



A Growing Concern

REGULATING THE SALE AND USE OF
AMMONIUM NITRATE

Canada

New regulations for sales of ammonium nitrate

Sellers of ammonium nitrate (AN) have been required to meet security measures under the *Restricted Component Regulations* of the *Explosives Act* since June 1, 2008. These regulations have been superseded by Part 20 of the *Explosives Regulations, 2013*, which came into effect February 1, 2014.

The Toronto-area terrorist plot to use AN to build bombs, which was foiled in June 2006, underscored the need for regulatory controls to prevent the acquisition of restricted substances, such as AN, by terrorists and other criminals.

The Explosives Regulatory Division (ERD) of Natural Resources Canada's (NRCAN's) Explosives Safety and Security Branch is responsible for administering Canada's *Explosives Act* and its regulations. Amendments to the Act contained in the *Public Safety Act, 2002*, included regulation-making provisions for the security of restricted components of explosives.

Regulations for sellers of AN

If you manufacture, import, export, purchase, provide or distribute for sale any amount of AN in solid form (i.e. 80 percent or more of AN or 28 percent or more of nitrogen) or sell products that contain or are made from AN in solid form, you must comply with Part 20 of NRCAN's *Explosives Regulations, 2013* by

- enrolling with ERD to ensure that you are listed as an authorized seller of AN or products that contain or are made from AN
- taking security measures to protect your AN supply and all related documentation from theft and unauthorized access
- asking customers for proper identification (e.g. government photo ID) and how they intend to use the AN
- informing your end-users and your transporters about how to protect their AN from theft
- providing annual inventory reports to the ERD Chief of Inspectors

For more information and to enrol, sellers of AN are encouraged to consult the *Restricted Components Regulations* posted on ERD's Web site at nrcan.gc.ca/explosives.

Additional tips for complying are available in the *Ammonium Nitrate Code of Practice* from the Fertilizer Safety and Security Council at www.fssc.ca/en/programs/ammonium-nitrate-safety-and-security.

Requirements for users of AN

If you are a user of AN in solid form (i.e. 80 percent or higher AN, 28 percent or higher nitrogen), you will be asked to provide your supplier with proper identification (e.g. government photo ID) and explain how you intend to use the AN.

As a user, you are also advised to take security measures to prevent the theft of AN and to immediately report to local police any signs of theft, attempted theft, tampering or loss of AN.

Users are prohibited from reselling any amount of AN.

Requirements for transporters of AN

As a transporter of AN in solid form (i.e. 80 percent or higher AN, 28 percent or higher nitrogen), you are advised to take security measures to prevent the theft of AN and to immediately report to the seller any signs of theft, attempted theft, tampering or loss of AN.

Outreach and compliance

Outreach and compliance with these regulations will be provided and monitored by Inspectors of Explosives from ERD, in partnership with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

Additional information

For more information about AN or to report suspicious activity, contact

Natural Resources Canada
Explosives Regulatory Division
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