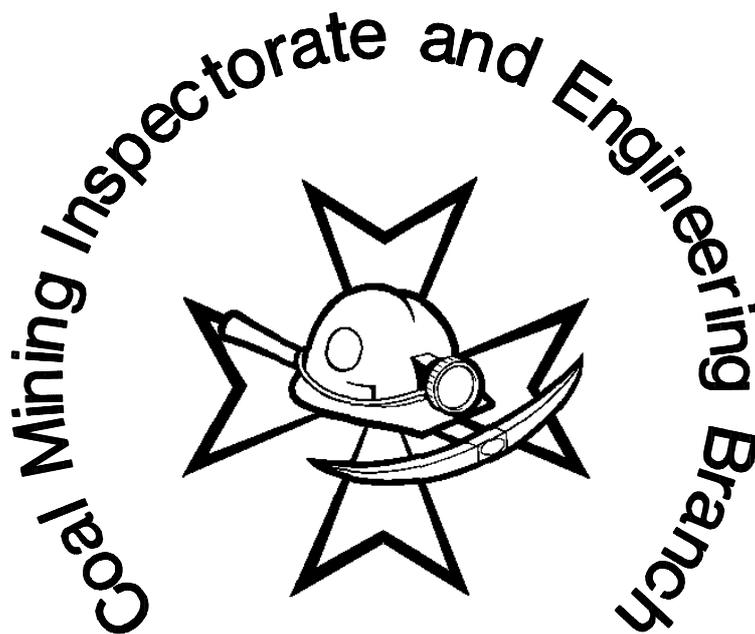


Department of Mineral Resources
New South Wales



Applicant's Guide to Obtaining an Approval
from the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines
New South Wales, Australia
MDG 3001

September, 1999

**APPLICANT'S GUIDE TO OBTAINING AN APPROVAL
FROM THE CHIEF INSPECTOR OF COAL MINES
NEW SOUTH WALES
AUSTRALIA**

MDG - 3001

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FOREWORD

This applicant's guide has been provided with the intention of aiding applicants who are seeking approval of items to be used in Coal Mining Environments in New South Wales.

The process has been enhanced during the 1990's by the inclusion of the Accredited Assessing Authorities, as a means external to the Department but under my control by accreditation, for providing approval. This Guideline also includes modifications and update to accommodate the recently revised Coal Mining Regulation

To all applicants this is only the process, your integrity and commitment to the safety of items in the Coal Mines of New South Wales is the aim of the process.

Paul Healey
Chief Inspector of Coal Mines

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1.0 **PREAMBLE**

This Guide is intended as an aid to applicants who are seeking approval of equipment to be used in Coal Mining Environments. **Approval** is issued by the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines (New South Wales); a delegated inspector in pursuance of Section 167 Coal Mines Regulation Act 1982; or an ACCREDITED ASSESSING AUTHORITY in pursuance of Clause 77, Coal Mines (General) Regulation, 1999; for items which are:

- (a) Required by the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1982 and associated Regulations as amended from time to time, to be APPROVED.

OR

- (b) 'Specified' from time to time as being required to be APPROVED. (In pursuance of Clause 75, Coal Mines (General) Regulation 1999).

- * The principal objective of APPROVAL is SAFETY in Coal Mines.
- * Unless specifically stated otherwise, an approval granted (except if revoked) has no time limit to its validity.
- * Good engineering is a prerequisite to the granting of any approval.
- * The Chief Inspector of Coal Mines is empowered by virtue of the Coal Mines Regulation Act 1982, to grant and revoke approvals. He is a senior administrator of the Mine Safety and Environment Division of the New South Wales Department of Mineral Resources.
- * Where the term "the Department" is used in this guide it refers to the Mine Safety and Environment Division of the Department of Mineral Resources or an accredited assessing authority, accredited by the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines

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2.0 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Validity

Before use, applicants should check the validity of the "Applicant's Guide" with Coal Mining Inspectorate and Engineering Branch of Department of Mineral Resources.

2.2 Purpose of Guide

2.2.1 This guide is published as an aid to applicants (who may or may not be the manufacturers) who are seeking APPROVAL from the Department or from an accredited assessing authority, in pursuance of Coal Mines Regulation (General) Regulation, 1999 of items for use in accordance with the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1982, and its related Regulations and Amendments. See Section 15 for list of those approvals required by the Coal Mines Regulation Act 1982 and associated regulations.

2.2.2 This guide has no relevance to applicants seeking SAA certification, which should be directed to Standards Australia, 1 The Crescent, Homebush NSW 2140.

2.2.3 This guide contains a section on supplementary approvals, (see section 9.2.0).

3.0 APPROVAL EXPLANATION

3.1 'Approval' consists of attesting formally that a specified item conforms to the requirements of the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines. These requirements may take the form of Australian or other standards, a Department code or guideline either in whole or part, combined with assessment of the overall safety of the item for use in a coal mine in New South Wales.

3.2 'Accredited Approval' - an item that is approved by an accredited assessing authority is to be taken as approved for the purpose of the Act or Regulations.

3.3 'Primary' approval results from a new application for either (a) prototype item of equipment or (b) a specific installation at a coal mine or (c) equipment to be used generally at any coal mine. This type of approval may be processed by an accredited assessing authority; the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines; or by a delegated inspector.

3.4 Where given 'generally' primary approvals are published in the New South Wales Government Gazette. Available from the NSW Government Information Service, PO Box 258, Regents Park, 2143. Telephone (02) 9743 7200 Fax (02) 9743 7124.

3.5 'Supplementary' approval results from an application for variation to a previously approved item. This type of approval may be processed by a Class A Workshop, an accredited assessing authority, the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines or by a delegated inspector, and the final documentation is issued by an accredited assessing authority, the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines or by a delegated inspector.

3.6 'Particular' approval may be issued for an item to be used at a single coal mine (see Appendix F). This type of approval is normally processed by a delegated inspector at the local district office of the Mine Safety and Environment Division.

3.7 With 'particular or supplementary' approvals, Gazettal is **NOT** required but a new approval number may be issued.

3.8 'Accredited Assessing Authority' (AAA) is an assessing authority accredited by the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines to assess and issue approvals that may be deemed to be approvals issued by the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines.

3.9 'Class A Workshop' is an approved equipment overhauler that has been accredited by the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines to assess Supplementary Approvals and recommend the issue of approval documentation by an accredited assessing authority, the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines or by a delegated inspector.

3.10 'Class B Workshop' is an approved equipment overhauler.

4.0 **APPROVAL PROCEDURES**

4.1.0 **General**

4.1.1 For expedience of approval the Department recommends that approvals and supplementary approvals be sought through a relevant commercial accredited assessing authority. These commercial bodies have been endorsed by the Department to respond to applications for equipment approvals, see Appendices A to D, for further information.

Applicants are advised that applications will not be accepted from anyone outside Australia. Any overseas company must operate through a local supply agent, who is responsible for the apparatus, at all times when corresponding with the Department.

4.1.2 Submission

NOTE: THE CHIEF INSPECTOR OF COAL MINES EXPECTS A HIGH STANDARD OF ENGINEERING IN COAL MINING - PARTICULARLY WITH THOSE ITEMS WHICH, BECAUSE OF THE HAZARDS ASSOCIATED WITH THEIR USE, ARE REQUIRED TO BE APPROVED.

Information concerning approving authorities or approvals is obtainable from:

Mine Safety and Environment Division,
Department of Mineral Resources,
PO Box 536,
ST. LEONARDS NSW 2065.

ATTENTION - Approvals Review Committee

Telephone: (02) 9901 8411
Fax: (02) 9901 8584

4.1.3 A separate submission should be made for each distinct type of item but variation in detail of any one type should be included in the primary submission.

4.1.4 The design as described in the submitted documents and shown in the drawings will be scrutinised and if it appears to comply with general requirements, will be accepted for detailed assessment.

4.1.5 To facilitate subsequent minor modifications, it will be in the applicant's interest not to include in any submission, details which are not essential for the safety assessment.

4.1.6 Notwithstanding Section 4.1.5, the applicant should make provision as may be appropriate, for possible future use of the item. Flexibility in design may avoid the necessity for supplementary approvals.

4.2.0 **Risk Assessment:**

4.2.1 (i) Risk assessment is necessary when an item required to be approved is or has prototype or new qualities that may add risk or be not in accordance with published standards or accepted practice.

- 4.2.2 (ii) Two types of Risk Assessment may be required:
(a) Technical Risk Assessment - Due to new design eg. construction method, programmable control, etc
(b) Operational Risk Assessment - Due to use / operation being new eg. location of item, etc
- 4.2.3 (iii) The manufacturer / supplier seeking approval must provide the risk assessments documented, identified and auditable.
- 4.2.4 (iv) The Risk Assessments shall be carried out under the guidance of an accredited risk assessor or be audited by an independent risk auditor.
- 4.2.5 (v) The roll of the Accredited Assessing Authority is to assess that the Risk Assessments, Risk Audit and subsequent safety barriers have all been carried out in accordance with requirements.

5.0 **SUBMISSION DOCUMENTS**

5.1 Applications for approval or supplementary approval should be submitted with sufficient information to accurately identify the apparatus and/or modifications to approved apparatus.

5.1.1 The Submission Documents must comprise:

- (i) A completed application for primary or supplementary approval; see Appendix 'A' for proforma application form as model for applicant to copy or re-type into letter of application. Where it is a primary approval, state the type of approval(s) being sought. e.g. explosion protected, portable, methanometer etc.

The letter of application must describe actual requirements and reference any related approvals, Department file references, etc.

- (ii) Plain language technical description of Unique Entities; Item and its function; and Special Features.
- (iii) Two copies of the certification as issued.
- (iv) Two copies of test report(s) on which the certification was based upon.
- (v) Three copies of the correct issue and date of the drawings, referred to in the test report and certification.
- (vi) A schedule of **ALL** documents.
- (vii) If documents are in a language other than English, then a certified English translation is to accompany submission.

5.2 For the purposes of defining appropriate details of the apparatus requiring approval, the drawings should be prints of manufacturing drawings but may include illustrations and photographs. Three copies are required of each drawing etc. All drawings, etc are then stamped by the Approving Authority and a copy is retained by the Accredited Assessing Authority, a copy is forwarded to the Department by the Approving Authority and the final copy retained to the applicant with the approval documents. The sampled drawings and original approval documents must be retained for the life of the approval by the approval holder.

5.3 Other relevant documents include, for example, maintenance manuals, operating or service manuals, risk analysis etc. Each must carry a title, issue number and date of issue. Where risk assessment is required refer section 4.2.0 of this manual.

6.0 **TESTING**

- 6.1 In assessing items for approval, the Approving Authority, will give consideration to appropriate test reports and "Certificates of Compliance" with relevant standards.
- 6.2 Each submission for approval shall have certified test reports from an authority acceptable to the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines.
- 6.3 Authorities whose documents are usually acceptable to the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines:
- (i) Test Safe Australia
Londonderry Occupational Safety Centre,
132 Londonderry Road,
LONDONDERRY NSW 2753

Telephone: (02) 4724 4900
Fax: (02) 4724 4999
 - (ii) Department of Mineral Resources
Mine Safety Unit,
Cnr Joseph Street & Weeroona Road,
LIDCOMBE NSW 2141

Telephone: (02) 9646 1644
Fax: (02) 9646 3224
 - (iii) Department of Resource Industries
Redbank Testing & Calibration Laboratory,
2 Smith Street,
REDBANK QLD 4301

Telephone: (07) 3288 2727
Fax: (07) 3218 1402
 - (iv) H.S.E.(M) - United Kingdom.
 - (v) BASEEFA - United Kingdom.
 - (vi) B.V.S. - Germany.
 - (vii) C.E.R.C.H.A.R. - France.
 - (viii) CANMET - Canada.
 - (ix) Coal Mining Research Centre - Japan.
 - (x) China Nation Import & Export Commodities
Inspection Corporation - China.
 - (xi) B.S.I. - T.H.E. - United Kingdom.
 - (xii) Factory Mutual; Underwriters Laboratories;
USA - provided test reports are to appropriate Australian Standards.

The above list is not exhaustive - enquires regarding acceptability of other authorities should be directed to the department, but generally certification issued, by a National Authority in the country of origin, where that certification is issued after assessment to IEC based National Standards are usually acceptable to the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines. Enquires for local test laboratories should be directed to N.A.T.A., 7 Leeds Street, Rhodes, NSW 2138. Telephone: (02) 9736 8222, FAX: (02) 9743 5311.

6.4 The applicant shall provide full test information with the submission documents, information is required as follows:

- (i) Two copies of the certification documents.
- (ii) Two copies of the test report(s) on which the certification is based.
- (iii) Three copies of all drawings of the item as listed in the certification documents.

Note that the test report should include a schedule of the drawings. It should make reference to the code relating to the test. It should show the values required by the code and the test result achieved relative to each value. It must be signed by an authorised testing officer and show date of test. Where the documents, test certificates and drawings are in a language other than English, the applicant shall supply certified English translations.

7.0 **APPROVAL DOCUMENTS**

7.1 On successful completion of the approval, endorsed copies of APPROVAL DOCUMENTS are forwarded to the applicant. In each case copies are retained by the Department.

7.2 The APPROVAL DOCUMENTS comprise:

- (i) Covering Letter
- (ii) Notice of Approval.
- (iii) Approval Schedule
- (iv) Drawing(s) and other documents, listed in Approval Schedule

7.3 The covering letter is simply a courtesy letter introducing the formal approval documents.

7.3 The notice of approval is a statement nominating the subject items as being approved and referring to an approval schedule that contains approval recommendations and/or conditions. It will also include an APPROVAL NUMBER.

7.4 The approval schedule associated with the notice of approval references documents which specify the design. It lists the reference number, revision number and date of the last revision of each of the associated drawing and their relevant documents.

7.5 The approval may be granted subject to CONDITIONS and/or RECOMMENDATIONS. Such conditions and/or recommendations will be listed in the approval schedule.

7.6 The drawings are those listed in the approval schedule, for the purpose of defining in appropriate details of the approved apparatus. They will generally be prints of manufacturers drawings but may include illustrations and photographs. A stamped copy will be returned to the approval holder, which must be retained for the life of approved equipment. A copy of the drawings etc, are also retained by the Accredited Assessing Authority and the Department.

7.7 Other relevant documents include, for example, maintenance manuals, operating or service manuals, etc. Each must carry a title, issue number and date of issue. These may also be listed in the approval schedule as approval documents.

8.0 **LEGAL ASPECTS OF APPROVAL**

8.1 Approval documents indicate that the subject item has been approved by an accredited assessing authority or the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines or by a delegated inspector. It does not remove any responsibility from the applicant or any other person from compliance with the full requirements of the Coal Mines Regulation Act 1982 and related Regulations and the New South Wales Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1983.

9.0 GENERAL CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

9.1.0 GENERAL

9.1.1 All technical documents and drawings submitted must be clearly identified and dated.

9.1.2 A submission may be withdrawn at any time, but the Department reserves the right to retain any drawings or other information supplied.

9.1.3 If the design as proposed is not acceptable, the deficiencies will be pointed out, and the applicant will be invited to modify the design accordingly and to submit suitable drawings and the redesigned equipment if deemed necessary.

9.1.4 It is possible for an approval to be issued on the basis of a design study. In most cases, however, tests will be required.

The applicant may be asked to supply one or more samples typical of production and/or specially prepared sample(s). In the case of a range of products differing only in size, examination may be based on representative sizes from the range selected at the discretion of the Department.

9.1.5 No equipment should be forwarded unless requested.

9.1.6 The Department will not accept liability for loss of equipment during transit or damage during assessment.

9.1.7 Equipment requested for examination will be examined for compliance with the relevant Department requirements and with the applicant's drawings. Non-compliance in either respect may result in cessation of further work until a satisfactory sample has been submitted. This can result in delays as well as increased costs. It is thus in the applicant's interest to carry out a thorough examination prior to submission of the sample.

9.1.8 If in the course of approval the applicant submits changes to the design, additional costs and delays may result. Dependent on the stage reached when the revised submission is made the Department may:

- (a) incorporate the changes into the original approval process; or
- (b) proceed to approve the product to the original design and request the applicant to submit a new application for supplementary approval which will incorporate the changes.

9.1.9 The Department reserves the right to treat an application as withdrawn or abandoned if:

- (a) within 3 months of the date of information or a sample for inspection being requested, the information or the sample complying with the accepted design have not been received by the Department; or
- (b) design documentation and/or test sample as originally submitted is rejected for non-compliance and is not re-submitted with appropriate modifications within 3 months of such rejection.

9.1.10 In the event of an application being considered as withdrawn or abandoned applicants wishing to reapply will be required to complete a new application form and re-submit it.

9.1.11 Approvals shall not be transferred from the approval holder to any other party except by the agreement in writing of both parties and with the consent, in writing, of the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines or his delegate under instrument of delegation.

9.1.12 Note that once an item has been APPROVED, variation to the design as specified in the approval documents is only permitted by SUPPLEMENTARY APPROVAL.

9.2.0 SUPPLEMENTARY

9.2.1 If, at any time, after an approval has been issued it is desired to modify any part of the design which has been approved, an application must be made for a SUPPLEMENTARY APPROVAL. The procedure will be the same as for an original submission. (See Section 4). Applications for a SUPPLEMENTARY APPROVAL should where possible be made by the holder of the primary approval.

9.2.2 Persons seeking to modify approved equipment should first seek to have the holder of the Primary Approval make application for Supplementary Approval. The Department will, however, accept applications from person other than the Primary Approval holder.

10.0 SURVEILLANCE

10.1 The Department may wish to examine any approved apparatus or component in the process of manufacture or assembly, including completed apparatus and to make investigations or tests to confirm that it complies with the approval documents.

10.2 The Department may require relevant information on the manufacturers methods of ensuring an adequate inspection and quality control system.

10.3 The Department may specify tests to be carried out by the manufacturer on individual items of equipment prior to their use in a coal mine.

11.0 THE MARKING OF APPROVED ITEMS

11.1 When a particular design of apparatus is submitted for approval the drawings accompanying this application should indicate information on the following points:

- (a) Where the approval number will be placed.
- (b) Any information to be included with the approval number.
- (c) Method of applying the mark(s) and marking, format, size of lettering, etc.

12.0 CONFIDENTIALITY

12.1 All communications, documents and apparatus received by Coal Mining Inspectorate and Engineering Branch of the Department of Mineral Resources in the course of work leading to approval will be treated in confidence within the constraints imposed by the NSW Freedom of Information Act.

12.2 Approval documents are not regarded as confidential, however, copies required by third parties should be requested from approval holders.

13.0 FEES AND CHARGES

13.1 Fees and charges should be discussed with the Approving Authority and Testing Laboratory. The Department will not arbitrate as to fees and charges set by these bodies.

14.0 GLOSSARY OF TERMS

FOR GENERAL GUIDANCE ONLY - Refer to COAL MINES REGULATION ACT for relevance of interpretations.

'accredited assessing authority' means an assessing authority accredited by the Chief Inspector by Gazettal Notice - under the Coal Mines (General) Regulation, 1999.

'approved' means approved by the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines;

'approved' in relation to any equipment, apparatus, material or thing, means approved:

- (a) by the Chief Inspector; or
- (b) by an accredited assessing authority

under the Coal Mines (General) Regulation, 1999.

'assessing authority' means a person or body having the necessary expertise to investigate or assess items in the opinion of the Chief Inspector - under Coal Mines (General) Regulation 1999 and notified in the Government Gazette.

'circuit' means and electrical network providing one or more closed paths;

'Class A Workshop' is an approved equipment overhauler that has been accredited by the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines to assess Supplementary Approvals.

'Class B Workshop' is an approved equipment overhauler.

'electrical apparatus' means any electrical appliance, machine or fitting in which conductors are used, but does not include a cable;

'electrical protection' means a relay or apparatus whose function is to detect defects or conditions of an abnormal or dangerous nature in any electrical circuit, apparatus or power system and to initiate appropriate control circuit action;

'energised' in relation to an electrical conductor, means connected to a source of potential difference or charged so as to have a potential significantly different from that of earth;

'explosion protected' in relation to any circuit or electrical apparatus, means safeguarded, by approved means, so as to prevent the ignition of flammable vapours or gases in air external to the circuit or apparatus;

'fixed cable' means of cable consisting of a single conductor or a combination of conductors insulated from one another and which is not designed to afford relative motion between its terminal points while it is energised.

'flexible cable' means a cable consisting of a stranded conductor or a combination of conductors insulated from one another and which is designed to afford relative motion between its terminal points while it is energised;

'hazardous zone' in relation to mine, means -

- (a) a return airway in a mine; or
- (b) that part of an intake airway in a mine that is on the return side of such points as are 100 metres outbye the most inbye completed line of cutthroughs or 100 metres from, and on the intake side of, a longwall or shortwall face; or
- (c) a part of the mine in which there is a methane concentration of 1.25 per cent or greater in the general body of air; or
- (d) a part of the mine specified as a hazardous zone;

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'intrinsically safe' in relation to any circuit or electrical apparatus, means explosion protected by such means that any spark or thermal effect produced in the circuit or apparatus is incapable of causing ignition of an explosive mixture of methane or other flammable gases or vapours and air;

'item' means any equipment, apparatus, material or thing which is required to be approved, to be an approved type or to be approved as having a particular characteristic or property for the purposes of the Act or any other Regulation under the Act.

'locomotive' means a vehicle running on rail whether propelled by electrical or mechanical means;

'main intake airway' means that part of a mine which, by virtue of its location in the ventilating air circuit, is independently connected to air from the surface of the mine and is on the intake side of any hazardous zone;

'main switch-gear' means power circuit switching or interrupting devices in combination with associated control, instrumentation, metering, protective and regulating devices or assemblies of any such devices, and associated inter-connections, accessories and supporting structures, used primarily in the transmission, distribution and conversion of electric power;

'methane concentration' in relation to a mine or any part of mine, means the proportion (by volume) of methane in the general body of air in the mine or that part of the mine, as the case may be;

'mine earthing system' means all of the earth electrodes and conductors installed in accordance with the Coal Mines Regulation (Electrical-Underground Mines) Regulation, 1984 and Coal Mines Regulation (Electrical-Open Cut Mines) Regulation, 1984.

'overload' in relation to any electrical apparatus, means that current, voltage, power or torque of the apparatus in excess of the rating;

'portable apparatus' means apparatus capable of being borne or carried manually;

'Quality Assurance Scheme' - A scheme of management using quality assurance methodology to ISO9000 series or equivalent and endorsed by the appropriate assessment organisation eg: S.A.A, N.A.T.A. or Lloyds.

'rating' in relation to any electrical apparatus, means the designated limit or limits for the characteristics of voltage, current power or torque within which the apparatus is designed to operate;

'regulation' means regulations made under the CMRA 1982.

'Risk Assessment' - a method of identifying and assessing Risk to health and safety by Risk management methodology applied by an Independent accredited assessor.

'specified' means specified by the Chief Inspector and published in the Government Gazette;

'system' means a system required to be approved or to be approved type under clause 75 (2) Coal Mines (General) Regulation 1999;

'surface switch-gear operator' means the person appointed under clause 23 Coal Mines Regulation (Electrical-Underground Mines) Regulation, 1984 to operate the switch-gear referred to in that clause;

'the Act' means the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1982;

'ventilation district' in relation to a mine, means a part of the mine which is ventilated by a separate air split.

15.0 APPROVAL REFERENCE TABLE

KEY: (d) = Delegated Officer

n/a = no approval number issued

nil = no specified code, other than MDA (and number)

15.1.0 COAL MINES REGULATION ACT

Section	Summary of Provisions	MDA Code	Approving Authority
5(18)	An approval given by the Minister or an inspector may be without limit as to its period of operation be limited so as to expire on a specified date. It may also be absolute or conditional.		(definition clause)
33(5)	Chief Inspector may approve of a contractor being appointed to be an official of the mine.	n/a	Chief Inspector
36(9)	Chief Inspector may approve a person to be the manager of more than one mine at the one time.	n/a	Chief Inspector
51	No more than 15 persons are underground at any one time when coal is being extracted by longwall, shortwall or pillar method without the presence of an undermanager and with the prior approval.	n/a	Chief Inspector
52(c)	Any instructions given to the manager, official or employee or on behalf of the owner, relating to conditions of approvals shall be confirmed in writing.		(general information)
92(2)	A book of an approved type for the recording of any accident at the mine causing death or serious bodily injury.	n/a	Chief Inspector
124(1)	Enclosure, barrier, plug or seal for the closing of shafts or outlets to be approved.	n/a	Chief Inspector
126(1)	Minister to approve the establishment of any emplacement area.	n/a	(d) Chief Inspector
126(2)	Minister's approval under 126(1) may be granted without limit as to time or may be for a specified period.	n/a	(d) Chief Inspector
127(1)	Minister to approve the discontinuance of an emplacement area pursuant to an approval granted under Section 126.	n/a	Minister
127(2)	The district inspector may grant approval to cease using an emplacement area for a period not exceeding six months.	n/a	District Inspector
127(3)	A person shall not recommence using an emplacement area which he has ceased using without the consent of the district inspector.	n/a	District Inspector
128(3)	The owner of an emplacement area which has not been in use for a period in excess of six months shall not use that area without the consent of the district inspector.	n/a	District Inspector
137(a)	Material used to backfill any borehole for the use of proving coal, shall be an approved type.	n/a	Chief Inspector
138(1)	Approve of any method of mining other than the bord & pillar system.	n/a	(d) Chief Inspector
138(2)(c) (d)	Chief Inspector may approve a variation in the dimensions of pillars, width of the roadways, bords, cut-throughs, headings or pillar splits.	n/a	Chief Inspector
138(2)(e)	Minister to approve in writing the removal of pillars.	n/a	(d) Chief Inspector
139(6)	Minister may grant approval to the manager of a mine to mine any barrier or protective pillar provided pursuant to Section 139.	n/a	(d) Chief Inspector
140(1)	Chief Inspector to grant approval to mine any seam which has given evidence of being liable to spontaneous combustion.	n/a	Chief Inspector
171(3)	District inspector to approve any place, other than the office and the mine, where the books or forms that are required to be kept or provided are kept.	n/a	District Inspector

15.2.0 **COAL MINES REGULATION - GENERAL**

KEY: (d) = Delegated Officer

n/a = no approval number issued

nil = no specified code, other than MDA (and number)

15.2.1 **Coal Mines (General) Regulation 1999.**

Clause	Summary of Provisions	MDA Code	Approving Authority
74(1)	Chief Inspector may, by instrument in writing, approve an item or a system or a type of item of system.		(general information)
74(2)	An approval may be given in respect of a particular characteristic or property of an item or system.		(general information)
74(3)	An approval may be given: (a) either generally or in a particular case, and (b) subject to such conditions as the Chief Inspector thinks fit.		(general information)
74(4)	An approval given generally must be published in the Gazette.		(general information)
74(5)	Condition imposed in relation to an item or a system may include conditions relating to: (a) the period that an approval remains in force, or (b) the design, locality, construction and installation of the item or system, or (c) the manner in which the item or system is used, including the use of any equipment, apparatus, material or thing: (i) to which the item or system is attached or connected either directly or indirectly, or (ii) with which the item or system is designed to operate, or (d) the maintenance of the approved item or system and any equipment, apparatus, material or thing: (i) to which the item or system is attached or connected either directly or indirectly, or (ii) with which the item or system is designed to operate.		(general information)
74(6)	The Chief Inspector may at any time revoke, vary or amend any approval if: (a) the Chief Inspector is of the opinion that it is necessary in the interests of safety or health, and (b) except where the Chief Inspector considers that urgent action is required because of an emergency, the appropriate representatives of the industry have been consulted beforehand.		(general information)
74(7)	An item or system is taken not to have been approved if a condition under which it was approved for use is not complied with.		(general information)
75(1)	The Chief Inspector may, by notice published in the Gazette, direct that any equipment, apparatus, material or thing is required to be approved or be of an approved type before it may be used or installed in, or taken into, a mine.		(general information)
75(2)	If 2 or more items are used to form a system or an item is designed to be used as part of a system in connection with other items, the Chief Inspector may, by notice published in the Gazette, direct that the system is required to be approved or be of an approved type before it may be used or installed in, or taken into, a mine.		(general information)
75(3)	A direction under this clause may relate to: (a) any specific equipment, apparatus, material, thing or system, or (b) any class of equipment, apparatus, material, thing or system.		(general information)
75(4)	A direction under this clause must be given unless: (a) the Chief Inspector is of the opinion that it is necessary in the interests of safety or health, and (b) the appropriate representatives of the industry have been consulted beforehand in regard to the need for the approval and any conditions likely to be attached to the approval.		(general information)

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From The Chief Inspector of Coal Mines, NSW**

75(5)	Any equipment, apparatus, material, thing or system that is the subject of a direction under this clause must not be used or installed in, or taken into, amine unless it has been approved or is of an approved type.	(general information)	
76(1)	The Chief Inspector may , by instrument in writing, temporarily approve an item or system for use in a mine pending the completion of tests or trials of it.	(general information)	
76(2)	A temporary approval: (a) must specify the duration of the tests or trials, and (b) may be given subject to such conditions as the Chief Inspector thinks fit.	(general information)	
77(1)	The Chief Inspector may, by notice published in the Gazette, accredit an assessing authority in relation to the approval of items or systems.	n/a	Chief Inspector
77(2)	An accreditation may be given: (a) in respect of items or systems generally, or (b) in respect of specified, or a specified class of, items or systems.	(general information)	
77(3)	An accreditation may be given subject to such conditions as the Chief Inspector thinks fit.	(general information)	
77(4)	The Chief Inspector may, by notice published in the Gazette, revoke, vary or amend an accreditation.	(general information)	
77(5)	An item or a system approved by an assessing authority accredited in relation to the item or system is to be taken to be an approved item or system for the purposes of the Act, and associated Regulations.	(general information)	

15.2.0 **COAL MINES REGULATION - UNDERGROUND MINES**

15.2.1 Coal Mines Regulation (Underground) Regulation 1999.

Clause	Summary of Provisions	MDA Code	Approving Authority
13	A continuous miner that requires an operator on the machine must not be operated in a mine unless it is equipped with a canopy of an approved type designed to protect the operator from a fall of coal or stone from above the machine.	CAN	Accredited Assessing Authority (Mech.)
14	A diesel engine or a diesel engine system must not be use underground at a mine unless it is of an approve type.	DEE DES	Accredited Assessing Authority (Mech.)
59	A powered winding system must not be used at amine unless it is approved.	WIA	(d) Senior Inspector
97	A booster fan must not be installed or used underground at a mine unless it is of an approved type.	n/a	(d) Senior Inspector
108(1)	Sufficient escape equipment (including adequately maintained approved types of self rescuers) must be provided at amine to allow safe egress of persons from the mine through conditions of reduced visibility and any irrespirable or irritant atmospheres that may be encountered.	n/a	(d) Senior Inspector
108(3)	A person who is underground at a mine must at all times have attached to him or her an approved type of self rescuer.	(general information)	
126	If grease or lubricating or hydraulic oil or fluid is stored or held underground at a mine in a container having a capacity of more than 60 litres: (e) a fire extinguisher of an approved type and capacity to deal with an oil fire must be provided nearby so as to be readily accessible.	FFE	Accredited Assessing Authority (Mech.)
128(2)	(b) mining officials must be provided with, and carry at all times while underground: (i) an approved methanometer and an approved device for indicating a deficiency of oxygen, or (ii) a single approved device for determining methane concentration and indicating a deficiency of oxygen.	Ex.ia	(definition clause)
129	A mine manager must ensure that any diesel or battery powered transport that operates in a return airway in the mine is, whenever it is	Ex.ia	Accredited Assessing Authority (Electrical)

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	located in the return airway, equipped with an approved automatic methane detector set to alarm when the methane content in the air reaches one per cent.		
130(1)	The Chief Inspector may by notice in writing addressed to a mine manager require that any continuous mining machine in use in the mine be equipped with an approved automatic methane monitor.	Ex.ia	(definition clause)
137	Oil flame safety lamps to be approved.	<i>n/a</i>	(d) Senior Inspector
141(1)	A mine electrical engineer must ensure that: (a) only electrical apparatus of a type approved as explosion protected is energised with electricity in a hazardous zone at the mine, and (b) only electrical apparatus of a type approved as intrinsically safe is energised with electricity in a part of the mine in which the methane concentration is at or above 1.25 per cent.		(general information)
141(1)	A mine electrical engineer must ensure that: (g) only telephonic communication systems approved as intrinsically safe (category Ex ia) are used at the mine.	Ex.ia	Accredited Assessing Authority (Electrical)
142(2)	Electrical apparatus must not be used in a hazardous zone at a mine unless it is of an approved type.	various	Accredited Assessing Authority (Electrical)
148(1)	A mine electrical engineer must ensure that repairs on any flexible cable used in a hazardous zone at the mine are carried out at a workshop that has been approved.	Class B	(d) Senior Inspector
148(2)	A person must not perform work on any explosion protected electrical apparatus a mine (being work that may alter the explosion-protected properties of the apparatus) otherwise than through facilities that are approved for the purpose.	Class A or B	(d) Senior Inspector
159(1)	An explosive must not be taken into or used underground at a mine unless it is approved.	<i>n/a</i>	(d) Senior Inspector
180(1)	Stone dust must not be used for the treatment of roadway dust unless it is of an approved type or grade.	<i>n/a</i>	(d) Senior Inspector
180(2)	The Chief Inspector may approve the use of particular types or grades of stone dust for particular purposes.	<i>n/a</i>	(d) Senior Inspector

16.0 REFERENCE STANDARDS

Reference Standards are the guide for applicants to use when they intend applying for approval of apparatus intended for use in the coal mines of NSW. The Standards, guidelines and recommendations listed are generally a minimum industry standard and may not be adequate in some extreme circumstances. These lists do not necessarily contain all the available information due to ongoing introduction and upgrading, but they are included to provide assistance in the preparation of apparatus for approval.

16.1.0 AUSTRALIAN STANDARDS

The following Australian Standards available from Standards Australia, are used as applicable:

16.1.1 EXPLOSION-PROTECTION STANDARDS

AS	
1076	Code of practice for selection, installation and maintenance of electrical apparatus and associated equipment for use in explosive atmospheres (other than mining applications) Part 8: Apparatus with type of protection 's'-Special Protection Part 13: Installation and maintenance requirements for instrumentation
1482	Electrical equipment for explosive atmospheres-Protection by ventilation-Type of protection v
1826	Electrical equipment for explosive atmospheres-Special protection-Type of protection s
1828	Electrical equipment for explosive atmospheres-Cable glands
1915	Electrical equipment for explosive atmospheres-Battery operated vehicles
2275	Combustible gas detection instruments for use in explosive atmospheres Part 1: General requirements for explosion protection of electrical apparatus and systems Part 2: Performance requirements
2380	Electrical equipment for explosive atmospheres-Explosion-protection techniques Part 1: General requirements Part 2: Electrical equipment for explosive atmospheres-Flameproof enclosure-Type of protection d Part 4: Pressurised rooms or pressurised enclosures. Part 6: Increased safety Part 7: Intrinsic safety i
2381	Electrical equipment for explosive atmospheres-Explosion-Selection, installation and maintenance Part 1: General requirements Part 2: Electrical equipment for explosive atmospheres-Flameproof enclosure-Type of protection d Part 6: Increased safety e Part 7: Intrinsic safety i
2431	Electrical equipment for explosive atmospheres-Encapsulated apparatus-Type of protection m

16.1.2 COAL MINING STANDARDS

AS	
1039	Electrical equipment for coal mines-Explosion-protected distribution and control boxes for voltages up to 3300 V a.c.
1147	Plastics insulating materials of mouldings for cable connecting devices for use in coal mines
1299	Electrical equipment for coal mines-Flameproof restrained plugs and receptacles
1300	Electrical equipment for coal mines-Bolted flameproof cable coupling devices
1740	Electrical equipment for coal mines-Transformer substations for use underground
1747	Reeling trailing and feeder Cables used for mining-repair and testing
2290	Electrical equipment for coal mines-Maintenance and overhaul Part 1: Maintenance of electrical equipment for explosive atmospheres Part 3: Maintenance of gas detecting and monitoring equipment
2595	Electrical equipment for coal mines-Electrical requirements for underground mining machines and accessories Part 1: Equipment for use in explosive atmospheres
2660	Hose and Hose assemblies-Air/Water-for underground coal mines
2989	Electrical equipment for coal mines - Specific requirements for high voltage circuit-breakers and disconnectors.

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3573	Electrical equipment for coal mines - Glossary of terms
3584	Diesel Engine Systems-underground coal mines
3800	Electrical equipment for explosive atmospheres - Overhaul & repair

16.1.3 OTHER RELEVANT STANDARDS

AS	
1020	The control of undesirable static electricity
1210	Unfired pressure Vessels
1735	Lifts escalators and moving walks
	Part 1: General requirements
	Part 2: Passenger and goods lifts-electric
	Part 3: Passenger and goods lifts-electro hydraulic
	Part 4: Service lifts-Power operated
	Part 8: Inclined lifts
	Part 10: Tests
1841	Portable fire extinguishers
	Part 1: General requirements
	Part 5: Specific requirements for powder type extinguishers
	Part 6: Specific requirements for carbon dioxide type extinguishers
1850	Fire extinguishers-classification of fire tests
1939	Degrees of protection provided by enclosures for electrical equipment (IP Code)
2106	Methods for Determination of the flashpoint of flammable liquids (closed cup)
2430	Classification of Hazardous Areas
	Part 1: Explosive Gas Atmospheres
	Part 2: Combustible Dusts
	Part 3: Specific Occupancies (Available, but superseded)
	Part 3.1: Examples of area classification - General
	Part 3.2: Examples of area classification - Vehicle workshops, parking, fuel dispensing.
	Part 3.3: Examples of area classification - Flammable liquids
	Part 3.4: Examples of area classification - Flammable gases
	Part 3.8: Examples of area classification - Surface coatings and adhesives
2671	Fluid Power - Hydraulic systems and components
2784	Endless Wedge belt and V belt drives
3000	SAA Wiring Rules
3190	Approval and test specifications - Residual current devices
3637	Underground Mining-Winding Suspension equipment
	Part 1: General requirements
	Part 2: Detaching hooks
	Part 3: Rope cappings
	Part 4: Drawbars and connecting links
	Part 5: Rope Swivels and Swivel hooks
	Part 6: Shackles and Chains
3751	Slope Haulage couplings, drawbars and safety chains
3785	Underground Mining-Shaft equipment
	Part 1: Drum winding overwind catches
	Part 2: Friction winding arresting systems
	Part 3: Drum winding gripper systems
	Part 4: Conveyances for vertical shafts
	Part 5: Headframes
	Part 6: Guides and rubbing ropes for conveyances
	Part 7: Sheaves
	Part 8: Personnel conveyances in other than vertical shafts
3791	Hydraulic Hose
4240	Remote controls for mining equipment
4297	Underground Mining-Stationary air compressors
	<i>(Conveyor belting specific)</i>
1332	Conveyor belting with textile reinforcement
1333	Conveyor belting of elastometric and steel cord construction
3552	Conveyor belting-Guide to Splicing Steel Cord belting
1334	Methods of testing conveyor and elevator belting

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	Part 9	Determination of electrical resistance of conveyor belting
	Part 10	Ignitability and flame propagation characteristics of conveyor belting
	Part 11	Ignitability and maximum surface temperature of belting subjected to friction
	Part 12	Determination of combustion propagation characteristics of conveyor belting
4035		Conveyor and elevator belting - Glossary of terms

16.2.0 INDUSTRY STANDARDS - refer to separate list, MDG 3011 - List of Publications.

16.3.0 DEPARTMENT STANDARDS - refer to separate list, MDG 3011 - List of Publications.

16.3.1 SPECIFIC APPROVALS - refer to Electrical Compendium, MDG 2001 for requirements.

- (a) Brake Motors and Brake Motor Control and protection Systems
- (b) Electrical cables for use in a hazardous zone
- (c) Transformer Substations for use in a hazardous zone
- (d) Test Method for Determination of Material Flashpoint.
- (e) Compressed Air and Stone dusting Hose
- (f) Transmission Drive Belting
- (g) Hydraulic Fluid for Breaker Line Supports
- (h) Slope Drift Rope Haulage System

16.3.2 SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS - refer Elect. Compendium, MDG 2001 for requirements.

- (a) Personal Apparel (electrical)
- (b) Flammability of Materials (electrical)
- (c) Automatic Gas Monitoring Devices
- (d) Radio frequency allocations for use in underground mines
- (e) Use of programmed control systems with mining machinery.
- (f) Shotfiring Exploders for use underground in coal mines.
- (g) Cable protection hose
- (h) Electrical Testing Instruments
- (i) Lagging Skirting and Scrapers Test Methods AS1334 parts 9 and 10
- (j) Fire extinguishers-minimum rating 80 B.E
- (k) Fire Resistant Fluids
- (l) Use of Man Lift Box Suspended from a Crane (mechanical)
- (m) Vehicle Operator Protection-Open Cut Mines (mechanical)
- (n) Vehicle Operator Protection-Surface, Underground Mines (mechanical)

16.3.3 MECHANICAL DESIGN GUIDELINES

(see latest issue of Department document - MDG 3011 - List of Publications;
phone 02 9901 8269).

APPLICATION FOR PRIMARY OR SUPPLEMENTARY APPROVALS
BY THE CHIEF INSPECTOR OF COAL MINES
NEW SOUTH WALES

BEFORE SENDING SUBMISSION PLEASE READ THESE NOTES CAREFULLY

1. Before making any submission to the Department of Mineral Resources, applicants are advised to consult section 15 - Approval Reference table, of this document, to determine the appropriate approving authority. Should any item remain unclear or if a current list of Accredited Assessing Authorities is not supplied, with the guide, contact the Secretary, Approval Review Committee for assistance (phone: 02-9901 8411).
2. Assessment for approval purposes cannot commence until all relevant information has been received. A high standard of application will assist in processing the approval. Test reports where necessary must be submitted with the application.
3. Equipment should NOT accompany the application. If required the applicant will be advised.
4. Applicants are advised to include possible design variation with the initial application, to minimise the need for future supplementary approvals.
5. Applicants are advised to seek and retain the DEPARTMENT FILE REFERENCE for the application. This number must be quoted in all communication.
6. Applicants are advised to follow the progress of their application.
7. Written requests by the Department for information, not acknowledged or answered within two calendar months, may result in automatic lapse of the application.
8. In assessing items for APPROVAL, the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines or Accredited Assessing Authority will give consideration to CERTIFICATION from recognised authorities. Consult with Mine Safety and Environment Division of the New South Wales Branch, Department of Mineral Resources as to acceptable authorities.
9. A test report issued by N.A.T.A Laboratory registered for the appropriate test is generally acceptable. If an applicant chooses to use the services of N.A.T.A. registered Laboratory he must have confirmed the tests required by the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines.

The N.A.T.A test certification shall be complete, properly identified, numbered, dated and signed by the authorised signatory. It shall show the appropriate standards applied, the tests conducted together with the test results and a scheduled of relevant drawings showing drawing number, issues and dates of issue.
10. A complete test certificate is considered to include results of tests and / or assessments for all clauses of standards, codes and guidelines relevant to the equipment required to be approved.

The applicant agrees to pay the cost as may be determined by or with the authority of the Department. The applicant understands and accepts that no action or suit for damages shall lie against the Department, the Minister, the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines or any other person in respect of any damage to items occasioned during or as a result of any examination or test.

The Applicant must supply all the information required by Part A or Part B as appropriate in the approval submission or substantial delays could result.

PART A

Complete Part A if the application is for a PRIMARY APPROVAL

Applicants to PROVIDE:

- 1 A SIGNED covering letter of requesting approval, which includes name of applicant (which will be designated the APPROVAL HOLDER), address, phone number and contact person.
- 2 A plain language technical description which:
 - (i) Identifies the item as an unique entity
 - (ii) Describes the item and its function
 - (iii) Explain any special features.
 - (iv) Identifies approved items directly associated with this application.
- 3 Three copies of the certification documents and / or three copies of the N.A.T.A test report(s).
- 4 If in a language other than English - the above document must include an original language copy of test reports, certification and an English translation copy of each of these documents, certified by the original issuing body.
- 5 Three copies of the correct issues and date of each of the drawings, etc, referred to in the test reports and certification.
- 6 Three copies of a drawing specially prepared for approval purposes which details only the relevant safety aspects and gives sufficient specific information including basic dimensions to allow field identification of the item. if the item included circuitry (other than intensive safety) then this should be described via a broad block diagram. Where possible specify ratings of items, not brand names.
- 7 A schedule of ALL documents provided which lists document name, identifying number, issue (which should be "original" for an un-amended drawing) and date of issue as shown on each document.

PART B

Complete Part B if the application is for a SUPPLEMENTARY APPROVAL

Applicants to PROVIDE:

- 1 A SIGNED covering letter of requesting approval, which includes name of applicant (which will be designated the APPROVAL HOLDER), address, phone number and contact person. Should the applicant be other than the original approval holder, then the applicant is to request permission from the approval holder to undertake variations to equipment.
- 2 MDA Approval Number for approved item
- 3 Department File reference number
- 4 A plain language technical description which:
 - (i) Identifies the modification.
 - (ii) States the situation before modification.
 - (iii) States the situation when modified.
 - (iv) Briefly explains reasons for the change.
- 5 Three copies of an updated issue of the original approval drawing with the changes identified by high-lighter pen. If the original approval drawing is not available then provide Three copies of a drawing which OUTLINES the approved item and in firm line details the modifications.
- 6 Where relevant, provide a statement from an approved workshop or mechanical competent person that the modifications comply with the requirements of relevant standards, codes and guidelines.
- 7 A **SCHEDULE** of **ALL** documents provided which lists document name, identifying number, issue and date of issue as shown on each document.
- 8 If certification is available for the modification, provide a copy of the certificates with a three copies of relevant test reports and three copies of the drawing with the correct issue and date to the certification and test reports.
- 9 If in a language other than English - the above document must include an original language copy of test reports, certification and an English translation copy of each of these documents, certified by the original issuing body.

COAL MINES REGULATION ACT, 1982
NOTICE OF APPROVAL

It is hereby notified that the Approved Item listed herein has been assessed for compliance with the Coal Mines Regulation Act and appropriate standards or requirements, and is hereby APPROVED in accordance with the requirements of the COAL MINES REGULATION ACT 1982. This approval is issued pursuant to the provisions of Clause 74 and 77 of the Coal Mines (General) Regulation 1999.

This APPROVAL is issued to :

Address of Approval Holder :

Approved Item :

Item Identification :

C.M.R.A. Regulation :

C.M.R.A. Approval Clause

Specific Approval Category :

This Approval is issued subject to compliance with the requirements of the Occupational Health and Safety Act 1983, with particular reference to Sections 15 to 17 of the said Act as it applies to USERS of Approved Items, and to Section 18 of the said Act as it applies to the MANUFACTURERS and/or SUPPLIERS of Approved Items.

The Authority issuing this Approval may, for the purposes of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1983, append a Schedule, (including drawings, documents, etc.) that are applicable to this approved item, as identified during test and/or assessment, to assist the Approval Holder and User to comply with the obligations of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, 1983. The onus is on the Supplier and/or User to ensure the Approved Item, and any deviation from details included in the Schedule, in reference to that item is not inferior in any way to the item tested and/or assessed, this includes the supply, installation and continuing use of the approved item.

The Approval Number shall appear in a conspicuous place and in a legible manner on each approved item, unless specifically excluded.

A copy of this Approval Document together with a copy of the Schedule from the Authority issuing the Approval shall be supplied to each user of the approved item.

Any Maintenance, Repair or Overhaul of Approved Items shall be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1982.

(Name)

Accredited Assessing Authority (AAA number)
for Chief Inspector of Coal Mines

Approval No: MDA	Issue:	Date of Issue:
Issuing Authority Ref:	Dept. File No:	Page of

COAL MINES REGULATION ACT, 1982
APPROVAL SCHEDULE

This Schedule is issued in accordance with the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1982, and forms an integral part of the Approval in respect of the apparatus described herein. A copy of this Schedule is to be supplied with the Notice of Approval.

Apparatus Description:

Approved Variations: (Required for Supplementary Approvals):

Approval Drawings:

Compliance Documents:

Conditions of Manufacture and Safe Use:

(Name)

Accredited Assessing Authority (AAA number)
for the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines

Approval No: MDA	Issue:	Date of Issue:
Issuing Authority Ref:	Dept. File No:	Page of

LIST OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AVAILABLE

This information is available in addition to this booklet because of its changing nature requiring regular updating. It is recommended that any written request for the following documents be preceded by a telephone inquiry as to charges.

The information is available from:

Information Counter,
Department of Mineral Resources,
Ground Level,
Minerals and Energy House,
29-57 Christie Street,
P.O. Box 536,
ST. LEONARDS NSW 2065.

Phone: (02) 9901 8268 - Information Desk.

- A. List of Coal Mines in New South Wales
also contains- List of Accredited Assessing Authorities.
- B. All Mechanical Design Guideline Documents (as detailed in Publications List MDG 3011)
- C. Computer data-disk index of approved equipment (MDG 2002)

Mine Safety & Environment Division
The Department of Mineral Resources,
Level 4, Minerals and Energy House,
29-57 Christie Street,
P.O. Box 536,
ST. LEONARDS NSW 2065.

Phone: (02) 9901 8411 - Secretary, Approvals Review Committee.

- A. Updates & Amendments of this manual- Applicant's Guide to Obtaining an Approval from the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines New South Wales, Australia.
- B. List of Accredited Assessing Authorities.
- C. List of Class A & B Approved Workshops (Explosion Protected Electrical Apparatus).
- D. Approved Workshop and Competent Persons (Re)Appraisal Guidelines
also contains- Workshop Approval Self-Assessment Forms
(specify Class and Electrical Explosion Protection Category).
- E. List of MDA code definitions
- F. List of Items Specified (by the CICM) to be Approved and Items Specified (by the CICM) with Particular Requirements.

Mine Safety & Environment Division
The Department of Mineral Resources,
Level 4, Minerals and Energy House,
29-57 Christie Street,
P.O. Box 536,
ST. LEONARDS NSW 2065.

Phone: (02) 9901 8589 - Secretary, Coal Mining Qualifications Board.

- A. Competent Persons and Statutory Officers applications for examinations.

Approvals Procedure Electrical Class "A" Workshop

Applications for Supplementary approval only are acceptable in this form, for integral and component approvals to flameproof electrical explosion protected apparatus.

1. Initial Action to be taken by Class "A" Approved Workshop.
 - 1.1 Verify the apparatus identity by original Approval Number and obtain a complete set of approval documentation (primary and supplementary schedules and nominated drawings) from the equipment owner or approval holder.
2. Processing of Approvals Applications by Class "A" Approval Workshop
 - 2.1 Information - Check that sufficient information has been submitted by the client, ie.
 - 2.1.1 Letter of application from Client to Approved Workshop to advise the workshop of the extent and details of the modifications that are required.
 - 2.1.2 Sufficient information to accurately identify the apparatus. The best way for this to be done is for copies of original approval drawings to be supplied by the Client.
 - 2.1.3 Ensure that requested Modifications can be accepted without the necessity for any retesting at a N.A.T.A. approved testing station. If modifications:-
 - (a) change the shape appreciably or,
 - (b) make changes that could cause pressure piling or,
 - (c) change the volume by plus or minus ten percentthen the modifications are outside the scope of the "A" Class approved workshop and the assessment shall then have to be carried out by a N.A.T.A. approved testing station.
 - 2.1.4 Ensure that changes do not adversely affect the explosion protected properties of the apparatus. It is important that explosion protection properties are not degraded, e.g: a reduction in the length of flame paths or in thickness of material. Such degradation may still permit compliance with the requirements of the appropriate standard but would mean that the apparatus would not comply with the enclosure as tested for the original approval.
 - 2.1.5 Ensure that three drawings have been received that include sufficient detail to identify and record the changes. The best way to identify changes is to have the customer submit one copy of the original approved drawing which has the changes highlighted and three copies of the modified. An alternative arrangement may be for the Class "A" Approved Workshop to prepare the necessary drawings from information supplied by client requesting the changes.
 - 2.2 Drawings
 - 2.2.1 The equipment is to be checked against original approval drawings. Any serious discrepancy must be discussed with the client.
 - 2.2.2 The detail of the modification is to be assessed for compliance with the relevant parts of the appropriate Australian Standard and departmental requirements.

2.3 Approval Number

2.3.1 An integral approval number can be identified by the prefix MDA. eg: Flameproof Load Centre - MDA Ex.d 1877.

2.3.2 A Component approval number can be identified by the prefix MDCA. eg: Flameproof Window assembly designed to be bolted to a flameproof enclosure - MDCA Ex.d 1736 or Gland adaptors - MDCA Ex.d 1751.

2.3.3 In general the same Approval Number will appropriate but the assessing authority will include an Issue Number. The list of changes and the drawings (including issue and date) are included on the supplementary approval documents.

3. Preparation of Documents

3.1 A request for supplementary approval, on Approved Workshop letterhead, is to be prepared and sent to the Approving Authority, stating the nature of the modification, the tests and/or assessments conducted and results. The request should state the name of the organisation to which the approval is to be issued; a letter from this organisation requesting the supplementary approve is also to be included.

3.2 Three copies of modified drawings, including issue date and date; and a copy of original drawings with the changes identified by highlighter pen.

3.3 List additional approval conditions if applicable.

4. Finalising Recommendation

4.1 Enter details in register of supplementary approvals actioned by the approved workshop. This is a register set up and maintained by the Class "A" Approved Workshop personnel to enable an accurate record of all supplementary approval action to be kept at the workshop.

List of details required in Supplementary Approval Submission

Date:	File No:	Date of Approval Application:
Name of Applicant:	Apparatus Description:	Details of Modifications:
Address of Applicant:	Apparatus Type No:	Details of Workshop Assessment:
Name of Contact:	Original Approval No:	Drawings with Issue No. and Date:
Class "A" Approved Workshop Name:	Class "A" Competent Person Name:	
Approval No:	Approval No:	
Telephone No:	Signature:	

**Issue of Particular Approvals
from District Offices of
Coal Mining Inspectorate & Engineering
Branch**

Policy Id:
Issue Number:
Issue Date: 1/09/1999
Revision No: 1.5

Scope:

This policy applies to the issue of equipment approvals through District Offices under delegation from the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines. It is restricted to New South Wales underground coal mines. Equipment comprising permanent mine infrastructure (such as winders), and approvals for short term, are excluded from the policy scope.

Policy:

1. The issue of equipment approvals shall be restricted solely to equipment intended for use at an individual mine.
2. The effective duration of equipment approvals shall not exceed one year without the written concurrence of the Chief Inspector or Senior Inspectors of Mechanical and / or Electrical Engineering.
3. Equipment approvals issued by District Offices shall be restricted to those instances where subject equipment is only likely to be used within the District, and not to be equipment with immediate potential for state-wide use.
4. Renewal, or supplementation, of such approvals shall not be made by District Offices and the issue of approval renewal or supplementation referred to the Senior Mechanical and / or Electrical Inspectors as appropriate.
5. Equipment approvals shall not be issued without the written concurrence of Inspectors of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering.
6. Cases requiring interpretation as to whether an item of equipment requires approval shall be referred to Senior Inspectors of Mechanical and / or Electrical Engineering for determination.
7. Applications for equipment approvals shall address requirements of the "Applicant's Guide to Obtaining an Approval from the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines" (September, 1999 issue), as amended from time to time.
8. Senior Inspectors of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering shall be informed, in writing, of the issue of equipment approvals.

Supporting Documents:

Coal Mines Regulation Act 1982 and Regulations.

Instruments of delegation, dated 4th September 1990, issued by the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines.

"Applicant's Guide to Obtaining an Approval from the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines" - Issued September 1999.

Responsibility:

Senior Inspectors in charge of District Offices are responsible for the implementation of this policy.

AMENDMENTS

The Applicant's Guide to Obtaining an Approval from the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines, NSW, Australia is to become a quality document. This will require amendment being carried out to facilitate these, the following sheets will be sent out with each guidebook. The user of the guide should use the sheets to:

- 1 Advise the editor of changes, errors or omissions.
- 2 Keep the guide up to date with the latest amendment.
- 3 When amendments are issued they will be numbered in sequence and dated with the subsequent reprint of the guide including the amendment in the text and the appendix.

Send to: The Editor, Approvals Guide Booklet
S Maginnis
Inspector of Electrical Engineering
PO Box 674
WOLLONGONG EAST NSW 2520

AMENDMENT UP-DATE SHEET

AMENDMENTS			
No	Date of amendment	Date entered	Entered by
1	May, 1994	May, 1994	S Maginnis
2	12 January, 1998	12 January, 1998	P. de Gruchy
3	13 August, 1999		P. de Gruchy
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			

**Amendments to the Applicant's Guide to Obtaining an Approval
from the Chief Inspector of Coal Mines, NSW, Australia**

AMENDMENT 1 5/94

GUIDEBOOK DATE May, 1994

A

Contents 5.0 Submission Documents

5.1.1 Submission Documents (Appendix A)

(i) Proforma Application Information Page 6 and 29

Comments: Appendix error in printing, Notice Printed NOT application - corrected

B

Reference Standard 16.0

Department Standard 16.3 Page 25

Comments: Wrong Department Name - corrected

C

QA Footer and Header to all Pages

D

Spelling Errors Corrected

AMENDMENT 2

DATE - 12 January, 1998

A

Major rewrite of document, clarifying and simplifying presentation of entire document.

B

Upgrade Section 15 - Approval References Tables - to cross reference MDA code and approving authority per clause

C

Update to Section 16 - Reference Standards - bring standards listing up to date and substituting MDG listing with reference to MDG 3011, due to continual variation in listing.

D

Update to Appendix B - Sample Approval Documents - inline with revised format of documents.

AMENDMENT 2

DATE - 13 September 1999

A

Rewrite of document to align with new Regulations.