



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Pipeline and Hazardous  
Materials Safety  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20590

MAY 29 2013

Mr. Michael Hill,  
CBP Officer  
Cargo Exam Team  
Area Port of Dallas/Fort Worth  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
7501 Esters Blvd., Suite 160  
Irving, TX 75063

Ref. No. 13-0115

Dear Officer Hill:

This responds to your request of May 28, 2013 requesting confirmation that a explosive identified as "Quick Fuse" does not meet the criteria for a novelty in accordance with the APA Standard 87-1, Version 2001 and subsequently requires an approval and assignment of an "EX" number by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration's Office of Hazardous Materials Safety (OHMS).

As defined in APA Standard 87-1, paragraph 2.12 - a novelty is a device containing small amounts of pyrotechnic and/or explosive composition. Such devices produce limited visible or audible effects. Based on the information included in your request, including photographs and a material safety data sheet, "Quick Fuse" does not meet this criterion. Accordingly, "Quick Fuse" must be have an approval from and be issued an "EX" number by OHMS in order to be shipped and transported in commerce.

I hope this answers your inquiry. If you need additional assistance, please contact this office at 202-366-8553.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Betts  
Director,  
Standards and Rulemaking Division

Billings  
\$173.56

**Drakeford, Carolyn (PHMSA)**

**From:** Billings, Delmer (PHMSA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 28, 2013 3:19 PM  
**To:** Drakeford, Carolyn (PHMSA)  
**Subject:** FW: Quick Fuse  
**Attachments:** Quick Fuse\_Page\_1.jpg; Quick Fuse\_Page\_5.jpg; Quick Fuse\_Page\_6.jpg; Quick Fuse\_Page\_3.jpg; StateLine Fireworks Shipping Doc..pdf; Quick Fuse MSDS.pdf

Explosives  
13-0115

Background for request for interp. I just sent.

**From:** Rastetter, Edward (PHMSA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 28, 2013 2:32 PM  
**To:** Billings, Delmer (PHMSA)  
**Cc:** Heneghan, John (PHMSA); Singh, Harpreet (PHMSA)  
**Subject:** FW: Quick Fuse

Dell/Harpreet,

In the email below I have provided some information on an item the was imported by a fireworks company and it came in as a Novelty, with no EX#. Since I first sent this email out I have received the MSDS as well and according to the MSDS that was just faxed to me this is classed as "Cord, igniter, 1.4G, UN 0066, PGII" Product Name is Quick Fuse! So it has to have an approval to be offered into transportation, it is forbidden on passenger aircraft and you can only ship 75kg on cargo aircraft.

It is apparent to me that Hunan Welldone has shipped an unapproved explosive. In the email below CBP is asking for a letter from DOT PHMSA stating that this item is not a Novelty and is not authorized in transportation without an approval.

Could one of you help me out with this.

Thank you,

Edward L. Rastetter  
U.S. DOT PHMSA OHMFO  
Investigator  
Southern Region  
233 peachtree Street N.E., Suite 602  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
(404) 832-1140 (Regional Office)  
(770) 966-0996 (Direct Line)  
(404) 694-3722 (Cell)  
[Edward.Rastetter@dot.gov](mailto:Edward.Rastetter@dot.gov)

**From:** Heneghan, John (PHMSA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 28, 2013 10:46 AM  
**To:** Hines, Billy C. (PHMSA)  
**Cc:** Rastetter, Edward (PHMSA)  
**Subject:** FW: Quick Fuse

Ed, reach out to Billy on this to see. Thanks

**From:** Rastetter, Edward (PHMSA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 28, 2013 10:39 AM  
**To:** Horsley, Adam (PHMSA)  
**Cc:** Heneghan, John (PHMSA)  
**Subject:** Quick Fuse

The above photographs are of Quick Fuse, marked and shipped as a Novelty and not regulated. This is not the case, they are regulated. The below verbiage is an example of what has been issued to other companies that have applied for fuse named Quick Fuse.

Quick fuses cannot be approved under APA Standard 87-1. Since this device is not covered under the APA Standard 87-1, Version 2001, the applicant must follow the DOT approval procedure in Title 49 CFR, § 173.56(b). This includes obtaining a laboratory report from a laboratory approved by DOT to examine explosives.

The shipping documents even indicate EX# Not required.

CBP has this container on hold in Dallas/Ft. Worth (Not By Our request) they have pulled all fuse from shipment and are going after the Importer of Record (State Line Fireworks, Texarkana, AR).

CBP would like a letter from us stating that this device does not meet the APA 87-1 Standard as a Novelty and must be approved as an explosive with an approved EX# prior to being offered for transportation.

Thanks,

Edward L. Rastetter  
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