicle with correct signage displayed is required for transport
- All vehicles carrying explosives onsite shall comply with the Australian Code for the Transport of Explosives by Road and Rail.
- Communication of all restricted areas on site, including restricted explosive areas, forms part of Vulcan's mine site familiarisation process.
- Guidelines including action to take for explosives emergency scenarios can be found in VUL-PLN-035 – Emergency Planning and Response Plan

4.3. General Rules

- All transporting of explosives is to be in keeping with the current Explosives Act and Regulation and shall be under the Shot Firer's instructions.



- All designated (non-bulk) explosives transport vehicles shall be fitted with lockable, weatherproof receptacles in accordance with AS2187.2.
- No portable radios, mobile phones, pagers, or the like shall be taken into an explosive carrying compartment where there are electric detonators.
- It is imperative that speed limits are observed, and safe driving practices are adhered to when transporting explosives.
- Vehicles carrying explosives shall be operated in accordance with VUL-SOP-076 Using Mobile Plant, as well as observing these additional rules: Equipment is to be audited via the Explosive Equipment Compliance checklist
- Any ignition sources shall be carried in a sealed container in the cab of the vehicle
- Do not allow an open flame to be brought within ten (10) meters of a vehicle carrying explosives
- Cover or remove the 'EXPLOSIVES' sign and Hazchem signs when not using a vehicle to transport explosives
- Prior to maintenance being carried out on vehicle, the tray and explosives boxes are to be thoroughly washed out
- Correct Manual handling technique is always to be used as per VUL-SOP-96b Manual Handling.
- The load limit to transport under a shot firing licence is maximum 250kg NEQ blasting explosives.

4.4. Breakdown

Should the explosives vehicle breakdown in transit, the driver shall immediately notify the OCE and supervisor and inform them of the position of the vehicle.

The driver shall stay in proximity of the vehicle until assistance arrives.

Where possible, the explosives shall be transferred to another authorised explosives vehicle.

If travelling off lease a VUL-FRM-08-02-Journey Management Plan must be completed.

4.5. Safety & Security of Explosives while being transported

- Explosives and accessories shall be kept in their original boxes, if possible, when being transported from the magazine to the shot, to enable ready identification and containment.
- IE and HE are to be transported in separate containers on site compliant vehicles authorised to transport explosives.'
- Failed IE/HE must be transported in explosive storage Day Boxes that are compliant with AS 2187.2-2006 and **VUL-FRM-16-29- IE/HE Failure Report must be completed. Examples of Day Boxes as illustrated in Appendix B currently used onsite,**
- The following general precautions shall be taken into consideration to maintain the safety and security of explosives during transport:
 - All practicable precautions shall be taken during loading and unloading so that packages are not dropped, thrown or otherwise mishandled.
 - Before leaving the magazine, the vehicle's operator shall check that all explosives are securely stowed.



- The transport route of vehicle's transporting explosives is to be outlined in a current Traffic Management Plan. The shot firer should ensure that the TMP/s covers items such as bulk product deliveries and blast crew travel i.e., magazine to bench, avoiding areas of congestion.
- Mine site traffic rules and signage are to be strictly complied with.
- If at any time the loaded vehicle is to be left unattended, it shall be parked in a designated area and all Explosive storage boxes shall be locked.
- All servicing and refuelling of the vehicle shall be done prior to it being loaded with explosives. If there is a need to refuel, either the explosives are unloaded, or it is done in accordance with the AEC.
- In the case where there are two (2) or more vehicles transporting explosives, drivers shall take all practicable steps to avoid being in close proximity to each other except when passing.

The Shot Firer shall:

- Place High Explosives (Detonating cord, boosters) and Initiating Explosives (Detonators) in separate Explosive storage boxes on the vehicle;
- Display explosive signs;
- Return unused explosives to the magazine

4.6. Transporting SSAN

Security sensitive ammonium nitrate (SSAN) may only be transported in a site compliant vehicle that meets the requirements relevant to the type of activity the vehicle is being used for as per below:

- For Mobile Processing Units (MPU), the Australian Explosive Industry and Safety Group (AEISG) Code for Mobile Processing Units
- For trucks carrying SSAN of Class 5.1, as per the Australian Dangerous Goods (ADG) Code
- Vehicles shall be licensed by Queensland Transport to carry dangerous goods.
- Drivers shall have a current Dangerous Goods Licence

4.6.1. Mobile Processing Units (MPU)

Mobile Processing Unit vehicles shall:

- Must be site compliant
- If used on public roads, be licensed to carry dangerous goods as above.
- Display emergency information panels on both sides and rear of vehicle.
- Have class diamonds on front and rear of vehicle.
- Have a license to manufacture in the vehicle.
- All MPU must carry emergency procedure guides or initial emergency response guide, in conjunction with controls outlined in AEISG code of practise
- Be diesel powered.
- Have minimal use of copper or brass fittings (restricted to electrics only)



- Be fitted with a battery isolation switch mounted on the driver side behind the cab and clearly marked.
- Have all electrical cables to the rear of the cab in solid conduit (not split)
- Have emergency stop buttons located in the cab and at the discharge point.
- Have clear labelling of the location of the Emergency procedure for the MPU.
- Carry fire extinguishers compliant with the AEC and AEISG code of practise
- Carry a first aid kit that includes a portable eyewash kit as well as safety and PPE as per 8.2.2 of the AEISG code of practise.
- Not exceed load limit, note - this is physically limited by the MPU's holding capacity.
- All pumps used in the transfer of ammonium nitrate emulsions must have pump protection systems that are regularly inspected, tested, and documented (pressure & temperature). Systems must be of the "fail safe" type.
- Electrical protection circuits protected by appropriately rated fuse or circuit breaker.
- Rear impact protection as per AEISG code of practise

5. STORING EXPLOSIVES

5.1. Hazards

Hazards associated with storing explosives include, but not limited to:

- Incorrectly handling explosives;
- Untrained and unauthorised people accessing the explosives magazine;
- Security/theft of explosives;
- Premature initiation/explosion;
- Fire when surrounding grass and vegetation is not kept under control;
- Inadequate separation of explosives.

5.2. Requirements

The Vulcan mine bulk explosives facility is located within the coal mine lease boundary, with controlled access to the site via boom gates, swipe access points and locked compounds when unmanned. The magazine and SSAN yard shall be visited by the open cut examiner (OCE) at least once per shift. All coal mine workers involved in explosives handling and shot firing shall be appointed by the site senior executive (SSE).

The Site Senior Executive (SSE) shall appoint person/s responsible for the management and operation of magazines on the mine.

Operators shall have the necessary site authorisation and appointment to operate appropriate equipment and to perform the agreed tasks.

All vehicles transporting explosives on site shall have the appropriate approvals and licenses.

Delivery drivers shall be always escorted while on site.



Site standard PPE shall be worn by delivery driver as required in line with VUL-SOP-065 Personal Protective Equipment.

5.3. Explosive & SSAN Storage Facilities

Explosive magazines and emulsion tanks shall be effectively earthed:

- With two (2) earth straps on the diagonal corners of the container;
- To have a resistance to earth measured at less than 10 ohms;
- To be checked annually;
- To be protected from lightning strike.

Storage facilities are to be inspected at least once every three (3) months to comply with Section 95 of the Explosives Regulation 2017.

Keys to explosive equipment or storage shall be secured in a key safe. Signage, in accordance with Sections 63, 64, and 65 of Information Bulletin 53 shall be erected around the SSAN compound.

Explosive magazine and SSAN storage facilities to be included in the site security camera network.

If the need for temporary storage arises, a completed risk assessment is required with approved controls by the SSE.

5.4. General Rules

Explosives shall not be stored on the mine unless in an approved and licensed magazine.

All magazines shall be constructed in accordance with the relevant requirements of AS 2187.1 as applicable to permanent and temporary surface mines.

All SSAN shall be stored in accordance with the relevant requirements of the Australian Explosives Manufacturers Safety Committee (AEMSC) Code for Precursors and Information Bulletin 53 issued by the Chief Inspector of Explosives.

Appropriate action shall be taken if hazards are found in regard to VUL-SOP-049 Risk and Hazard Management. Hazards can be identified through one or more of the following methods: Routine inspections, Take 5s, BBRA process, JHA process, Change management process and incident investigation and analysis.

The location of magazines shall be in accordance with AS 2187.1 in relation to:

- Distances from protected works.
- Separation distances from other explosive magazines.
- Separation distances from ammonium nitrate (AN) storage.
- The location of detonator magazines shall be in accordance with AS 2187.1.
- The location of SSAN containers shall be in accordance with Information Bulletin 53.
- Only registered security authorised persons may have access to SSAN of explosives.
- Only site authorised Magazine Keepers may have unrestricted access to the magazines.
- All high explosives and initiating explosive delivery vehicles shall proceed as directly as possible to the magazine for unloading.
- A weekly and monthly Stocktake of all blasting accessories shall be conducted by a Shot Firer.



- A monthly and quarterly audit of explosives compounds shall be conducted by a Shotfirer.
- All lighters matches or other devices that could produce a flame or spark shall be left outside the magazine compound in the receptacle provided. (Refer to definition in AS2187.2)
 - As illustrated in Appendix A for the current receptacle placed at the western Magazine gate.

5.5. Managing Explosives & Failure of IE/HE

The explosives licence holder is accountable for:

- Ensuring licensing requirements are maintained.
- Ensuring magazine rules are always followed.
- Authorisation of site Magazine Keepers.
- No unauthorised personnel are to enter the magazine.
- The magazine and other facilities (for ingredients) are kept free of ignition sources, combustible materials and are kept clean and tidy.
- The security of magazines and explosives.
- Only appointed persons have unrestricted access to enter magazines.
- Explosive compatibility and separation requirements are adhered to.
- There is a system in place to account for explosives.
- There is a system in place to rotate explosives and to confirm explosives are used prior to their marked use by date or otherwise disposed of.
- Dispose of out of date or deteriorated explosives in a safe and compliant manner.
- Explosive packaging should be disposed of in designated areas as determined by the shotfirer and OCE.
- Failed IE/HE must be transported in explosive storage Day Boxes that are compliant with AS 2187.2-2006 and *VUL-FRM-16-29- IE/HE Failure Report must be completed.*

5.6. Issuing Magazine Keys

Shotfirer shall:

- Always keep the keys secure in the Shotfirers safe.
- Maintain the magazine key allocation register of people receiving keys.
- Safe security to be reviewed periodically.

Magazine Keeper shall:

- Fill in the magazine key allocation register when the keys are removed from the safe.
- Keep possession of the keys during the shift. The Magazine Keeper is responsible for the security of the keys until they are signed back into the safe.
- Return the keys to the Shotfirer's safe at the end of the shift and complete the register.



6. Delivering Explosives to the Magazine

Magazine Keeper shall:

- Escort the driver to the magazine;
- Check driver is wearing the required PPE as per VUL-SOP-065 Personal Protective Equipment.
- Unlock the magazine and check the delivery docket to make sure all is correct.
- Use the appropriate manual handling techniques to unload and store explosives in designated areas.
- Stack the cargo outside the magazine and count before loading the boxes into the magazine.
- Check that all boxes are secure and do not exceed the maximum permissible height (green line on the wall inside of magazine).
- Record goods received in the magazine registers.
- Notify the Licence Holder of any discrepancies before the delivery truck leaves site.
- Check and sign the delivery docket only after the deliveries have been confirmed as being correct.
- Only people whose names are on the delivery docket can sign for acceptance of explosives and they shall be registered receivers and an authorised magazine keeper onsite.
- Lock the magazine when unloading has been completed.
- Escort delivery driver to check the delivery driver leaves site.
- Give a copy of delivery docket to the Technical Services department.

Technical Services Department Shall:-

- Review delivery docket for completeness, process and tracking

6.1. Receiving Deliveries of SSAN

When deliveries of SSAN are received to site, the security tags on each opening are to be checked off by authorised personnel against the delivery docket to check no tampering has occurred.

If there are any discrepancies, the Licence Holder is to be informed immediately, an investigation is to commence and if discrepancies are valid, protocols in *VUL-PLN-014 Explosives Security Management Plan* shall be followed.

6.1.1. Emulsion Precursor

- The driver is to be escorted to the SSAN compound using the most direct and safest route.
- Authorised personnel are to assist the delivery personnel to unload the emulsion load.
- Authorised personnel are to check the quantities of the tank to check unloading can be carried out and not overfill the tank.
- Authorised personnel and the driver shall check that all product has been delivered into the tank.
- The delivery docket is to be signed by an Authorised person who is to record the delivery in the SSAN record book



- Copies of the delivery dockets are to be stored and archived by the Technical Services Department.

6.2. Issuing & Returning Explosives

The Magazine Keeper shall:

- Calculate the number of explosive accessories required from the load sheets.
- Open the magazine compound and relevant magazine.
- Issue and record explosive accessories taken.
- Lock the magazine and compound.
- Perform work on the shot as detailed in site procedures.
- Prior to leaving the shot, do an explosive accessory count.
- Return unused explosive accessories to the correct magazine at the end of the shift.
- Any IE/HE misfire must be stored in the explosive Day Box and wrapped with quarantine tape.
- Place sticker on the open boxes to seal. Write the date and total of items in the box on the sticker.
- Record explosive accessories returned into the magazine record book.
- Lock the magazine and compound gates.
- Notify the Explosives licence holder and SSE immediately of any shortages or abnormalities.

6.3. Rotating Stock in the Magazine

The Magazine Keeper shall:

- Check manufacturing date of all stock, oldest stock to be used first.
- Ensure ordering process eliminates over ordering of stock.
- Check stacks are safe and secure.
- Check boxes are not stacked higher than the height mark on the walls of the magazine.
- Place oldest stock and stock in damaged or open containers at top of stack.
- If any stock has passed its use by date, has deteriorated, or become defective in any way, they shall be dealt with in accordance with VUL-SOP-116h Misfired Explosives.
- Lock the magazine.
- Notify the Explosives licence holder and SSE immediately of any shortages or abnormalities including failed IE/HE stored in the magazine.

6.4. Stock Accountability and Discrepancy

It is a requirement that stock counts are conducted as per the below table:

Magazine Keeper shall WEEKLY:	• Count each type of explosive stored in the magazines including individual units in any open boxes. • Enter the count into the magazine record. The stock count shall match the closing balance from the last entry in the book.
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Authorised personnel shall DAILY ON ACTIVE SHIFTS:	- Record the quantity of emulsion and Ammonium Nitrate (AN) stored in the SSAN compound. - At the end of each active shift SSAN (bulk raw materials) stock quantities are emailed to site Technical Services Department
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Table 4.11 - Stock count responsibilities

Where a stock count does not match with the last closing balance:

- The Magazine Keeper shall recount the stock, investigate to discover where discrepancy is and rectify records accordingly.
- If the discrepancy is unable to be rectified, notify the license holder who shall recount the stock with the Magazine Keeper.
- The Shotfirer shall then check the daily blast records against the magazine record book entries.
- Should a discrepancy still exist, the Risk Owner shall report the incident to the SSE immediately and an incident investigation be initiated.
- Once all the checks have been completed and explosives are still unaccounted for, protocols in VUL-PLN-014 Explosives Security Management Plan shall be followed.

Where a discrepancy exists in the balance of SSAN, the license holder shall determine if the discrepancy is from acceptable delivery variations or from suspected theft. They shall then immediately notify the SSE and deal with the discrepancy accordingly.

The SSE shall be notified immediately if the discrepancy can **NOT** be rectified.

6.5. Magazine & Compound Housekeeping

Magazine Keeper shall:

- Remove any goods not required for shot firing purposes from the magazine or compound including empty boxes, pallets or rubbish.
- Check there is a safe zone of at least ten (10) metres around each magazine that is free of combustible material.
- Place cones, sticks and cord handlers in their appropriate storage areas.
- Check all stacks and storage areas are safe and secure.
- Sweep out the magazine and clean up the area.
- Check any fire extinguishers are serviceable and within inspection dates.
- Dispose of any rubbish.

Vegetation and weed control is undertaken as per AS2187 Explosives- Storage, Transport and Use storage

- Check the entire area is appropriately secured when you are finished.
- Report to the Risk Owner any damage to fencing, e.g., crushing to the top chain mesh where persons may have climbed over fence.



- Motorised equipment (e.g., whipper snipper) may be used as part of the magazine compound maintenance system. Petrol- or gas-powered equipment is not allowed inside the magazines themselves, only the compound.

Approval shall be obtained from the Magazine Keeper before work commences. All compound maintenance work shall be performed under the supervision of a person who has unrestricted authorisation to enter the compound.

A Job Hazard Analysis shall be completed for all maintenance work to be performed within the compound.

7. EXPLOSIVES EQUIPMENT

7.1. Hazards

Hazards associated with explosives equipment include, but not limited to:

- Pump protection equipment not working, causing pump overheating.
- Unaccounted product due to poor calibration of delivery equipment.
- Unplanned detonation.
- Fire on explosives equipment from poor maintenance and inspections.
- Hot works being performed on explosive handling equipment.
- Confined space entry.

7.2. Requirements

It is a requirement under the Coal Mining Safety and Health Act 1999 that plant and substances provided by a contractor is at an acceptable level.

7.3. General Rules

- All explosives handling equipment used on site is to be fit for purpose and authorised to be used on site.
- Explosive handling equipment is checked daily before use.
- Equipment is maintained in accordance with relevant codes and standards.
- Directions of the shotfirer are to be always followed.
- Explosives handling equipment may only carry the products they are designed to carry in compliance with the codes.
- Prior to any explosives handling equipment being used on site, it shall be first inspected and authorised for use on site by an authorised person in compliance to VUL-SOP-073 Checking Mobile Plant.
- The exception to the above point is for SSAN and Explosives delivery vehicles licensed to carry under the Dangerous Goods Act or Explosives Act 1999.
- Vehicles carrying explosives or SSAN shall be correctly signed. All signs as to the load shall be removed or covered when the vehicle is empty of product.



7.4. Explosive Transport Vehicles

Vehicles shall have a satisfactory inspection for compliance using the transport company's Explosive Vehicle Check sheet. If the vehicle is licensed to transport, record the Licence to Transport number and expiry date on the form. This check is to be carried out on a periodical basis, and evidence provided to the Risk Owner.

7.5. Mobile Processing Unit

Inspections of MPUs shall be undertaken to meet statutory and site compliance.

The onsite explosive supplier is to provide their completed inspection paperwork to the Risk Owner. These inspections will be recorded. A copy of the paperwork must be attached as supporting evidence.

When requested, the explosives supplier will provide a copy of 'Licence to Manufacture'.

To conduct mobile mixing of explosives, persons require **RIIBLA203E** Conduct mobile mixing of explosives

When the MPU is required to be decontaminated for offsite transport purposes or maintenance, form VUL-FRM-16-06 MPU Decontamination checklist must be completed including a JHA risk assessment.

7.6. Transfer Augers, Mono Pumps and Gear Pumps

Augers or Tube conveyors & pumps shall have statutory inspections for compliance. The onsite explosive supplier is to provide completed inspection paperwork to the explosives licence holder.

7.7. Auditing & Inspections

Formalised checks, inspections and examinations of explosives handling equipment and facilities are undertaken to ensure effective risk controls in place.

7.7.1. SSAN Facilities

The SSAN compound shall be checked each morning to confirm no persons have attempted unauthorised entry. This shall include:

- Checking the fencing, drainage and signage around the compound
- Check there is a safe zone of at least ten (10) metres around the compound that is free of combustible material.
- Checking all security seals and padlocks on all SSAN storage to confirm they have not been tampered with
- Provision for bulk product waste receptacles, which need to be security tagged.
- Every 3 months the SSAN facilities shall be checked and inspected and shall include the following requirements:

Fill out VUL-FRM-16-24-Reload and Magazine Area Checklist

- Check the onsite explosive supplier employee list is up to date with all personnel on site.
- Check the security of the compound keys and access to the safe
- Check the security tags on all waste SSAN bins on site against the register.



- Check all mobile equipment within the compound and ensure pre-start checks are completed and all defects are recorded.

SSAN Facilities shall be audited against the AEISG Code of Practice and the Explosives Act 1999.

7.7.2. Magazine Compound

The explosives magazines and magazines compound are to be inspected monthly as part of the Workplace Inspection program. A record of these inspections is kept.

Fill out VUL-FRM-16-24-Reload and Magazine Area Checklist

7.7.3. Ammonium Nitrate Emulsion (ANE) storage tanks

ANE storage tanks are required to be emptied on an annual basis to facilitate visual inspections for:

- Tank integrity.
- Crystallised ANE.
- Foreign bodies.

8. REFERENCES

- Coal Mining Safety and Health Act 1999 (Qld)
- Coal Mining Safety and Health Regulation 2017 (Qld)
- Explosives Act 1999
- Explosives Regulation 2017
- AS 2187 Safe Use & Storage of Explosives
- Australian Explosive Code (AEC)
- Australian Code for the Transport of Explosives by Road and Rail.
- Australian Dangerous Goods (ADG) Code
- Information Bulletin 53
- AEC

9. REVIEW

This document shall be reviewed bi-annually, or as follows:

- When there is a change of method and/or technology and/or legal or other requirement that may affect the accuracy of this document;
- When operational changes occur that effect the currency of the document;
- When there has been a significant event to which this document was relevant; and
- as a result of relevant audit findings.



10. Document Control

Version	Date	Description	Document Controller
01		Development	Rachael Decker
02	31/03/2021	WRAC & review	Nicole Davey
03	03/03/2023	Procedure review and update	Allira Spencer
04	18/10/2023	Update of MPU requirement	Kelly Jensen
05	08/12/2025	Review & Formatting	Chris Payne





11. Appendcies

11.1. Appendix A – Receptacle Box at entrance of Magazine





11.2. Appendix B -Day Box for HE and IE

