

Factories (Abrasive Blasting) Regulations

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Legislative History

FACTORIES ACT (CHAPTER 104, SECTION 68)

FACTORIES (ABRASIVE BLASTING) REGULATIONS

Rg 1

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PART I

DEFINITIONS AND APPLICATION

Citation

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Factories (Abrasive Blasting) Regulations.

Definitions

2. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires —

“abrasive” means sand, metal shot, grit or other material used or intended to be used for blasting;

“blasting” means the cleaning, smoothing, roughening, cutting, preparation or removal of the surface or part of the surface of any building, ship, or article by the use of an abrasive propelled by a blast of compressed air or steam or by a wheel or by any similar means;

“blasting chamber” means any type of blasting enclosure into which persons enter;

“blasting enclosure” means a chamber, barrel, cabinet or other similar enclosure designed for the performance of blasting therein.

Application

3.—(1) These Regulations shall apply to all factories in which blasting is done.

(2) These Regulations shall be in addition to and not in substitution for or in diminution of other requirements imposed by or under the Act.

Exemption

4.—(1) Where the Chief Inspector is satisfied in respect of any factory or in respect of factories of any specified class or description that owing to the special conditions or special methods of work or otherwise any requirement of these Regulations can be suspended or relaxed without danger to the health of the persons employed, or that the application of any such requirement is for any reason impracticable or inappropriate, he may by certificate in writing (which he may in his discretion revoke at any time) exempt that factory or factories of that class or description from the application of that requirement either absolutely or subject to such conditions as may be specified in the certificate.

(2) Where any certificate is issued under this regulation a legible copy thereof, showing the conditions, if any, subject to which it has been granted shall be kept posted up in every factory to which the exemption applies in a position where it may conveniently be read by the persons employed therein.

PART II

ABRASIVES IN BLASTING APPARATUS

Abrasives in blasting apparatus

5. No sand or other substance containing free silica shall be used as an abrasive in blasting or be introduced into or be present in any blasting apparatus as an abrasive.

Abrasives not to be used again

6. No substance which has been used as an abrasive in blasting shall be so used again or be introduced into or be present in any blasting apparatus as an abrasive unless since last being so used it has so far as practicable been separated, by means of suitable and efficient apparatus, from dust and particles of materials arising from blasting.

PART III

PRECAUTIONS IN CONNECTIONS WITH BLASTING

Safety precautions

7.—(1) No blasting shall be done except in a blasting enclosure.

(2) No work shall be performed in a blasting enclosure except blasting and work immediately incidental thereto and the cleaning and repairing of the enclosure and of plant and appliances situated therein.

(3) Every door of a blasting enclosure shall be kept closed but shall not be locked securely while blasting is being done therein and shall be kept closed for a reasonable time after blasting has ceased.

(4) Nothing in this regulation shall apply to blasting done to the surface of a ship or of any other article or thing where by reason of the size, shape or position of that article or thing it is not practicable to perform such blasting in a blasting enclosure.

Construction of blasting enclosure

8.—(1) Every blasting enclosure shall be of sound construction and shall be so situated or so constructed as to prevent, so far as practicable, dust escaping from them into the air of any workroom.

(2) Every blasting chamber shall be provided with —

- (a) suitable and adequate means of access which shall at all times be kept free from obstruction; and
- (b) inspection ports placed in suitable positions.

(3) The interior of every blasting chamber shall, so far as is practicable, be free from projections on which dust might settle.

(4) The illumination of every blasting chamber shall be not less than 200 lux over all parts of the chamber measured in a horizontal plane at one metre above the floor.

Ventilating plant

9.—(1) There shall be provided and maintained in connection with every blasting enclosure efficient ventilation plant to extract, by exhaust draught effected by mechanical means, all dust produced in the enclosure to remove and dispose of such dust so that it will not escape into the air of any room. The dust shall be removed by means of suitable filters or settling devices. Such filters or devices shall, if situated in a room, be completely separated from the general air of that room in an enclosure.