



Maritime and Coastguard Agency

---

---

## The Carriage of Military and Commercial Explosives – Amendment No. 1

Notice to operators, shipowners, masters, freight forwarders and shippers of explosives.

*This Notice amends Merchant Shipping Notice No. 1706*

---

---

### *Summary*

This Merchant Shipping Notice is an integral part of the Merchant Shipping (Dangerous Goods and Marine Pollutant) Regulations 1997. It amends Merchant shipping Notice No. 1706 setting out the conditions for carrying military and commercial explosives in accordance with regulation 1 of these Regulations.

1. Merchant Shipping Notice No. 1706 details various aspects on the carriage of explosives in ships. Annex A gives specific Ministry of Defence (MOD) requirements for the carriage of military explosives.
  - or
  - (ii) explosives in compatibility groups C, D and E, if the total net explosive mass does not exceed 10 kg per ship;
  
2. This Notice amends the text in Annex A relating to the MOD Authorised Explosives Representative by deleting paragraph 3.1 in its entirety and replacing it by the text below.

“3.1 An MOD Authorised Explosives Representative (AER) must be in attendance during the loading, handling and discharge of military explosives at any port within the United Kingdom **except that an AER will not be required to be in attendance when any quantity of explosives consisting only of those in Class 1 division 4 compatibility group S are to be handled loaded or discharged.** No other explosives may be loaded, handled or discharged without the presence of an AER except any of the following:

  - (i) explosive articles for life saving purposes, if the total net explosive mass of such articles does not exceed 50 kg per ship;
  - or
  - (iii) explosive articles in compatibility group G, other than those requiring special stowage, if the total net explosive mass does not exceed 10 kg per ship;
  - or
  - (iv) explosive articles in compatibility group B, if the total net explosive mass does not exceed 5 kg per ship;
  - or
  - (v) explosive articles in compatibility group N, if the total net explosive mass does not exceed 50 kg per ship and no other explosives apart from Division 1.4 Compatibility Group S are carried.”

3. Appendix 1 to Annex A – Duties of MOD Authorised Explosive Representatives – is only applicable in those cases where the presence of an AER is required in accordance with paragraph 3.1 of Annex A as amended by this Notice.

Environment & Cargoes Safety Branch  
Maritime and Coastguard Agency  
Spring Place  
105 Commercial Road  
Southampton SO15 1EG

Tel: 023 80329 100  
Fax: 023 80329 204  
[www.mcagency.org.uk](http://www.mcagency.org.uk)

File No. MS116/031/41

May 2000



*An executive agency of the Department of the  
Environment, Transport and the Regions*