

Security alert



Explosives

Explosives Inspectorate

Security Alert No. 3 | 5 January 2012

Unauthorised person working alone with explosives

What happened?

A person, who was working alone and in control of the magazine keys, had not been authorised to have unsupervised access to the security sensitive explosives. This activity was permitted by the supervisor even though the person had not been security cleared and was not signed off as an 'appropriate person.'

This is a serious breach of security.

Recommendations

1. Anybody who has unsupervised access to security sensitive explosives must be security cleared.
2. Anybody working with security-sensitive explosives must be an **appropriate person**.
3. An **appropriate person** is someone under the safety management system and security plan who:
 - a. is security cleared for the level of access, supervised or unsupervised as appropriate
 - b. has the required skills, knowledge and experience of safety and security practices and is competent to perform the tasks
 - c. has suitable physical and mental health
 - d. has adequate facilities for the use and handling of explosives.
4. A **security clearance** for unsupervised access to security-sensitive explosives comprises:
 - a. a satisfactory politically motivated violence check (ASIO check),
 - b. a national criminal history check undertaken by the police, which includes no current domestic violence order or equivalent.
5. Licence holders must undertake regular audits and checks of their security access systems to ensure physical and personnel security controls are effective and have not been breached.

Authorised by **Geoff Downs** | Chief Inspector of Explosives

For more information, call **1300 739 868**

Place the alert on noticeboards and ensure all relevant people in your organisation receive a copy.

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