

INFORMATION SHEET

Code of Practice HSNOCOP 26-1
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Code of Practice for Approved Handler Qualifications - Explosives Used for Land Blasting Operations

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

Codes of Practice are able to be 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 can be 'how to' documents i.e. they tell you how you can meet the requirements of the HSNO regulations and controls in a way that is legally defensible. Furthermore, where specified in the legislation, Codes of Practice may specify alternatives to the nominated standards.

What is this Code about?

This Code applies to persons intending to become approved handlers for Land operations in rural locations using blasting.

The code provides for the requirements to meet the following of the Hazardous Substances (Personnel Qualifications) Regulations 2001, which a person must know and be able to describe, before being certified as an approved handler:

- 5(1)(a) the hazard classifications of those hazardous substances for which he or she is to be an approved handler.
- 5(1)(b) the adverse effects that could be caused by each of those substances.
- 5(1)(d) his or her obligations and liabilities under the Act as an approved handler, including –
 - (i) the purpose and principles of the Act; and
 - (ii) the offence and defence provisions of the Act; and
 - (iii) the penalties and liabilities imposed by the Act; and
 - (iv) the effect of a compliance order.
- 5(1)(h) the precautions required to prevent injury to a person or damage to the environment by any of those substances.
- 5(1)(i) the procedures to adopt in an emergency involving those substances.
- 5(2) The person must also know and be able to demonstrate a working knowledge of the operating equipment (including clothing and equipment) necessary to manage those hazardous substances for which he or she is to be an approved handler.

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.

Competency

The code specifies the relevant unit standards that competency is required for each particular field of usage.

Practical Experience

This Code specifies minimum requirements in terms of length of experience and the number of shots to be fired.

Understanding of the HSNO Act

The code specifies the relevant unit standards to ensure the applicant understands the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996.

Where can you get a copy of this Code?

This HSNOCOP 26-1 was developed by Peggemma Properties Limited and is available from them at:
Peggemma Properties Co. Ltd
Telephone/Fax: 04/526-9043
Email: peggemma@xtra.co.nz

A hard copy of the Code will be held at ERMA New Zealand's reception in our Wellington Office. You can inspect a copy there.

It can also be downloaded from the ERMA New Zealand website:
<http://www.ermanz.govt.nz/hs/compliance/codesofpractice.html>

This information sheet has been prepared by ERMA New Zealand to help you decide whether this Code would be of relevance to you. It is **not** in itself a Code of Practice.

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, P O Box 131, Wellington. Ph +64 4 916 2426 Fax +64 4 914 0433
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