
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2021 No. 792

The Space Industry Regulations 2021

PART 10

Spaceport safety

CHAPTER 6

Hazardous material, testing areas and safety equipment at spaceports

Hazardous material storage facilities: location requirements and plan

158.—(1) A spaceport licensee must designate, in accordance with paragraph (2), appropriate areas at the spaceport for the safe storage of any hazardous material (“hazardous material storage facilities”).

(2) For the purposes of paragraph (1), whether an area is appropriate for the siting of a hazardous material storage facility must be determined in the light of—

- (a) the assessment made in the spaceport licensee’s current safety case, and
- (b) the types and quantities of hazardous material to be stored.

(3) The spaceport licensee must identify on the site plan required under regulation 36(4)(d)—

- (a) the location of all hazardous material storage facilities at the spaceport;
- (b) the maximum quantity of hazardous material to be stored at each facility, including the type of hazardous material and, if applicable, its hazard type;
- (c) actual and minimum separation distances between each hazardous material storage facility and—
 - (i) any other hazardous material storage facility at the spaceport;
 - (ii) an inhabited building;
 - (iii) a public road or railway line;
 - (iv) a public area.

(4) The spaceport licensee must ensure that any hazardous material storage facility is clearly marked in a manner appropriate to the hazardous material stored.

(5) For the purposes of this regulation—

“hazard type” has the same meaning as in the Explosives Regulations 2014(1);

“inhabited building” means any building in or at which people are, or are likely to be, present either all the time or from time to time;

“minimum separation distance” means the minimum distance which is appropriate in the light of the assessment made in the spaceport licensee’s current safety case, between a hazardous

material storage facility and any other infrastructure or building listed in paragraph (3)(c)(i) to (iv);

“public area” means any area within, or in the vicinity of, the spaceport and to which members of the public are allowed access;

“public road” means any thoroughfare outside the spaceport on which the movement of vehicles is allowed.

Hazardous material: handling and venting areas

159.—(1) A spaceport licensee must designate appropriate areas at the spaceport for the handling and venting of any hazardous material.

(2) Any area designated under paragraph (1) must be appropriate to the type and quantity of hazardous material and have a surface that is compatible with that type of hazardous material.

(3) For the purposes of paragraphs (1) and (2), whether an area is appropriate must be determined in the light of the assessment made in the spaceport licensee’s current safety case.

Propellants etc.: fit for purpose requirement

160.—(1) Where a spaceport licensee is responsible for storing, transporting or handling any hazardous material, it must not cause or permit that hazardous material to be delivered to an installation unless satisfied that—

- (a) the installation is capable of storing and dispensing the hazardous material so as not to render it unfit for use in a carrier aircraft, launch vehicle or payload;
- (b) the installation is marked in a manner appropriate to the type of hazardous material stored or, if different types are stored in different parts, each part is so marked;
- (c) in the case of delivery from a vehicle, a ship or a vessel other than a ship, the hazardous material is of a type appropriate to that installation and is fit for use in a carrier aircraft, launch vehicle or payload.

(2) A spaceport licensee must not cause or permit any hazardous material to be dispensed from an installation that it manages to a carrier aircraft, launch vehicle or payload unless satisfied that it is fit for use in that carrier aircraft, launch vehicle or payload.

(3) Paragraphs (1) and (2) do not apply to any hazardous material which has been removed from a carrier aircraft, launch vehicle or payload and is intended for use in another carrier aircraft, launch vehicle or payload operated by the same operator as the carrier aircraft, launch vehicle or payload from which it has been removed.

(4) The spaceport licensee must keep a written record for each installation that it manages, which must include detailed information about—

- (a) the type and quantity of hazardous material delivered and the date of delivery,
- (b) any samples taken of the hazardous material and the results of tests of those samples, and
- (c) the maintenance and cleaning of the installation.

(5) The spaceport licensee must—

- (a) preserve the written record required under paragraph (4) for the period of 12 months beginning with the date of delivery referred to in paragraph (4)(a) or such longer period as the regulator may in a particular case direct, and
- (b) produce that record within a reasonable time after being requested to do so by the regulator.

(6) In this regulation, “installation” means any apparatus or container, including a hazardous material storage facility or a vehicle, designed, manufactured or adapted for the storage or

transportation of any hazardous material or for the delivery of any such material to a carrier aircraft, launch vehicle or payload.

Static engine test area

161.—(1) Where static engine testing of carrier aircraft, launch vehicles or payloads, or any other test of such a vehicle or craft which has the potential to cause a major accident hazard is to be carried out at a spaceport, the spaceport licensee must designate an appropriate area at the spaceport for the purposes of conducting those tests.

(2) For the purposes of paragraph (1), whether an area is appropriate for the static engine or other testing of carrier aircraft, launch vehicles or payloads must be determined in the light of the assessment made in the spaceport licensee's current safety case.

Safety equipment

162. If a spaceport licensee owns, manages or controls any system or ground equipment used to protect persons or property at the spaceport or to comply with these Regulations, that licensee must ensure that any such system or equipment is—

- (a) maintained in efficient working order and in good repair, and
- (b) thoroughly examined and, where appropriate, tested at suitable intervals.