SUBJECT: Transporting Blasting Caps With Other Explosives

AFFECTED CODES/DIRECTIVES: OAR 437-03-1926.902(d), Construction

PURPOSE: Guidelines for evaluating compliance with 1926.902(d).

BACKGROUND: Questions have been received in the national OSHA office concerning the simultaneous transportation of blasting caps (including electric) with other explosives on the same vehicle, which is prohibited by 1926.902(d). This provision as been changed and is now permitted by the Department of Transportation in 49 CFR 177.835(g), which outlines the controlled conditions necessary to ensure employee safety.

ACTION: Pending rule change, employers meeting the following requirements shall not be cited on 1926.902(d), because of the differences between present rules and new DOT regulations. Blasting caps, blasting caps with safety fuse, blasting caps with metal clad mild detonating fuse and/or electric blasting caps may be transported in the same vehicle with other explosives, provided the following controlled conditions are complied with:

A. Percussion caps, detonators, blasting caps, or electric blasting caps, shall be carried either in a cloth container having individual pockets for each such cap, or by at least equally safe means. No greater number of any such caps shall be carried in the same manner described than is necessary for use on any particular trip.

B. The combined net weight of the explosives shall not exceed 5,000 pounds.
C. The blasting caps, blasting caps with safety fuse, blasting caps with metal clad mild detonating fuse and electric blasting caps shall be packed in authorized DOT specification outside shipping containers, or in prescribed inside DOT packages in an outside box made of 1 inch lumber lined with suitable padding material not less than 1/2 inch thick or a box made of not less than 12 gauge sheet metal lined with plywood or other suitable material not less than 3/8 inch thick so that no metal is exposed. Hinged cover and fastening device are required on boxes. These boxes shall be loaded in motor vehicles so that contents or box will be immediately accessible for removal and so that other containers in the motor vehicle will not fall on them or otherwise damage them during transit.

D. Blasting caps, blasting caps with safety fuse, blasting caps with metal clad mild detonating fuse or electric blasting caps when not packed in containers referred to in (3)C., must be transported in containers as prescribed in 49 CFR 178.318.

E. Any explosives, including desensitized liquid nitroglycerin explosives as defined in 49 CFR 173.53(e), other than liquid nitroglycerin, desensitized liquid nitroglycerin or diethylene glycol dinitrate, transported on any motor vehicle transporting liquid nitroglycerin, desensitized liquid nitroglycerin or diethylene glycol dinitrate, shall be segregated; each kind from every other kind, and from tools or other supplies.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

This directive is effective immediately and will remain in effect until cancelled or superseded.