



BEKO EXPLOSIVES CONSULTANTS

(PTY) LTD

Explosives Act 26 of 1956

Regulations, Compliance & Standard Operating Procedures

PRECISION IN EVERY STRIKE





BEKO EXPLOSIVES

CONSULTANTS (PTY) LTD

Mr. Andile Alfred Nogwanya

FOUNDER & CEO

former Inspector of Explosives / Bomb Technician — SAPS Explosives Section

9

YEARS
EXPERIENCE

Field Experience in Explosives

BACKGROUND

Bomb Dedicated Special Task Team — KwaZulu-Natal Province
Certified Consultant · Explosives Management Specialist

CERTIFICATIONS & QUALIFICATIONS

- ▶ Basic Bomb Technician Course
- ▶ BDS: Bomb Data System
- ▶ Basic Explosives Control Course
- ▶ CES: Commercial Explosives System
- ▶ Post-blast Investigation Course
- ▶ Electronics Course
- ▶ CBRNE (Chemical, Bio, Radiological, Nuclear & Explosives)
- ▶ Diploma in Explosives Management

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Introduction to Explosives Act 26 of 1956

Legal framework and scope

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Key Regulations & Definitions

Critical definitions, classifications, licensing

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Licensing & Permits

Acquisition, possession, use permits

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Beko Explosives Services

Our capabilities and commitment

Legislative Background

The Explosives Act 26 of 1956 is the primary South African legislation governing the manufacture, acquisition, possession, storage, transport, import, export, and use of explosives throughout the Republic.

Administering Authority

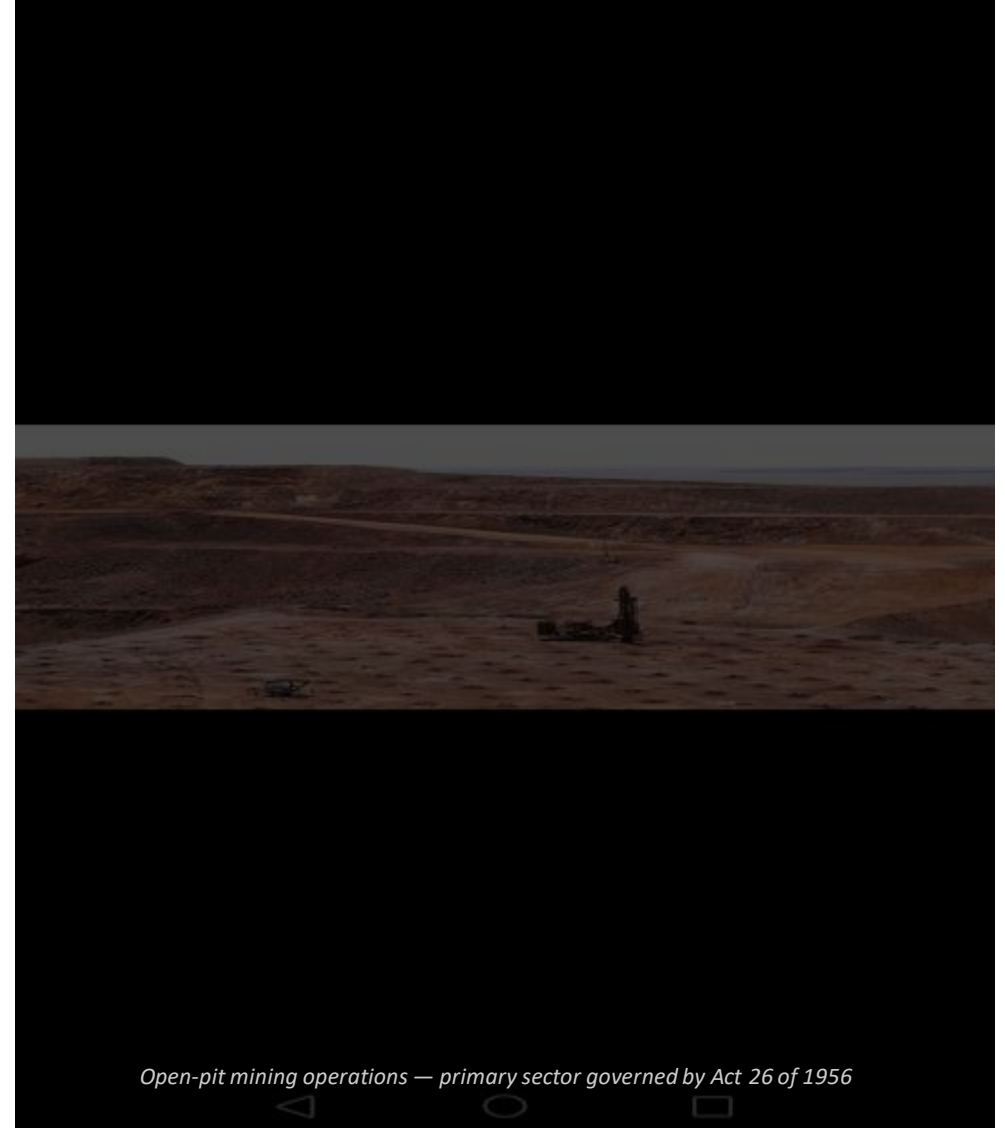
The Act is administered by the South African Police Service (SAPS) — Chief Directorate: Explosives — in conjunction with the Department of Minerals and Energy for mining-related activities.

Scope of Application

Applies to all persons and entities involved in the explosives industry including manufacturers, suppliers, licensed users, blasting contractors, and storage facility operators.

Supporting Legislation

Works in conjunction with the Mine Health and Safety Act 29 of 1996, the National Key Points Act, SANS 1717, and SABS standards for specific operational requirements.



Open-pit mining operations — primary sector governed by Act 26 of 1956

Explosive

Any substance or mixture used or intended for producing a practical effect by explosion, including gunpowder, nitrocellulose, dynamite, detonators, and blasting agents.

Licensed Blaster

A competent person in possession of a valid blasting certificate issued by SAPS and/or the Department of Minerals and Energy.

Explosives Licence

A written authority issued by the Commissioner of Police permitting the holder to acquire, possess, use, import, export or deal in explosives.

Blasting Material

Includes any explosive and every fuse, detonator, or other device for firing or exploding any explosive.

Magazine

Any building, store, structure or place in which explosives are kept or stored in terms of a valid explosives licence.

ANFO

Ammonium Nitrate Fuel Oil — a bulk blasting agent widely used in surface mining operations requiring specific handling and storage protocols.

STEP 1

Application

Submit application to SAPS Chief Inspector Explosives: Explosives with prescribed forms, site plans, and supporting documents

STEP 2

Vetting & Inspection

SAPS conducts background vetting of applicant and physical inspection of proposed storage/use site

STEP 3

Compliance Review

Assessment of safety measures, security, proximity to communities, and compliance with building requirements

STEP 4

Licence Issued

Licence specifying type, quantity, conditions of use, validity period, and reporting obligations

STEP 5

Annual Renewal

Licences must be renewed annually. Changes in quantities, types or location require endorsement

Construction Standards

Magazines must be constructed of approved materials per SANS 1717. Walls must be of sufficient thickness to contain any accidental explosion.

Security Requirements

Double locking mechanisms, security lighting, perimeter fencing, CCTV surveillance, and access control logs mandatory.

Inspection Regime

Monthly internal inspections by the responsible person. Quarterly inspections by SAPS Explosives Unit. Annual compliance audit.

Separation Distances

Minimum prescribed distances from inhabited buildings, roads, railways, and other magazines as per Schedule 1 of the Regulations.

Inventory Management

Daily stock reconciliation, explosives register (SAPS 417), and reporting of discrepancies within 24 hours to SAPS.

Detonator Separation

Detonators **MUST** be stored separately from bulk explosives in a dedicated detonator store at the prescribed separation distance.



Compliant explosives magazine / bunker



Portable surface explosives storage unit



*Traditional Wooden Magazine
with Red Explosives Box & Code of Signals*



*Modern Concrete Magazine / Bunker
Earth-covered blast-resistant construction*



*Portable Surface Magazine
Lined, ventilated — approved for initiating devices*



*Detonator Storage Container
Separate UN-marked magazine for detonators*

TYPES OF LICENSED EXPLOSIVE MAGAZINES (ACT 26 OF 1956)

Type A — Permanent Magazine

Fixed, brick/concrete structure built to SANS 1717. Used for long-term storage of bulk explosives at mines, quarries and manufacturing facilities. Earth-covered preferred. Requires full SAPS site approval.

Type B — Portable Surface Magazine

Steel ISO container adapted and lined for explosives. Approved for temporary/short-term surface storage. Must comply with ventilation, earthing and separation requirements. Popular on smaller sites.

Type C — Detonator Magazine

Dedicated, separate storage exclusively for detonators and initiating devices. Must be sited at prescribed separation distance from Type A/B. Clearly marked 'DETONATORS' per SAPS requirements.

Historic — Wooden Magazine

Traditional timber-lined magazine box (as still found on older South African mines). Lined with non-sparking materials. Used for small quantities. Now largely replaced by modern approved alternatives.



NON-COMPLIANCE WARNING

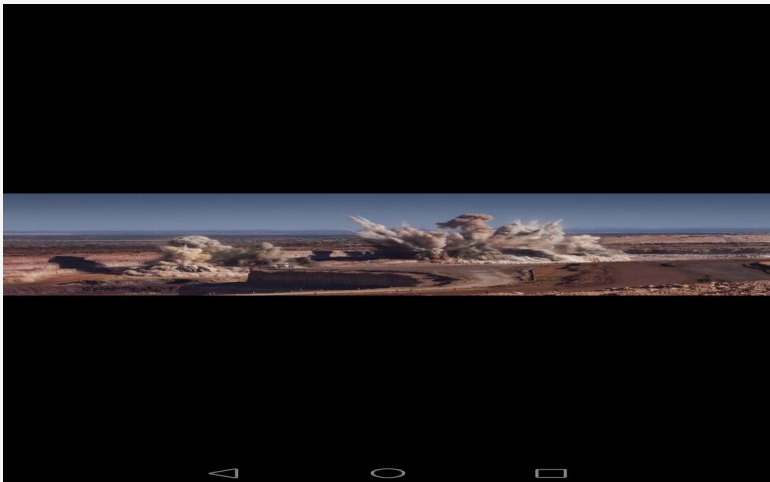
Failure to comply with transport regulations constitutes a criminal offence under Section 26 of the Act. Maximum penalty: 10 years imprisonment and/or heavy fines.

REGULATORY TRANSPORT REQUIREMENTS

- Vehicle must bear SABS-approved EXPLOSIVES warning placards (Class 1.1D — UN0029) on all four sides
- Valid SAPS transport permit required per trip specifying route, quantity, type and destination
- Driver must hold PrDP (Professional Driving Permit) with Dangerous Goods endorsement
- Dedicated explosive escort/observer required — cannot be the driver
- Two working fire extinguishers (minimum 9kg DCP) secured in vehicle at all times
- Route planning — avoid densely populated areas, schools, hospitals; no unauthorised stops
- Detonators transported separately from bulk explosives in compartmentalised vehicle
- Transport register (SAPS Form) maintained and presented on demand to authorised persons
- No explosives left unattended in vehicle; secure overnight storage in licensed magazine only



Blast hole drilling — open-pit mine



Controlled blasting — surface mine operations

PRE-BLAST PLANNING

- Risk Assessment & Blast Design document
- Blast notification to regulatory authorities
- Fly-rock and vibration calculations
- Environmental impact assessment
- Emergency response plan activation

DRILLING OPERATIONS

- Survey and mark drill pattern per design
- Drill rig inspection and operator check
- Drill to specified depth — verify with dip stick
- Log lithology and water in holes
- Drillers sign-off sheet per hole

CHARGING PROCEDURE

- Explosives delivery and receipt verification
- Stemming material prepared and on hand
- Licensed blaster oversees all charging
- Primer assembly — detonator + booster
- Charge loading log completed per hole

INITIATION & POST-BLAST

- Exclusion zone established — min 500m
- All-clear siren protocol (3 blasts)
- Misfire management SOP on standby
- Post-blast fume assessment
- Fragmentation and muck pile survey

INSPECTION REGIME

- SAPS Explosives Unit conducts unannounced inspections of all licensed premises
- Inspector entitled to examine explosives registers, licences, and storage facilities
- Inspection report served on licence holder with compliance deadline
- DMRE Inspectors have parallel inspection powers on mine sites
- Non-compliance may result in immediate suspension of explosives licence
- Right of appeal exists to the Minister within 30 days of suspension

CRIMINAL OFFENCES

- Possession without a valid licence — up to 15 years imprisonment
- Theft of explosives — up to 15 years (Schedule 6 offence, no bail)
- Negligent storage causing injury or death — culpable homicide charges
- Failure to report loss/theft within 24 hours — criminal sanction
- Selling/transferring to unlicensed person — both parties liable
- Contravening transport regulations — up to 10 years imprisonment

BEST PRACTICE COMPLIANCE

- Designate a Responsible Person (RP) for each licensed site
- Maintain explosives register (SAPS 417) updated after each transaction
- Conduct monthly internal audits and document findings
- Train all personnel on emergency response procedures annually
- Display SAPS-approved emergency contact numbers at all sites
- Report all incidents, near-misses within 24 hours per Act Section 34



OUR SERVICES

- Explosives consultancy and blast design
- Regulatory compliance auditing
- Licensing applications and permit management
- Blasting contractor services — surface & opencast
- Explosives storage facility design & commissioning
- SAPS/DMRE regulatory liaison and representation
- Training & competency assessment for blasting personnel
- Incident investigation and post-blast analysis
- Explosives transportation — licensed and compliant fleet
- Emergency response planning for explosives facilities

PRECISION IN EVERY STRIKE

Fully licensed, SAPS-compliant explosives contractor serving the South African mining, quarrying, and construction industries with uncompromising safety and precision.

CONTACT US

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