



EXPLOSIVES FACT SHEET 13 USING EXPLOSIVES FOR DEMOLITION

This fact sheet will assist employers, workers, controllers of premises or workplaces, and all those who use explosives to demolish buildings and other structures.

It should be read in conjunction with the requirements in the *Explosives Act 2003*, the *Explosives Regulation 2005*, *AS 2187.1–1998 Explosives – Storage, transport and use, Part 1: Storage*, *AS 2187.2-2006 Explosives – Storage and use, Part 2: Use of explosives*, *AS 2601-2001 The Demolition of Structures*, the *Australian Explosives Code* and the *WorkCover Code of Practice for demolition*.

BLASTING EXPLOSIVES USER'S LICENCE

A blasting explosives user's licence (BEUL) allows you to possess (and therefore purchase), manufacture, store, transport and use limited quantities and types of explosives, as endorsed on the licence. Your licence is subject to conditions, both general and specific to you. You are obliged to abide by those conditions and you must only use explosives for the type of use specifically granted to you.

The BEUL is categorised into different classes of explosives used for the types of work performed – one of those classes is demolition.

DEMOLITION

The demolition of a building or structure, or part of a building or structure, using explosives must only be undertaken by a person who has a current BEUL endorsed for the class of demolition, or by a person who holds a current BEUL (not endorsed for the class of demolition) and who is directly supervised by a person who holds a current BEUL that is endorsed with the class of demolition.

Furthermore, in NSW, a person with a demolition endorsement on their BEUL cannot on their own demolish buildings or structures using explosives without a demolition licence issued under the *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2000* (OHS Act 2000), or without working directly under a person who holds a demolition licence.

DEMOLITION NOTIFICATION PROCESS

The demolition of buildings or structures using explosives is a high-risk activity that requires significant safety planning. Before any demolition with explosives, a demolition blast management

plan must be submitted to WorkCover for assessment. Generally, the plan is completed when the principal demolition licence holder applies for a demolition permit, ie a work site permit to do high-risk demolition work.

An application for the permit acts as a **notification** and the demolition blast management plan must be submitted with the application, in writing, to the State Coordinator, Asbestos and Demolitions, WorkCover NSW, Locked Bag 2906, Lisarow NSW 2252.

DEMOLITION BLAST MANAGEMENT PLAN

WorkCover conducts a comprehensive audit of the demolition blast management plan and inspects all notified explosive demolition sites.

The demolition blast management plan must provide:

- comprehensive documentation indicating that all operations will be in accordance with the relevant provisions of *AS 2187.2-2006 Explosives – Storage and use, Part 2: Use of explosives* (specifically Appendices K and L)
- comprehensive site risk management procedures
- comprehensive details regarding licences and qualifications of those using and handling explosives
- the name of the consulting structural engineer and any relevant reports
- calculations of the correct quantity and types of explosives to be used to complete the demolition task of any particular building or structure, signed off by the consulting structural engineer.

WORKCOVER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The responsibilities of WorkCover with regard to the use of explosives to demolish buildings and other structures include:

- reviewing the demolition blast management plan for completeness (using *AS 2187.2-2006 Explosives – Storage and Use, Part 2: Use of explosives* as a guide) and for compliance with the *Explosive Regulation 2005*
- communicating with the author of the demolition blast management plan to obtain whatever information is necessary to satisfy the requirements of *AS 2187.2-2006* and the *Explosives Regulation 2005*
- prohibiting or placing conditions on the use of explosives, as appropriate, to ensure the safety of persons and property.

Disclaimer

This publication contains information regarding occupational health, safety, injury management or workers compensation. It includes some of your obligations under the various workers compensation and occupational health and safety legislation that WorkCover NSW administers. To ensure you comply with your legal obligations you must refer to the appropriate Acts.

This publication may refer to WorkCover NSW administered legislation that has been amended or repealed. When reading this publication you should always refer to the latest laws. Information on the latest laws can be checked at www.legislation.nsw.gov.au or contact (02) 9238 0950 or 1800 463 955 (NSW country only).



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