

EIG Brief Guide #9: ER2014 – Storage of pyrotechnic articles

Brief guidance for retailers of pyrotechnic articles (excluding fireworks).

Manufacture and Storage

Storage of pyrotechnic articles is covered by the Explosive Regulations 2014 (ER2014) which describes general measures needed to prevent fire and explosion and minimise the effects in the event of a fire or explosion. They detail the “Separation Distances” needed around buildings holding explosives depending on the Hazard Type and quantities of explosives held, the structural nature of the building and the nature of neighbouring properties, roads etc. They also detail where licencing is required, who the licencing authority is and some of the conditions of the licence. Storage sites in general may be licenced by the local Authority (up to 2te) or by HSE.

Security

General security provisions are covered by ER2014

Transport

All explosives must be classified before they are transported. Explosives that already have classifications from an ADR signatory country do not need to be reclassified in the UK but the importer should hold copies of any such classification documents in a form readily understood by the enforcing authorities. EIG have produced guidance on the changes to classification in the UK – see <http://www.eig.org.uk/eig2007/?p=271>

Use

In general “use” is not covered by specific explosives regulations, however testing and product development on an explosive manufacturing site may be subject to specific licencing of an area or building.

Product Conformity, Sale and Supply

Category T1/T2 and P1/P2 pyrotechnic articles must be CE marked according to the Pyrotechnic Articles (Safety) Regulations (See the EIG Guide at <http://www.eig.org.uk/eig2007/wp-content/uploads/pasr.pdf>)

Certain pyrotechnic articles (those for use in the aerospace industry, by the military or for SOLAS applications are exempt from these requirements).

More information

HSE’s website contains more information on compliance – see <http://www.hse.gov.uk/explosives/index.htm>

HSE has published two Overarching guides to ER2014

- L150 – dealing with the safety provisions of the Regulations
- L151 – dealing with the security provisions of the Regulations

In addition HSE has produced a guide for persons storing pyrotechnic articles which may shortly be available.