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ALL REGISTERED MANAGERS  
OF UNDERGROUND MINES

**THE USE OF MOBILE MIXING UNITS (MMU) FOR CHARGING  
BLASTHOLES IN UNDERGROUND MINES**

**NOTICE OF GENERAL EXEMPTION FROM MINES SAFETY AND INSPECTION  
REGULATION 8.40 (2) – A person must not mix a blasting agent in an underground mine.**

**Background**

The provision in this sub-regulation was made to prevent the establishment in underground mines of permanent or semi-permanent stations for mixing blasting agents.

It had in the past been the practice at some mines to mix AN Blasting Agents (particularly AN-Fuel Oil) in facilities underground. This practice is considered to present an unacceptable level of risk.

The provision was not intended to prevent the use of purpose built and licensed Mobile Mixing Units (MMU), and charging units. These are designed to a high level of intrinsic safety. In the mixing units the product is sensitised as it is discharged into the blasthole.

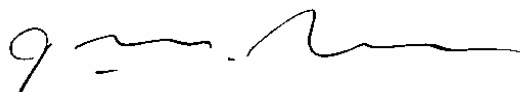
**Regulation 8.40** will be amended to clarify the intent.

**General Exemption Provisions**

Until that amendment is made this notice of general exemption to the provision in **Sub-Regulation 8.40 (2)** is issued on the grounds that compliance is unnecessary for the specified application in accordance with **Regulation 1.5**.

The exemption will apply to all underground mining operations in respect to purpose built and licensed Mobile Mixing Units and charging units.

In this context licensed means licensed under the Explosives and Dangerous Goods Act.



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STATE MINING ENGINEER

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