

Explosive shooting supplies in shops

Retailers' risk assessment checklist

This checklist accompanies the leaflet *Storing and selling shooting supplies safely* (INDG477) which is available online at www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg477.htm. It has been written for people who sell explosive shooting supplies, to help them carry out a risk assessment and plan what actions they need to take to protect the safety of staff and customers.

How could a fire start?				
Danger	Action	Your actions and notes (record here any specific actions you need to take)	Action taken (✓)	Comments
Cigarettes and other naked lights.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Restrict access to store area where explosive shooting supplies are stored. ■ Ensure explosive shooting supplies are not left unattended in the warehouse or storage area. ■ Prohibit smoking anywhere near the items. ■ Keep in a locked store, locked storage cabinet or locked display cabinet. 	(eg ensure all staff are aware of no smoking areas and check <i>no smoking</i> signs are displayed in prominent locations).		Taking positive action to prevent a fire is the most important of all the control measures you must take.
Sparks from electrical sockets and fittings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Ensure electrical installations are regularly inspected and remain fit for purpose. 			

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Heat causing boxes to catch fire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Remove heaters or position them well away from the explosive shooting supplies. ■ In storerooms, leave a clear space between the light fitting(s) and the explosive shooting supplies. 			
Fire involving other goods spreads to the explosive shooting supplies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Keep shooting supplies in a dedicated storeroom if possible, otherwise in a fire-resistant store cupboard or cabinet or container. ■ Keep well away from flammable or combustible articles. 			Flammable substances include white spirit and solvent-based polishes and cleaners. Combustible articles include clothing, cardboard, paper and wood (eg pallets).
Arson or criminal action.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Keep in a secure goods yard. ■ Keep under supervision. ■ Review location of the store and security arrangements. 			A fire might be started deliberately or by thieves using cutting equipment to gain access to the store.
How could a fire spread and get worse?				
Heat from burning explosive shooting supplies could cause nearby flammable or combustible articles to catch fire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Wherever possible, do not store flammable or combustible articles with shooting supplies. ■ Locate explosive shooting supplies well away from flammable substances to reduce risk of fire spreading. ■ If explosive shooting supplies are stored in a container outside the building, ensure it is located well away from parked vehicles, pallets etc. 			

How could a fire spread and get worse?

Danger	Action	Your actions and notes (record here any specific actions you need to take)	Action taken (✓)	Comments
<p>Burning explosive shooting supplies or fragments could be thrown into flammable or combustible articles.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Keep the explosive shooting supplies (other than shooters' powders) in their transport boxes. ■ Close transport boxes after use. ■ Keep explosive shooting supplies in a separate storeroom. If this is not possible, keep them in fire-resistant cupboards or cabinets. Keep shooters' powders in the 'blackpowder' box or in their transport boxes in a separate store. ■ If explosive shooting supplies are stocked in a warehouse or other multi-use storage area, ensure there is a barrier between explosive shooting supplies and flammable items (eg a wall, or a wire screen) or enclose items in a wire cage or keep them in an ISO transport container or other suitable construction that will contain the fragment throw. Control the amount of pyrotechnic articles in the shop area. ■ Control the amount of explosive shooting supplies in the shop area. ■ Ensure the premises are suitable for the quantity of explosive shooting supplies (and keep the stocks of explosive shooting supplies within the limits permitted by your licence). 			<p>Anyone storing large quantities of flammable substances should seek specialist advice.</p> <p>Remember to reassess hazard type if you are not keeping shooters' powders in the 'blackpowder' box.</p>

How could a fire spread and get worse?

Danger	Action	Your actions and notes (record here any specific actions you need to take)	Action taken (✓)	Comments
Explosive shooting supplies could become contaminated by other chemicals or by water and become unstable.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Keep away from corrosive and caustic substances such as drain cleaners, paint strippers and wood preservatives. ■ Keep away from fertilisers and products containing peroxides (eg fibreglass hardeners). ■ Keep in a dry place. 			

How can people be protected in the event of a fire?

Staff or customers are unable to escape because of heat and/or smoke.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Control the amount of shooting supplies in the shop area. ■ Do not keep shooters' powders in the sales area. ■ Ensure the explosive shooting supplies are located so that escape routes are not affected by smoke and flames in the event of a fire. ■ Ensure escape routes are not blocked by other goods. ■ Ensure all staff are clear on what action must be taken if there is fire. 			<p>Priority must be for staff and customers to evacuate the shop.</p> <p>Fires should only be fought if people are in danger.</p> <p>You have a legal duty under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 to ensure that any person present in your shop can escape to safety should there be an outbreak of fire.</p>
Fire spreads to neighbouring or adjoining premises.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Locate containers away from neighbouring premises/properties. ■ If there are flats or residential accommodation in the same building, ensure that there is a separate escape route for residents. ■ Install fire detection and alarm system. ■ Ensure that suitable fire doors are fitted etc. 			