

# Explosives & Blasting Safety Program

Guy's Construction  
123 Main Street, Anytown, AK 99501

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29 CFR 1926.900-914 (Subpart U)

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**SAMPLE DOCUMENT - NOT FOR COMPLIANCE USE**

## JURISDICTION AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Blasting and use of explosives on construction sites is governed by:

- 29 CFR 1926 Subpart U (1926.900-914): OSHA construction standard for explosives
- ATF 27 CFR 555: Federal explosives law (storage, purchase, transport, licensing)
- DOT 49 CFR 173 Subpart C: Transportation of explosives
- State and local blasting permits, licensing, and notification requirements

### STATE-SPECIFIC: Alaska has additional requirements:

- excessive impact sensitivity
- 1.1C, 1.2C, 1.3C, 1.4C
- a primary (a 1.1A initiating) explosive or a forbidden explosive according to this subchapter
- C
- another sheathed explosive unit
- atmosphere test before entry, observer stationed outside, body harness with lifeline, lockout all equipment causing grain movement, never wa
- restricted areas posted with radiation caution signs
- from outside bin only
- CDZ training per 1926.761
- Subpart G - Signs, Signals, and Barricades
- blasting caps, electric blasting caps, delay electric blasting caps, and nonelectric delay blasting caps
- blasting plan
- respiratory protection and engineering controls
- silica dust leading to silicosis
- OSHA Alaska State Plan page ([osha.gov/stateplans/ak](https://www.osha.gov/stateplans/ak)): unique Explosives and Blasting Agents standard (General Industry)
- surface
- a well which injects fluids to increase the recovery of hydrocarbons
- one producing zone is predominately gas and a second zone is predominately oil
- pressure relief devices conforming to the following requirements
- prospective employers applying or bidding for work whose employees reasonably can be expected to work in or adjacent to areas containing ACM
- explosives stored per ATF requirements and 29 CFR 1926.900, licensed blaster, all workers clear of blast area, misfire procedures (wait 15 m
- 29 CFR 1926.900 General provisions
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- adequate handwashing facilities for use by employees exposed to lead in accordance with 29 CFR 1926.51(f)
- hot and cold water feeding a common discharge line
- for a post accident review of employee activities to determine whether the procedures were effective in

each emergency and taking corrective

- the use of reclaimed water in oil and gas operations
- an agreement with the Surety Department for the Conservation Division to properly close and reclaim the site in accordance with approved pro

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## 1.0 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This Explosives & Blasting Safety Program establishes requirements for the safe storage, handling, transportation, and use of explosives on Guy's Construction construction projects.

*29 CFR 1926.800(p)-(r) + 29 CFR 1926.900-914*

**All blasting operations must be conducted by or under the direct supervision of a qualified blaster. No exceptions.**

## 2.0 QUALIFIED BLASTER REQUIREMENTS

- authorized and qualified person (blaster) only

*29 CFR 1926.900(a)*

- Authorized and Qualified Person (Blaster)

*1926.900(a)*

- explosives stored per ATF requirements and 29 CFR 1926.900, licensed blaster, all workers clear of blast area, misfire procedures (wait 15 minutes before approach)
- explosives stored per ATF requirements and 29 CFR 1926.900; licensed blaster required; all workers clear of blast area; misfire procedures: wait 15 minutes before approach; drill holes examined for ex

*29 CFR 1926.800(p)-(r) + 29 CFR 1926.900-914*

- 29 CFR 1926.901 Blaster qualifications
- Must have current state blasting license (where required)
- Authority to suspend blasting operations when conditions are unsafe

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### 3.0 EXPLOSIVES STORAGE (MAGAZINES)

- 29 CFR 1926.904 Storage of explosives and blasting agents
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- 50 feet of explosives and detonator storage magazine

*29 CFR 1926.904(c)*

- such continued use does not constitute a recognized hazard that is causing or is likely to cause death or serious physical harm to employees
- any building or structure used for the storage of explosives

*29 CFR 1910.109(a)(6)*

- the storage of explosives

*29 CFR 1926.500*

- Detonators stored separately from explosives (separate magazines)
- Magazines locked when unattended
- No smoking, matches, firearms, or metallic tools inside magazines
- Magazine distance tables per ATF Publication 5400.7

### 4.0 TRANSPORTATION OF EXPLOSIVES

- transported with other materials

*29 CFR 1926.903(p)*

- 29 CFR 1926.902 Surface transportation of explosives
- 29 CFR 1926.902 Surface transportation of explosives
- 29 CFR 1926.903 Underground transportation of explosives
- Detonators never transported in the same vehicle compartment as explosives
- Vehicles placarded per DOT requirements
- No riders except essential crew
- Vehicle must be in good mechanical condition, equipped with fire extinguisher

## 5.0 LOADING AND FIRING PROCEDURES

- 29 CFR 1926.905 Loading of explosives or blasting agents
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- 29 CFR 1926.909 Firing the blast
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- firing when dynamite is used
- Only the qualified blaster or authorized personnel load blast holes
- All persons clear of blast area before connecting circuits
- Audible warning signal before blast: one long blast (clear area), series of short blasts (imminent detonation), all clear after blast

## 6.0 MISFIRES

**A misfire is an extremely dangerous situation. Follow these procedures exactly.**

- explosives stored per ATF requirements and 29 CFR 1926.900, licensed blaster, all workers clear of blast area, misfire procedures (wait 15 minutes before approach)
- explosives stored per ATF requirements and 29 CFR 1926.900; licensed blaster required; all workers clear of blast area; misfire procedures: wait 15 minutes before approach; drill holes examined for ex

*29 CFR 1926.800(p)-(r) + 29 CFR 1926.900-914*

- Do not return to the blast area for at least 30 minutes (electric) or 60 minutes (safety fuse)
- Only the qualified blaster investigates misfires
- Never attempt to pull detonators or primers from a misfired hole
- Drill a new hole at least 2 feet from the misfired hole and re-blast

## 7.0 ELECTRIC BLASTING SAFETY

- Electric Blasting Machine or Properly Designed Electric Power Source

1926.900(r)

- explosives stored per ATF requirements and 29 CFR 1926.900; licensed blaster required; all workers clear of blast area; misfire procedures: wait 15 minutes before approach; drill holes examined for ex

29 CFR 1926.800(p)-(r) + 29 CFR 1926.900-914

- 29 CFR 1926.906 Initiation of explosive charges - electric blasting
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- electric blasting machine or properly designed electric power source (exceptions: 1926.906(a) and (r))

29 CFR 1926.900(r)

- Stray current testing before loading electric detonators
- No blasting within 1,000 feet of RF transmitters without safe distance calculation
- Suspend electric blasting during electrical storms
- Blasting machine key/switch controlled only by the qualified blaster

## 8.0 BLAST AREA SECURITY

- Blast area perimeter established by the qualified blaster based on charge size and geology
- Guards posted at all access points during loading and firing
- All personnel, equipment, and vehicles moved outside the blast area
- Flyrock protection: mats, covering, or increased setback distances
- Public notification when blasting near occupied areas
- All-clear given only by the qualified blaster after inspection of the blast site

## 9.0 PRE-BLAST SURVEY AND VIBRATION MONITORING

- Pre-blast survey of all structures within the blast influence zone (photos/video)
- Seismograph monitoring during all blasts near structures
- Peak particle velocity (PPV) limits per project specs or local ordinance
- Air overpressure monitoring when blasting near occupied structures
- Post-blast inspection of adjacent structures

## 10.0 TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

- All personnel involved in explosives handling: this program, hazards, emergency procedures
- Qualified blaster: state licensing requirements, continuing education
- Blaster helpers: explosives safety, signals, area security procedures
- Guard personnel: perimeter control, communication, emergency response

## 11.0 RECORDKEEPING

Record	Retention	Notes
Blast logs (Appendix B)	Project duration + 5 years	Per blast event
Pre-blast survey photos/video	Project duration + 5 years	Adjacent structures
Seismograph/vibration records	Project duration + 5 years	Per blast
Magazine inventory logs	3 years	Daily when active
Blaster licenses/certifications	Duration of employment	Current copies
Training records	Duration of employment	All personnel
ATF records (purchases, transfers)	5 years	Per ATF requirements

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OSHA Alaska State Plan page ([osha.gov/stateplans/ak](https://www.osha.gov/stateplans/ak))

- surface
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## APPENDIX A: PRE-BLAST CHECKLIST

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Blaster: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Blast Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Project: \_\_\_\_\_  
 License #: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Blast #: \_\_\_\_\_

Item	Notes	OK	N/A
Qualified blaster on site and in charge			
Blast plan reviewed and approved			
Explosives inventory matches plan			
Detonators stored separately until loading			
Stray current test completed (electric)	Reading: _____ mA		
Weather conditions acceptable			
Blast area perimeter established			
Guards posted at all access points			
All personnel/equipment clear of blast area			
Warning signals system confirmed			
Seismograph in place and recording			
Emergency procedures reviewed with crew			
Communication system tested			
Flyrock protection in place			
Adjacent property owners notified			

Qualified Blaster: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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