



DOSR/RN/2024-02 – Thermite Classification for Transport and Storage

Date: 24 Apr 2024

References:

- A. [HSE Safety Notice CEMHD01-2024 – Manufacture, storage and carriage of thermites and thermite containing articles, dated 08 Apr 24.](#)

Issue

1. On 8 April 2024 the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) issued a safety notice for those involved in the manufacture, storage and carriage of thermites and thermite containing articles.
2. HSE has identified that thermites, and thermite containing articles, meeting the criteria for being classified for transport in Great Britain and the ADR area as Class 1 Dangerous Goods (as explosive substances and articles) are currently being transported either as non-dangerous goods or as Class 4.1 dangerous goods (flammable solids).

Scope

3. Goods including substances and articles that meet the criteria in United Nation Model Regulations (UNMR) and ADR for classification as dangerous goods, in particular goods which meet the criteria to be classified as dangerous goods in Class 1 (explosives) are not being properly classified.
4. Failure to properly classify goods may result in the hazards associated with those goods not being properly communicated to people working throughout the transport chain and emergency services who may be required to attend a transport incident.
5. Incorrect classification could also mean that the safeguards expected to be in place to protect people and places when these goods are manufactured and stored are not fully implemented.

Aim

6. This DRN is aimed at DE&S Delivery Teams – P/DT SSR or equivalent, Heads of Safety Centers and Inspectors of Explosives (UKStratCom, Navy, Army, RAF, DE&S).

Implementation

7. Effective 24 Apr 2024.

Action Required

8. Duty holders must not allow thermites and thermite containing articles to be consigned or accepted for carriage by road or rail without them having been assigned an appropriate classification by the Competent Authority (DOSR).
9. Thermites and Thermite containing articles should be manufactured and stored in accordance with the requirements of the Explosives Regulations 2014.



10. Thermite containing articles should be subjected to the placing on the market requirements of the Pyrotechnic Articles Safety Regulations 2015.

Queries

11. Any observations or requests for further guidance on the content of this DRN should be submitted by email to dsa-dosr-prg@mod.gov.uk.

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Document Reference Number

DOSR/RN/2024-02.

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