

South African Maritime Safety Authority



Ref: SM6/5/2/1

Date: 18 March 2002

MARINE NOTICE No. 4 OF 2002

TO ALL PRINCIPAL OFFICERS, MASTERS, SHIP'S AGENTS AND CARGO SURVEYORS

STOWAGE OF AMMONIUM NITRATE - UN No. 1942

1. This Marine Notice applies to the stowage of Ammonium Nitrate (UN No.1942) shipped through South African ports in IBCs (bulk bags).
2. Ammonium Nitrate (UN No. 1942) stowed in IBCs (bulk bags) is considered to be **packaged dangerous goods** and the relevant provisions of the IMDG Code are therefore applicable. Regulation 7.1.11.5 of the IMDG Code is applicable and states: "*Ammonium Nitrate (UN No. 1942) should be stowed in a clean [mechanically ventilated] cargo space capable of being opened up in an emergency*". In order to ensure compliance with this requirement, SAMSA requires that at least 30% of the weather deck hatch cover or tween deck hatch cover (as applicable) must be capable of being opened to gain access to the cargo spaces in which the Ammonium Nitrate is stowed, and that these hatch covers or relevant part thereof are not over-stowed with cargo.
3. Furthermore, Ammonium Nitrate (UN No.1942) must be stowed "*away from sources of heat*". This means that Ammonium Nitrate must be stowed at least 3 metres horizontally away from engine-room bulkheads, and away from any other source of heat (> 40° C), such as heated bunker fuel tanks.
4. Attention is also drawn to the requirements of SOLAS Regulation II-2/54 [Special requirements for ships carrying dangerous goods] concerning the carriage of additional safety equipment, such as breathing apparatus and protective clothing.

MR C NISSEN
ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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