

U.S. Fire Administration / National Fire Academy

# Warning: Hot Coffee!

## Hot Topic: Explosive Material Classifications

**Learning objective:** The student shall be able to identify an information source for classifying explosive materials in accordance with Federal law.

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) published a notice in the Federal Register September 27 containing a list of 238 explosive materials that are subject to Federal law and implementing regulations.

The annual list is comprehensive but not all-inclusive. Therefore, an explosive material may not be on the list but still may be within the coverage of the law if it meets the statutory definitions.

The list covers not only explosives, but also blasting agents and detonators, all of which are defined as explosive materials in the United States Code chapter regulating the importation, manufacture, distribution, receipt, and storage of explosive materials. Some of the explosives on the list include dynamite, black powder, pellet powder, initiating explosives, pyrotechnic compositions, safety fuses, squibs, detonating cord, igniter cord, and igniters. The 2006 list contains no new terms, deletions, or revisions since the publication of the 2005 list.



ATF has jurisdiction for the enforcement of Chapter 40 of the United States Code as well as for the Safe Explosives Act passed by Congress in 2002 as part of the Homeland Security Act.

Copies of the notice can be found at <http://www.atf.gov/firearms/rules/gennotices.htm> More information on ATF and its programs can be found at <http://www.atf.gov>

For additional information, refer to NFPA 1, Uniform Fire Code™, Chapter 65; International Fire Code®, Chapter 33; NFPA 495, Explosive Materials Code; NFPA 1122, Code for Model Rocketry; NFPA 1123, Code for Fireworks Display; NFPA 1124, Code for the Manufacture, Transportation, Storage, and Retail Sales of Fireworks and Pyrotechnic Articles; NFPA 1125, Code for the Manufacture of Model Rocket and High Power Rocket Motors; NFPA 1126, Standard for the use of Pyrotechnics Before a Proximate Audience; or NFPA 1127, Code for High Power Rocketry.