

# Security Substances Newsletter

Workplace Standards Tasmania — Issue 3: December 2007



DEPARTMENT *of* JUSTICE

## 1. AFER Meeting

AFER (Australian Forum of Explosive Regulators) conducted a 2-day meeting in Brisbane on 7 and 8 November 2007.

Those attending included state and territory regulators; and industry representatives from AEISG (Australian Explosives Industry and Safety Group); AMSA (Australian Maritime Safety Authority); Department of Defence; and other guest speakers.

A few of the issues reviewed and discussed were:

- update on training and competencies for the transport of explosives and SSAN
- nationally consistent application process for the 'Authorisation of Explosives'
- a presentation by Richard Morony (AEISG) on matters concerning industry and an update on new industry Codes of Practice
- a review of matters relating to the revision of the Australian Explosives Code (AE Code, Edition 3). Further details are available from the SSDS Unit.

## 2. SSDS Act — Addition of Explosives



Information sessions were conducted around Tasmania in September, outlining the new arrangements to be implemented when explosives are added to the SSDS Act as a 'security sensitive substance'. The legislation will now be introduced into parliament in the autumn sitting in 2008. No precise time can be provided but stakeholders will be informed when the date is known.

## 3. Australian Federal Police — Canine Unit

Recently the Australian Federal Police introduced two bomb sniffer dogs to Tasmania as part of counter terrorism operations. This is associated with additional security services being provided to major Australian airports.

The dog handlers (AFP field agents) are developing the dog training to an operational level. If there is any detectable explosive odour at the airport the dogs will identify it. This would include substances found in luggage or on clothing. The dogs can identify minute deposits that may remain as residue following any involvement with explosives.

The two Labradors will be based at Hobart Airport undertaking routine patrols, as well as assisting Tasmania Police with its operations.

#### 4. Approved Shot-firer Training Organisations (at 1 Nov 2007)

ORGANISATION	CONTACT	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
MJS Mining Services—specialty underground, surface and quarry	Michael Smith & Peter Duniam	2 Aloomba Street Balmoral QLD 4171	(07) 3395 7863  0409 001 186
Orica Mining Services- Specialty quarry and underground (larger organisations)	David Coutts	www.oricaminingservices.com follow links to blasting courses	(02) 4939 5127  0402 792 965
Tasmanian Explosives Services — Specialty agricultural, small scale & construction	Peter Mielke	17 Osprey Drive St Helens 7216 Email: tes.tas@hotmail.com	0407 856 595
Terrock Consulting Engineers — Specialty surface and quarry	Alan Richards Norm Colvin (Trainer)	PO Box 829 Eltham VIC 3095	(03) 9431 0033 Fax: (03) 9431 1810
EXPLOFIX PTY LTD Specialty underground, surface and quarry	Peter Duniam & David Abrahams	2 Aloomba Street Balmoral QLD 4171 PO Box 76, Newstead 7250 Email: zapcon@bigpond.com	0409 001 186  0407 927 060

#### 5. Character Clearance For Shot-Firer Permit Applications

Anyone applying for a shot-firer's permit MUST be granted a 'Character Clearance' from Workplace Standards Tasmania BEFORE attending a shot-firer training course and/or applying for a shot-firer's permit. This also applies to renewal applications.

As part of this process, two forms need to be completed:

1. The Shot-Firers Application Form
2. The 'Consent to Check and Release Tasmania and National Police Record' (A Politically Motivated Violence check is conducted by ASIO).

The two completed forms can be submitted through any Service Tasmania shop together with the required fee. The Service Tasmania shop will forward the application to the SSDS Unit. Application forms can be downloaded from the WST website at [www.wst.tas.gov.au](http://www.wst.tas.gov.au) under the Dangerous Substances option – just look for the information on 'Shot-firers'.

The application must be submitted in sufficient time to allow the character clearance to be completed before attending a shot-firer training course.

#### **Security Sensitive Dangerous Substances Unit — WST**

Office: 30 Gordons Hill Rd, (PO Box 56)  
Rosny Park, Tasmania, 7018  
Telephone: 1300 366 322 (within Tasmania)  
(03) 6233 7657 (outside Tasmania)  
Facsimile: (03) 6233 8338  
Webpage: [www.wst.tas.gov.au](http://www.wst.tas.gov.au)  
Email: [wstinfo@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:wstinfo@justice.tas.gov.au)