

EXPLOSIVES REGULATIONS 2014

STORING HT4 & HT3 FIREWORKS IN RETAIL PREMISES

When applying for a Firework Licence to store consumer fireworks, specific information is required in order to correctly assess your storage needs. This form should be returned, together with the fee payment and floor/site plans where relevant, to the Glasgow City Council, Trading Standards address.

The application form requires that you state the “Hazard Type” and amount of net explosive mass (NEM) of the fireworks you intend to store. The Hazard Type determines the risk produced by the firework in general storage.

Fireworks are divided into four Hazard Types for storage licensing purposes. Only HT3 and HT4 fireworks are suitable for retail storage, both of which are restricted as follows:-

- Up to 250kg NEM of HT4 fireworks in a suitable building with no separation from other buildings or public access required.
- Up to 25kg of HT3 fireworks or a combination of HT3 and HT4 in a suitable building as above.
- Where domestic sleeping accommodation is adjacent to your store (e.g. flats above your premises) only 75kg of HT4 fireworks can be stored. No HT3 fireworks are permitted unless specific fire precautions are in place, i.e. a fire detection system; linked alarm or sprinkler fitted, fire separated exit/access routes and 30 mins fire resistant separation between domestic accommodation and firework store.
- Over 250kg of HT4 or more than 25kg of HT3 fireworks requires a suitable building (e.g. ISO container) separated from other buildings or places with public access as separation distances will apply.

The amount of fireworks you can store on your premises will depend on the storage conditions available.

You can seek advice from your supplier as to the suitability of the fireworks you intend to store, however, storing HT3 fireworks severely restricts what you can store in typical retail premises.

Therefore, you must clearly state and understand the requirements if you intend to store HT3 fireworks on your premises. You must declare this at the time of application, as if you are issued with a Licence stating storage for HT4 fireworks only, and found to be storing HT3 fireworks at a subsequent visit by Trading Standards, then this will result in the commission of a criminal offence.

When purchasing fireworks, the transport packaging will tell you which Hazard Type the fireworks are.

HT4 fireworks will generally show “**1.4G**” within an orange diamond, as shown below:-

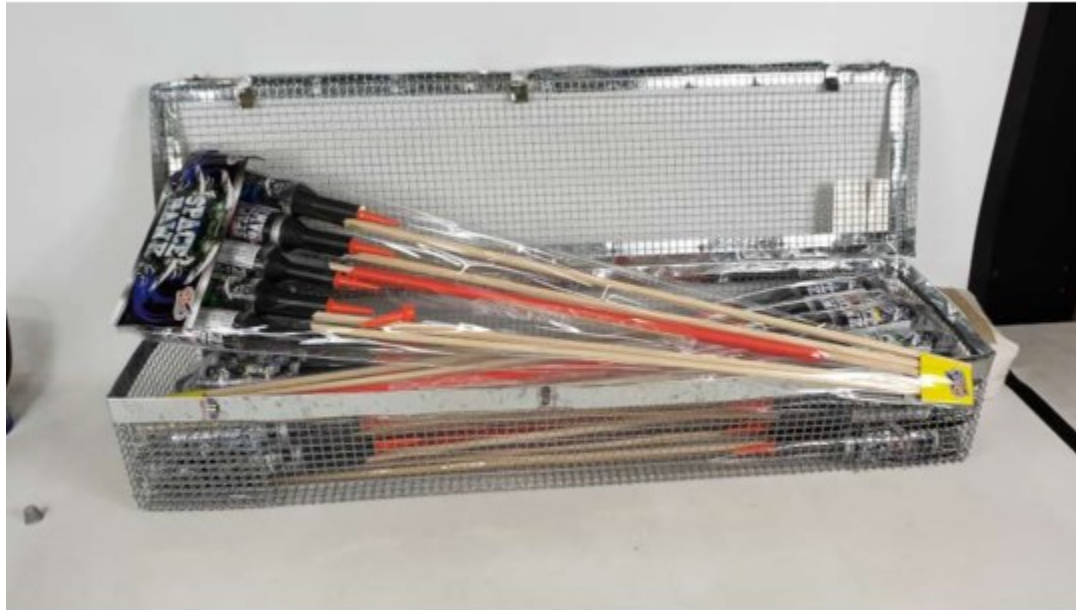


HT3 fireworks will show “**1.3G**” within an orange diamond, as shown below:-



The only difference to this will be when HT3 fireworks are sold contained within a pyromesh cage specifically tested to reduce the Hazard Type from HT3 to HT4. In this case, for it to remain a HT4 Hazard Type, the fireworks while in storage MUST remain in the lockable pyromesh within the transport packaging at all times. If the pyromesh is not re-lockable, then the fireworks must be sold as a whole item.

HT3 fireworks sold in pyromesh look like this –



Additionally, HT3 fireworks should never be stored in the sales area of a retail premises where the public have access to. They should only be removed from their transport packaging immediately before they are given to a customer. While in storage, transport packaging should remain closed.

If HT3 or more than 75kg NEC of HT4 fireworks are to be stored within a premises adjoining a building containing domestic sleeping accommodation then additional precautions must be taken, i.e. a linked fire detection system must be installed in the shop, or a sprinkler system fitted in the firework store, have 30 minutes resistant fire separation between the store and the domestic accommodation, etc.

For any further information you may require, contact:-

Trading Standards
Neighbourhoods and Sustainability
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727 London Road
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G40 3AQ
Tel: 0141 287 1061
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