

## BULLETIN

# Storage of Safety Cartridges, Propellant for Firearms and Distress Signals

The following information bulletin is a summary of the requirements of the Dangerous Goods Regulations and relevant standards relating to the safe storage of safety cartridges, propellant for firearms and distress signals.

## Licences

Quantities of up to 100kg for safety cartridges, propellant for firearms and up to 50kg for distress signals may be stored for sale without a licence.

## Storage

### *Safety Cartridges*

Where safety cartridges are stored for sale, they must be stored:

- In premises that is kept securely locked at all times when unattended,
- In a locked room in their original outer packaging (i.e. cases or cartons),
- So that they are separated from other dangerous goods by a partition or by distance or both sufficient to prevent a fire or explosion in either the safety cartridges or the other dangerous goods spreading to the other,
- In intermediate packaging (i.e. individual boxes or bags) in or on a shelf, cupboard or similar, provided:
  - they are located so that unauthorised persons are prevented from having access to them,
  - the maximum quantity of safety cartridges exposed for sale at any one time does not exceed 5 kg,
  - they are not located in or near a window,
- Such that egress from the building is not hindered by the explosives in the event of a fire, but allowing their easy removal in an emergency.

### *Propellant for firearms*

Propellant for firearms, blasting explosives (other than detonators) and detonating cord shall be stored in a securely locked container accessible only to the person storing the explosive and no fuse-lighters or matches shall be stored in the container.

### *Distress Signals*

Where distress signals are stored for sale, they must be stored:

- In a room which is:
  - constructed of non-combustible material,
  - not accessible to the public,
  - not attached to a building used or partly used for habitation,
- They shall not be stored within 3m of other dangerous goods,

- A notice bearing the words "EXPLOSIVES – DISTRESS SIGNALS" in letters not less than 50 mm in height shall be displayed in a conspicuous place at the entrance to the room in which they are stored,
- They shall be stored in their original outer packaging or a spark-proof container marked with the words "DISTRESS SIGNALS" in letters not less than 50 mm in height on the outside of the container,
- Not more than 25 kg of them shall be stored in an outer packaging or spark-proof container at any one time,
- A fire hose reel or a water type portable fire extinguisher with a rating not less than 2A shall be installed in the room in which they are stored.

**For further information please contact NT WorkSafe on 1800 019 115 or go to [www.worksafe.nt.gov.au](http://www.worksafe.nt.gov.au)**