

U. S. Department of Energy
Transportation Management Division, EM-261
EXPLOSIVES CLASSIFICATION PROGRAM

TITLE (Transparency 1)

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT DIVISION, EM-261
EXPLOSIVES CLASSIFICATION PROGRAM - OVERVIEW

PURPOSE (Transparency 2)

The purpose of the Explosives Classification Program is to ensure that new explosives, developed under DOE cognizance, are classified and transported in a conservatively safe manner and in compliance with established industrial standards and all applicable Federal regulations.

SCOPE (Transparency 3)

The provisions of this Explosives Classification Program cover all Departmental Elements and contractors performing work for the Department as provided by law and/or contract and as implemented by the appropriate contracting officer.

APPLICABILITY (Transparency 4)

The program described applies to all DOE employees and management and to all contractors who are responsible for activities associated with either development, hazard classification, transportation, and/or use of explosive substances or explosive articles.

EXCLUSIONS (Transparency 5)

Packaging for shipment of complete nuclear explosives, components, and special assemblies is excluded from the certification and approval requirements of this program. Nuclear Explosive-Like Assemblies (NELAs) and Joint Test Assemblies (JTAs) are also specifically excluded.

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APPROVAL AND ADVISORY ORGANIZATIONS (Transparency 6)

The Albuquerque and Oakland Operations Offices conduct explosive classification programs which review and approve contractor requests for classification action. The Offices assign interim, permanent, and tentative hazard classifications and shipping descriptions in accordance with procedures authorized in 49 CFR 173.56, the criteria in DOD Army TB 700-2, and DOT Exemption DOT-E 10536. Variances to authorized test procedures or classification criteria must be approved formally and in advance by the appropriate Operations Office.

The DOE Explosive Safety Committee (DOE-ESC) is composed of technical experts in the fields of explosive development, explosive safety, and/or explosive hazard classification. The committee acts on any technical and safety issues associated with stated DOE safety policy or standards established in the DOE Explosive Safety Manual, DOE/EV/06194.

REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS (Transparency 7)

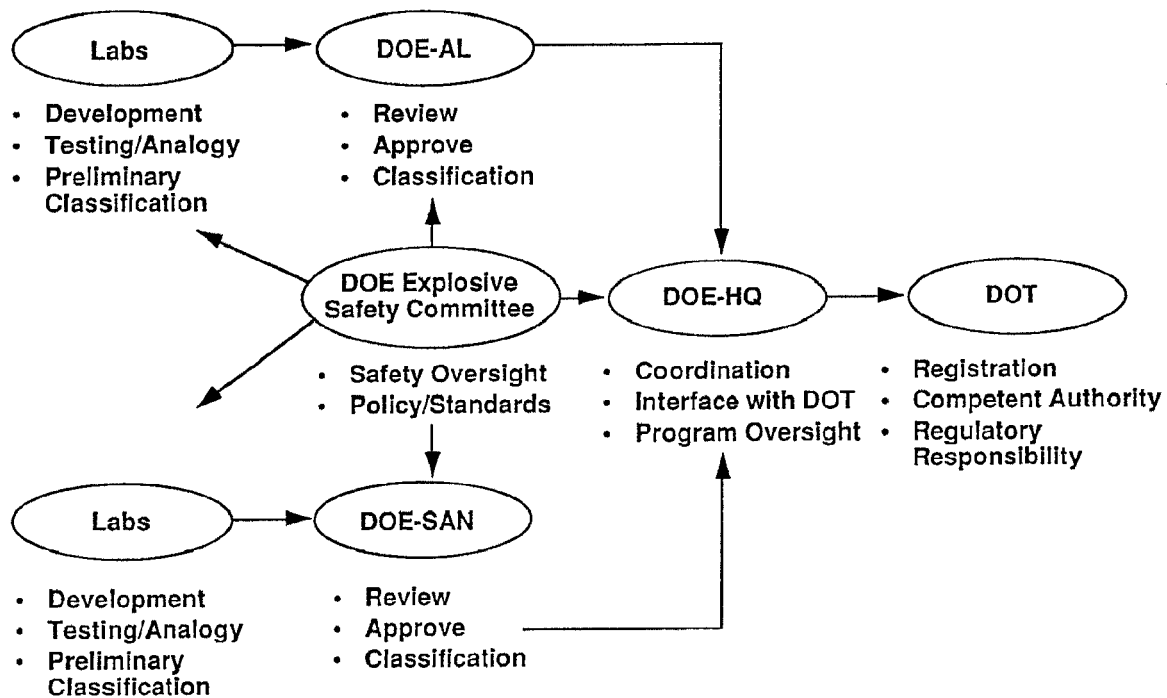
The DOT, in Title 49, CFR, Part 173, Paragraph 173.56 (b)(3), authorizes the DOE to examine, classify, and approve the shipping description and hazard class of new explosives made by or under their direction when the new explosive is tested according to the DOD, Army "Explosives Hazard Classifications Procedures," contained in DOD Army TB 700-2.

DOT Exemption DOT-E 10536 authorizes DOE to issue Interim Hazard Classifications on certain new explosives that are in the development phase or produced to support a specific test or program and are not yet intended for production. Specific conditions and procedures must be met for the Interim Hazard Classification and shipment of these materials and devices as authorized in the Exemption.

The DOE Explosive Safety Manual establishes DOE explosives safety policy and DOE safety rules that must be implemented in all DOE operations involving explosives including all operations related to testing, packaging, transportation, and storage.

ADMINISTRATIVE FLOW (Transparency 8)

Graphic summarizing the administrative flow required for obtaining new explosive classifications and DOT filing.



INTERIM HAZARD CLASSIFICATION (Transparency 9)

The DOE's Interim Hazard Classification DOT exemption, DOT-E 10536 was cloned from the old DoD exemption, DOT-E 9256, and TB 700-2, Chapter 9. The DOE could not use Chapter 9 as written, as DOT had suggested, due to the organizational and administrative flow differences in the DOE program.

The DOE has worked with the DDESB Secretariat to draft changes to Chapter 7 of the draft TB 770-2 that would identify DOE IHC procedures. These changes were presented at the March 1993 Explosives Classification Board Meeting and will be included in the final draft presented to the DOT. Acceptance by the DOT will mean that DOE will no longer have to maintain the exemption, and can instead rely solely upon the requirements found in TB 700-2.

ACTIVITIES (Transparency 10)

The Transportation Management Division is currently engaged in three activities directly supporting the Explosives Classification Program.

Explosives Classification Tracking System (ECTS)

- The ECTS is an information system that contains DOE classifications,

exemptions, 49 CFR tests (related to explosives), phone directory, and more.

- The ECTS will be expanded to include the Explosive Safety Manual, TMD Management Plan, packaging specifications and drawings, and an automated link to TMD's document retrieval system.

FaxBack®

- FaxBack is a document retrieval/fax broadcast system. Anyone can retrieve documents from any phone to any fax machine, twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. FaxBroadcast enables unattended sending of high volumes of faxes.
- Competent Authority Approvals for all HM-181 approved, DOE explosives are currently available. Interim Hazard Classifications will soon be available, and document retrieval of packaging instructions and drawings are planned.

ACTIVITIES cont'd (Transparency 11)

Explosives Training

- The TMD has recently released and is providing on a cost reimbursement basis Module 14, an addition to its modular training program, covering explosives shipping and transportation. The explosives module is an enhancement to TMD's Core 10 training program providing function specific training in explosive shipping and transportation for the shipper, material handler, and driver.