



U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,
Firearms and Explosives

Office of the Director

AUG-2007

Washington, DC 20226

Dear Federal Explosives Licensee or Permittee:

We are pleased to provide you with the latest edition of the Federal Explosives Law and Regulations. This edition incorporates the regulations developed in response to the Safe Explosives Act of 2002, which was the most sweeping revision of the Federal explosives laws since the original enactment of Title XI of the Organized Crime Control Act of 1970.

The Safe Explosives Act is a reflection of how the explosives industry and the regulation of the explosives industry continue to evolve. The underlying goals of the Safe Explosives Act and the Federal regulations remain the same – the safe storage and security of all explosive materials.

Safety is accomplished through proper magazine construction, adherence to the Tables of Distances, and housekeeping. However, safety is not strictly limited to the regulations. Effective employee training on safety, the safe handling of explosive materials, and compliance with all State and local requirements for safety also contributes to the safe storage of explosive materials.

Security of all explosive materials is an essential tool in the war against terrorism. Verifying required records, ensuring the use of approved locking systems, and conducting background checks on industry applicants and their employees are all means by which ATF makes certain that explosive materials are not diverted or criminally misused. However, your own internal controls and industry-created security publications also support the secure and safe storage of explosive materials.

The most effective means of safety and security remains, quite simply, your continued vigilance! As always, we seek your assistance to meet our goals of safety and security. We appreciate your continued cooperation and look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely yours,

Michael J. Sullivan
Acting Director