

Safety Guidance on Classification and Transportation of an Aerial Shell Kit, Reloadable Tube – UN0336, Fireworks, 1.4G

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), an agency of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), is issuing guidance on the requirements for transporting Aerial Shell Kit, Reloadable Tube—UN0336, Fireworks, 1.4G. During routine compliance inspections, PHMSA became aware of an industry practice whereby aerial shells are being transported without reloadable tubes, in violation of the Hazardous Materials Regulations (49 C.F.R., Parts 171-180) and the American Pyrotechnic Association (APA) Standard 87-1, Version 2001 (IBR, see 49 C.F.R. § 171.7).

The requirements of the Aerial Shell Kit, Reloadable Tube are set forth in section 3.1.2.6 of the APA Standard 87-1, which states that a package (kit) must contain a launching tube and not more than 12 small aerial shells and not more than 400 grams of chemical composition. In addition, section 3.1.2.5 requires that aerial shells offered for transportation without a launching tube may not be approved or transported as UN0336, Fireworks, 1.4G. Aerial shells that do not have a launching tube must be approved for transportation as UN0335 Fireworks, 1.3G, in accordance with section 4.1.1.

EX Approval Classifications for the transportation of a 1.4G Aerial Shell Kit, Reloadable Tube approved based on the APA Standard 87-1 are only valid when the kit is packaged with a fully assembled and usable launching tube of cardboard, high-density polyethylene or equivalent material that is capable of firing twice the number of shells in the kit without failure of the tube. An aerial shell kit must also contain less than 400 grams of total chemical composition that can be distributed in up to 12 aerial shells with no individual shell containing more than 60 grams. Additionally, the aerial shell kit must be transported in commerce in a finished state for retail sale from the manufacturer.

Detailed information on the requirements for fireworks can be found in 49 C.F.R. §173.64, the APA Standard 87-1, and on PHMSA's website: <http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/hazmat>. Information may also be obtained by calling the Hazardous Materials Information Center at 1-800-467-4922 (Washington, DC, call 202-366-4488).



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