



SAFETY SERVICES ORGANISATION



Session 3.6

Inspection of Ammunition Storage Facilities

**IATG Foundation Course:
Ammunition Storage Infrastructure Module**



Lesson Objectives

At the end of this lesson you should be able to:

- Explain the purpose of an effective inspection regime
- Explain the importance of the PES Log Book
- Describe the functions of Internal and External inspections
- Describe the functions of Specialist inspections

Rationale

- An effective inspection regime is an important element of risk reduction
- Inspection helps to identify whether or not procedures are being correctly applied
- If they are not, the risk of fire, propagation of explosions between PES and the hazards to ES are all increased, with potential human, financial, national security and political implications
- The inspection regime should provide assurance that the facilities are fit for purpose
- Inspection should ensure compliance with the terms of the ELL

The PES Log Book

- **Each PES has a PES Log Book to record:**
 - The ELL are being observed
 - The condition, maintenance and repair of the PES
 - To monitor the stockpile contained within
 - All inspections
 - Certificates where applicable

The PES Log Book

- It is essential to keep the PES up to date to maintain a complete record and history of the PES to support both internal and external inspections and audits
- The PES Log Book is checked and signed by the Explosives Safety Representative (ESR) at least once per month.
- The PES Log Book is kept outside the explosives area

Internal Inspections

- Internal to the organisation
- Covers the inside and outside of buildings and facilities
- Enables the HoE to obtain reassurance that the facilities under his/her control are operating efficiently and at a level of risk that is ALARP
- Informal inspections should be carried out as a routine daily task by all workers, with observations being reported to managers
- Formal inspections frequency set by the National Authority but minimum should be monthly.
- In addition, some non-routine inspections should also take place



Internal Inspections

- **Other internal inspections by specialist staff are also required:**
 - Fire safety checks
 - Routine daily security checks
 - Estate maintenance
 - Control of contraband checks
 - First Aid kits checks



External Inspections

- Completed by National authorities
- Should only be completed by competent personnel appointed by the National authority
- The aim is to ensure that storage and processing operations are safe and being carried out in compliance with national explosives technical, health, safety and environmental legislation and regulations
- The national technical authority should determine if the site is being operated in a SATISFACTORY or UNSATISFACTORY manner
- **NB – specialist inspections**



Specialist Inspections

- **In addition to internal and external checks, some specialist inspections may be required as follows:**
 - Lightning protection
 - Electrical supplies, fixtures and fittings
 - Conductive and anti-static checks
 - Installed lifting appliances eg. Cranes
 - Buildings and civil construction compliance inspections

Specialist Inspections

- **Other specialist inspections that may require specialist support include:**
 - Mobile lifting equipment, cranes and hoists
 - Fire-fighting equipment and alarms
 - Physical security arrangements and security of information systems where applicable.

External Inspections

- A report should be issued stating the grading awarded and detailing the reasons for that grading against various criteria.
- In case of an UNSATISFACTORY grading the national technical authority should work with the site management team to develop a plan to reduce the risk and return to a SATISFACTORY grading as soon as possible.

Facilitator led discussion – analysis of inspection issues

- How and why would safety, security or reliability be seriously degraded leading to an UNSATISFACTORY grading?
- Why and how would low management standards exist to the extent that explosives safety is threatened?
- How could it arise that inadequate progress has been made to rectify deficiencies reported in a previous report?

Questions?

Lesson Objectives

You should now be able to:

- Explain how an effective inspection regime plays an important role in risk reduction at ammunition and explosives facilities.
- Understand the importance of the PES Log Book and how it is maintained.
- Know and understand the purpose of Internal and External inspections.
- List and understand the importance of the Specialist inspections that are required in ammunition and explosives facilities.



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