ATF Fireworks Classification & Exemptions
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ATF Classification

• Is it an explosive material?
  • List of Explosive Materials
  • Class 1
  • UN codes

• Is there an applicable exemption?
  • 555.141

• What class and/or type of explosive material?
  • Type of magazine
  • Tables of distances
List of Explosive Materials

- Published Annually
- Not all-inclusive
DOT Approvals Search

Hazardous Materials Approvals Search Page

Please use this search to find hazardous materials approvals.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approval Number</th>
<th>Tracking Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Company Name</td>
<td>Expiration Date</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proper Shipping Name (PSN)</td>
<td>Product</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UN Number</td>
<td>Packaging Note</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazard Class</td>
<td>Approval Type</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>Display 50 results per page</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Any -
## DOT Approvals Search

Displaying 1 - 75 out of 75 results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approval Number</th>
<th>Tracking Number</th>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Expiration Date</th>
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<th>Hazard Class</th>
<th>Packaging Note</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EX2008080128</td>
<td>2008080305</td>
<td>Huisky Trading Co., Ltd</td>
<td>31-May-15</td>
<td>Fuse (4-strand with overwrap)</td>
<td>Fuse, non-detonating [instantaneous or quickmatch]</td>
<td>UN0101</td>
<td>1.3G</td>
<td>Packaging Instruction 140 is assigned.</td>
<td>Expired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EX2010040247</td>
<td>2010040545</td>
<td>Beihai Kylin Fireworks Co., Ltd.</td>
<td>31-Jul-15</td>
<td>Quick Match (Fuse)</td>
<td>Fuse, non-detonating instantaneous or quickmatch</td>
<td>UN0101</td>
<td>1.3G</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Expired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2009111014</td>
<td>Crown Pyrotechnics, Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Fuse w/delay</td>
<td>Fuse, non-detonating instantaneous or quickmatch</td>
<td>UN0101</td>
<td>1.3G</td>
<td>Deny</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EX2010100075</td>
<td>2010100125</td>
<td>Kellners Fireworks Inc.</td>
<td></td>
<td>BF05</td>
<td>Fuse, non-detonating instantaneous or quickmatch</td>
<td>UN0101</td>
<td>1.3G</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>EX2011031177</td>
<td>2011031697</td>
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<td>1.3G</td>
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<tr>
<td>EX2011031375</td>
<td>2011031966</td>
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<td>Fuse, non-detonating instantaneous or quickmatch</td>
<td>UN0101</td>
<td>1.3G</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Approve</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ATF vs DOT Classification

- ATF classification is not always the same as DOT classification
  - Aerial shells over 10 inches
  - Black powder
  - Display shells containing flash powder

- DOT Class 1.4 explosives
  - Igniters
  - Pyrotechnic Fuse
  - Detonators
ATF Classification

- ATF has 3 classes of explosives for storage purposes:
  - High explosives – detonate by means of a blasting cap when unconfined
  - Low explosives – deflagrate when confined
  - Blasting agents

- Definitions found in 555.11 and 555.202

- Fireworks: “Any composition or device designed to produce a visible or audible effect by combustion, deflagration, or detonation, and which meets the definition of “consumer fireworks” or “display fireworks” as defined by this section
Display Fireworks Classification

- Designed to produce visible or audible effects by combustion, deflagration or detonation
- Classified by DOT as UN0333, UN0334 or UN0335
- Includes salutes containing more than 130 milligrams of flash powder
- Includes aerial shells containing more than 40 grams of pyrotechnic composition
- Includes other devices (e.g. cakes) that exceed the limits for consumer fireworks
High Explosives

- Flash Powder

- Bulk Salutes – “Salute components prior to final assembly into aerial shells, and finished salute shells held separately prior to being packed with other types of display fireworks”
Low Explosives - Igniters

- Regulated as low explosives unless:
  - Integrated into an exempt articles pyrotechnic during manufacture
- EIPB has determined several initiators that look and function similar to igniters are not explosive materials.
Low Explosives – Pyrotechnic Fuse

- Regulated as a low explosive unless:
  - Designed for use in small arms ammunition;
  - Intended for sporting, recreational, or cultural purposes in antique firearms or antique devices; or
  - Integrated into consumer fireworks during the manufacturing process.
Exemptions – Consumer Fireworks

- Must comply with CPSC standards for:
  - Construction
  - Chemical composition
  - Labeling
- Classified by DOT as UN0336 or UN0337
- Cannot contain more than 50 milligrams of flash powder for ground devices
- Cannot contain more than 130 milligrams of flash powder for aerial devices
- Explosives weight limits for other devices can be found in DOT regulations (APA 87-1)
- Manufacturing consumer fireworks
Exemptions – Articles Pyrotechnic

- Pyrotechnic devices for professional use only – not intended for consumer use.
- Classified by DOT as UN0431 or UN0432
- Similar to consumer fireworks in:
  - Chemical composition; and
  - Construction
- Must meet the weight limits for consumer fireworks
- Cannot be labeled as consumer fireworks

- Domestic Manufacturing
- Manufactured with igniters?
Exemptions – Black Powder

• Commercially manufactured
• Quantity cannot exceed 50 pounds
• Used solely for the following purposes:
  • Sporting;
  • Recreational; or
  • Cultural
• Only in antique firearms or antique devices
Exemptions

- Transport under DOT or DHS
- Government agencies
- Indian agencies and tribes
- Small arms ammunition
- Model rocket motors
Tables of Distances – Fireworks

1. Identify class or type of explosive materials
   - High, low, display fireworks, consumer fireworks

2. Identify the buildings or areas at the fireworks plant
   - Fireworks Process Building
   - Fireworks Mixing Building
   - Fireworks Non-Process Building
   - Fireworks Shipping Building
   - Fireworks Plant Warehouse

3. Identify the appropriate table(s) of distances
   - Storage: 555.218, 555.219, 555.224
   - Processing: 555.222, 555.223
Fireworks Process Building

- Any mixing building;
- Any building where explosive materials are pressed or otherwise prepared for finishing and assembly
- 555.222 & 555.223

Fireworks Mixing Building

- Any building or area used for mixing or blending pyrotechnic compositions
- 555.222 & 555.223
Fireworks Process Building

- Fireworks Mixing Building
- Building for other operations
- Building
- Area
- Building
Fireworks Non-Process Building

- Any office building or other building or area in a fireworks plant where no explosive materials are processed or stored.
- 555.222 & 555.223
Fireworks Plant Warehouse

- Any building or structure used only for the storage of materials that do not contain explosive materials
- Not subject to any ATF tables of distances
Fireworks Shipping Building

- Any building used for packing display fireworks into shipping cartons and for loading of packaged displays
- 555.223
Fireworks Processing Limits—555.221

1. Limits buildings and areas used for processing fireworks to 500 pounds of total net explosives weight

2. Fireworks process buildings are limited to 10 pounds of flash powder

3. All dry explosive powders and mixtures, partially-assembled display fireworks, and finished display fireworks must be removed from a fireworks process building at the end of the day’s operations, and stored in a magazine.
Processing Tables of Distances – 555.222

1. Fireworks process building to fireworks process building
2. Fireworks process building to fireworks non-process building

Processing Tables of Distances – 555.223

1. Fireworks process building to other specified areas
   1. Passenger railways
   2. Inhabited buildings
   3. Highways
   4. Buildings used to store consumer fireworks or articles pyrotechnic
   5. Fireworks shipping buildings
   6. Magazines
Display Fireworks Tables of Distances – 555.224

1. For the storage of up to 10,000 pounds of display fireworks

2. Bulk salutes, flash powder, and the storage of over 10,000 pounds of display fireworks must use 555.218

3. Footnote 3: Can use half the listed distance if the magazine was in its physical location prior to March 7, 1990, and is properly barricaded.
Tables of Distances – 555.218

1. Use for the storage of bulk salutes, flash powder, over 10,000 pounds of display fireworks, and other high explosives.
2. If display fireworks storage falls below 10,000 then 555.224 must be used.

Tables of Distances – 555.219

1. Used for the storage of other low explosives that are not display fireworks
   - Igniters
   - Pyrotechnic fuse
   - Black powder
   - Stars
   - Lances
Tables of Distances – Combining Magazines

1. The table of distances at 555.218 specifically requires magazines that fail the specified magazine separation distances to be considered as one magazine when determining the necessary distances to inhabited buildings, highways or passenger railways.

2. ATF is proposing to add similar language for the tables of distances at 555.219 and 555.224.
Variances – Excess Inventory

- In the event an industry member finds themselves in a situation where they have excess inventory due to Covid-19 related cancellations, please:
  - Contact your local ATF office
  - Ensure you can meet the table(s) of distances
  - Determine if a variance is needed (e.g. locks on rented trailers)
  - Contact EIPB

- Consider off-site storage
- Consider shared storage with another licensee or permittee
- Transfer to another licensee or permittee
  - Permittee surplus stock transfers
EIPB

- Unsure if your device/article/composition is regulated?
  - Contact EIPB at 202-648-7120 or eipb@atf.gov