



Natural Resources  
Canada

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Explosives Security Partnership  
**Canada is counting  
on you...**  
**Here's why**



Canada

You, as part of the explosives industry, form the first line of defence against those who would use explosives to cause harm to our communities and jeopardize our way of life. Everyone who deals with, or in, explosives is in an exceptional business—in which a simple transaction can turn into a tragedy, and a timely report can save lives. To help keep these useful but dangerous products from falling into the wrong hands, Canada is counting on your eyes, your instincts, and your cooperation.

## **The Partnership: Promoting Greater Vigilance and Protection of Explosives**

The Explosives Security Partnership is a voluntary program supported by key stakeholders from industry and government, namely the Canadian Fertilizer Institute (CFI), the Canadian Explosives Association (CEAC), the Canadian Association of Geophysical Contractors (CAGC), the Petroleum Services Association of Canada (PSAC), Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP).

The aim of the Partnership is to promote increased vigilance and protection of the Canadian commercial explosives supply chain. The Partnership also promotes the identification of additional security efforts that the partners and key stakeholders can implement. This involves enlisting the aid of the explosives manufacturing, vendor and user industries for increased vigilance for explosives sales by initiating a number of precautions at point of sale.

As a member of the Partnership community, we ask that you participate. It is voluntary. It will cost you nothing. We are asking only that you go about your normal activities with a heightened degree of vigilance. As follows:

## Point-of-sale precautions

If you are a vendor, and you are approached by customers who are either new purchasers or new licence holders, take these precautions:

- Ask technical questions to see if they know their business and have a legitimate need for explosives.
- Verify at least one piece of government-issued photo ID (for example, a driver's licence) as a condition of sale.
- Observe and note suspicious behaviour (for example: customer seems nervous, hesitates when asked for information, gives vague answers, or insists on paying in cash).
- Refuse to sell to questionable customers.
- Write down a description of the customer's
  - (1) physical appearance,
  - (2) vehicle—make, model, colour, licence number.
- Save any paper on which they may have written a name or address. Handle this paper a little as possible, to preserve fingerprints.
- Report questionable cases to the Explosives Regulatory Division (ERD), NRCAN, and law enforcement agencies (see contacts below).

## Tips for storage security

If you store explosives on your premises:

- Train employees to respond to emergency situations (employees should have emergency contacts ready at hand and be thoroughly familiar with evacuation procedures).
- Maintain regular contact with local law enforcement officials, and stay up-to-date on possible security threats in your area .
- Be on the lookout for suspicious behaviour on the part of any employees that you may have (for example, sudden changes in attitude).
- Pay close attention to inventories, to detect losses.
- Regularly inspect the security of your premises—fencing, magazines, locks—and make repairs as necessary.
- Make sure that all keys to magazines can be accounted for. If all keys cannot be accounted for, change the locks.
- Make sure that access to your magazines is limited to people who require access to them.
- Report to ERD and law enforcement agencies suspicious activities and all thefts or attempted thefts.



## **Reporting suspicious customers, employees, activities: “If you see it, say it”**

- Report all suspicious customers, employees, or activities right away.
- Trust your instincts. If anything at all strikes you as “wrong”, make immediate use of the contacts listed below.
- Any information you give will be treated as confidential.
- It’s not necessary to give your name. However, identifying yourself might be useful if we need to contact you later.
- Contacts:  
Explosives Regulatory Division, Natural Resources Canada  
Internet: [canmet-erd@nrcan.gc.ca](mailto:canmet-erd@nrcan.gc.ca),  
Telephone: 613-948-5200 (Monday to Friday 8:00am - 4:00pm)  
RCMP: National Security Information Line, 1-800-420-5805

## **What the Government of Canada is doing to increase explosives security:**

The Government of Canada, through the Explosives Regulatory Division at NRCAN, is committed to the safe and secure use of explosives. To frustrate terrorism and other criminal activity that might make use of explosives, we are taking the following steps:

- Strengthening relations with members of the explosives industry and law enforcement agencies in order to raise the level of explosives security nationwide.
- Introduction of a secure web-based information and communication platform tool to share emerging explosives security issues and trends. Industry partners and stakeholders are encouraged to enrol with the Explosives Regulatory Division at [canmet-erd@nrcan.gc.ca](mailto:canmet-erd@nrcan.gc.ca).
- Redoubling our efforts, in cooperation with the Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA), to keep illicit shipments of explosives from entering the country through the Canada-US border.
- Subjecting new licence applications and applicants to a higher level of scrutiny.

# Support for the Partnership

We have canvassed all the members of our association which includes all major Canadian manufacturers, distributors and large users of explosives regarding this Security Initiative. I am pleased to report that all our members embrace the recommendations provided in the Explosives Security Partnership overview. While our industry members are very sensitive to security issues, we believe additional measures are warranted at this time.

**Rene A. (Moose) Morin, Manager, CEAEC**

It was moved by the Canadian Chiefs of Police Board of Directors (CACP) that the NRCan Explosives Security Partnership program purpose and objectives be endorsed. The CACP encourages NRCan to promote the tracking of explosives and the identification of those handling the products. We all wish you success with the program.

**Peter Cuthbert, Executive Director,  
Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police**



Royal Canadian Mounted Police Gendarmerie royale du Canada

**CEAEC**

Canadian Explosives Industry Association  
Association Canadienne de l'Industrie des Explosifs



Fertilizer Safety & Security Council  
Conseil de la sécurité en fertilisation

