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PROGRAM INFORMATION BULLETIN NO. P03-22

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SUBJECT: Change to Format for MSHA Approval Numbers

Who needs this information?

Underground mine operators, miners' representatives, mine equipment manufacturers and rebuild facilities, Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) enforcement personnel and other interested parties should have this information.

What is the purpose of this bulletin?

This bulletin informs the mining community of a change to the format of MSHA assigned product approval numbers issued on or after October 1, 2003. This bulletin does not affect previously issued MSHA approval numbers.

What is the new numbering format?

The new numbering system will use the following format:

PP-AAAYYXXXX-0

1. "PP" represents the applicable approval part. For example:
 - 07 will be used for Title 30 Code of Federal Regulations (30 CFR) Part 7.
 - 18 will be used for 30 CFR Part 18.

2. "AAA" is a maximum of three alpha characters that represents the applicable requirements.
 - In most cases, only one of the three alpha characters will be used. A single letter "A" will be used to represent an approval based on 30 CFR requirements. A single letter "B" will be used to represent a product approved based on the first equivalent non-MSHA product safety standard accepted by MSHA for a particular approval part. The letter "C" would be used for the second equivalent standard, etc.
 - The additional two alpha characters will only be used if it is necessary to further define the product approval standard. For example, for Part 7, subpart B, the approval number will be in the form of 07-BAYYXXXX-0, where B represents the 30 CFR subpart and A indicates that it was evaluated based on 30 CFR requirements. For explosion-proof enclosures approved under 30 CFR Part 18 the approval number will be in

the form of 18-XPAYYXXXX-0, where “XP” indicates “explosion-proof enclosure” and “A” represents 30 CFR.

3. “YY” is a two digit code that represents the year of approval issuance for products approved under 30 CFR, or the year of the revision for an equivalent non-MSHA product safety standard.
4. “XXXX” is a unique four digit approval number assigned by MSHA.
5. The “-0” represents the approval number extension. A -0 is used for an original issuance.

The following table provides a complete listing of the new approval number format for each of the different products that MSHA approves.

Part 7 Brattice Cloth and Ventilation Tubing	07-BAYYXXXX-0
Part 7 Battery Assemblies	07-CAYYXXXX-0
Part 7 Multiple-Shot Blasting Units	07-DAYYXXXX-0
Part 7 Diesel Engines (Permissible)	07-EPAYYXXXX-0
Part 7 Diesel Engines (Non-permissible)	07-ENAYYXXXX-0
Part 7 Diesel Power Packages	07-FAYYXXXX-0
Part 7 Electric Motor Assemblies	07-JAYYXXXX-0
Part 7 Electric Cables, Signaling Cable, and Cable Splice Kits	07-KAYYXXXX-0
Part 18 Machine Approval	18-AYYXXXX-0
Part 18 Instrument Approval	18-AYYXXXX-0
Part 18 Intrinsic Safety Evaluation	18-ISAYYXXXX-0
Part 18 Explosion-Proof Enclosure Certification	18-XPAYYXXXX-0
Part 18 Experimental Permit	18-EPAYYXXXX-0
Part 18 Conveyor Belt	18-CBAYYXXXX-0
Part 18 Hose Conduit	18-HCAYYXXXX-0
Part 18 Fire Hose	18-FHAYYXXXX-0
Part 18 Fire Suppression Hose	18-FSAYYXXXX-0
Part 18 Packing Material	18-PMAYYXXXX-0
Part 19 Cap Lamp Approvals	19-AYYXXXX-0
Part 20 Other Mine Lamps/Flashlights	20-AYYXXXX-0
Part 22 Portable Methane Detectors	22-AYYXXXX-0
Part 23 Telephone and Signaling Devices	23-AYYXXXX-0
Part 27 Methane Monitoring Systems	27-AYYXXXX-0
Part 28 Fuses	28-AYYXXXX-0
Part 33 Dust Collector Machine Approval	33-MAYYXXXX-0
Part 33 Dust Collector Certificate of Performance	33-CAYYXXXX-0
Part 35 Hydraulic Fluid	35-AYYXXXX-0
Part 36 Mobile Diesel Powered Equipment –	36-CAYYXXXX-0

Why is MSHA Changing the Approval Numbering Scheme?

The current MSHA approval numbering system utilizes an antiquated Bureau of Mines approval schedule scheme for identifying MSHA approved products. This system uses the prefix "2G" to identify products approved under 30 CFR Part 18; "6D" to identify products approved under 30 CFR Part 19; "10C" to identify products approved under 30 CFR Part 20; etc. This system has recently presented some problems due to the difficulty in determining the applicable approval part under 30 CFR when evaluating an MSHA approval plate or label. MSHA has decided to modify the approval numbering scheme such that end users and MSHA inspectors could more easily identify the applicable approval parts when evaluating the content of an MSHA approval plate or label. This modified system has the added benefit of being capable of identifying MSHA approved products that were evaluated to standards other than 30 CFR which is permitted under the new regulation, 30 CFR Part 6, titled "Testing and Evaluation by Independent Laboratories and Non-MSHA Product Safety Standards." This new regulation, which was promulgated in June 2003, permits manufacturers to apply for MSHA approval of mining products designed to non-MSHA product safety standards once MSHA has determined such standards to be equivalent in their existing or modified form.

To date, MSHA has not accepted any non-MSHA product safety standards as equivalent. Further notices will be published when such equivalent standards are accepted.

Who is the contact person for this bulletin?

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Is this bulletin on the internet?

This Program Information Bulletin may be viewed on the worldwide web by accessing the MSHA homepage at www.msha.gov and then choosing "Compliance Assistance Information."

What is the authority for this bulletin?

The Federal Mine Safety Act of 1977; 30 CFR.

Who will receive this bulletin?

MSHA Program Policy Manual Holders
Special Interest Groups
Underground Mine Operators
Miners' Representatives
Manufacturers
Rebuild and Repair Facilities