U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Research and
Special Programs
Administration**

MAR 2 2000

400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

DOT-E 12156

EXPIRATION DATE: December 31, 2001

(FOR RENEWAL, SEE 49 CFR § 107.109)

1. GRANTEE: Columbia Falls Aluminum Company
Columbia Falls, Montana

2. PURPOSE AND LIMITATION:

   a. This exemption authorizes tank cars, containing Class 3 or Class 9 materials, to remain standing with unloading connections attached when no product is being transferred, provided that a minimal level of monitoring, as specified in this exemption is maintained, and provides no relief from any regulations other than as specifically stated.

   b. The safety analyses performed in development of this exemption only considered the hazards and risks associated with transportation in commerce.

3. REGULATORY SYSTEM AFFECTED: 49 CFR Parts 106, 107 and 171-180.

4. REGULATIONS FROM WHICH EXEMPTED: 49 CFR §§ 172.302(c) and 174.67(i)and (j).

5. BASIS: This exemption is based on Columbia Falls Aluminum Company's application dated September 22, 1998, submitted in accordance with § 107.105 and the public proceeding thereon.

6. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS (49 CFR § 172.101):

Proper Shipping Name/ Hazardous Materials Description	Hazard Class/ Division	ID Number	Packing Group
Elevated temperature liquid, n.o.s. *at or above 100 C, and below its flash point*	9	UN3257	III
Elevated temperature liquids, flammable, n.o.s. *with flash point above 37.8C, at or above its flashpoint*	3	UN3256	III

7. SAFETY CONTROL MEASURES:

a. Packagings prescribed are DOT and AAR specification tank cars authorized for the material specified meeting all applicable DOT and AAR specification requirements.

b. Any manually operated switch, under the proprietary control of the exemption holder, providing access to the track on which the equipment is located must be lined against movement to that track and locked with an effective locking device operable only by a representative of the facility.

c. The facility operator must install a bi-directional derail in an effective location (at least 50 feet when possible) from the end of the equipment to be protected by the caution sign. The person responsible for the unloading operation must lock the device in the derailing position with an effective locking device operable only by a representative of the facility.

d. The facility operator must designate an employee responsible for the unloading operation. The designated employee must be made familiar with the nature and properties of the product contained in the tank car, procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency; and, in the event of an emergency, have the ability and authority to take responsive actions.

e. The designated employee must periodically monitor the transfer facility at intervals not to exceed 15 minutes to ensure safety during unloading.

f. When a signaling system is used (including a monitoring system or a sensing device), the system must be capable of alerting the designated employee in the event of an emergency and providing immediate notification of any monitoring system malfunction. If the monitoring system does not have self-monitoring capability, the designated employee must check the monitoring system hourly for proper operation. (For recommendations on the selection, installation and maintenance of signaling systems see NFPA 72 - Installation, Maintenance and Use of Protective Signaling Systems.)

g. The transfer facility shutoff valve must be located as close as practicable to the point of connection between the transfer system and the tank car and in a manner that will minimize the release of product in the event of hose rupture or separation.

8. SPECIAL PROVISIONS.

a. The facility operator must have written safety procedures on file at each location that uses this exemption. The facility operator must instruct each employee performing any function under this exemption on the contents of these procedures and ensure compliance with them. The written procedures must contain at least the following:

(1) A physical description of the facility including the address and hours of operation.

(2) A drawing of the transfer facility showing natural and manmade barriers, locations of protective equipment (i.e. derail and caution sign), locations of emergency equipment and locations of signaling equipment.

(3) Procedures for monitoring the transfer facility [see paragraphs 7(a) and (b)].

(4) Information on the contents of the tank car including:

(i) chemical or common name of the product
(ii) health and physical hazards involved in handling the product
(iii) emergency and first aid procedures

(5) Procedures for securing the protective equipment including derail, switch locks, tank car brakes, caution sign and wheel blocks.

(6) Equipment available for employee safety and procedures for using the equipment.

(7) Procedures and limitations for movement of tank cars in the vicinity of the transfer facility.

(8) Testing and maintenance of system components including signaling systems.

(9) Training requirements for designated employees responsible for monitoring the transfer facility.

(10) Procedural steps in the event of an emergency, including names and phone numbers of key personnel and public agencies to contact.

(11) Procedures for reviewing incidents to determine whether the written procedures require revision or modification to prevent future occurrences amending those procedures when the review necessitates changes.

b. The facility operator must establish and maintain liaison with fire, police and other appropriate public officials to learn the responsibilities and resources of each governmental agency that may be called upon to respond to an emergency involving the tank car and transfer facility and acquaint the officials with the facility's capabilities and procedures in the event of an emergency.

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d. The marking requirements in § 172.302(c) are waived.

9. MODES OF TRANSPORTATION AUTHORIZED: Rail freight.

10. MODAL REQUIREMENTS: This exemption poses no additional modal requirements.

11. COMPLIANCE: Failure by a person to comply with any of the following may result in suspension or revocation of this exemption and penalties prescribed by the Federal hazardous materials transportation law, 49 U.S.C. 5101 et seq:

- All terms and conditions prescribed in this exemption and the Hazardous Materials Regulations, 49 CFR Parts 171-180.
- Registration required by § 107.601 et seq., when applicable.

Each "Hazmat employee", as defined in § 171.8, who performs a function subject to this exemption must receive training on the requirements and conditions of this exemption in addition to the training required by §§ 172.700 through 172.704.

No person may use or apply this exemption, including display of its number, when the exemption has expired or is otherwise no longer in effect.

12. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: The holder of this exemption must inform the Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety, in writing, of any incident involving inadvertent release of the hazardous material during operations conducted under the terms of this exemption.

Issued at Washington, D.C.:

Suzanne Hedgepeth

Robert A. McGuire
Acting Associate Administrator for
Hazardous Materials Safety

MAR 2 2000
(DATE)

Address all inquiries to: Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety, Research and Special Programs Administration, Department of Transportation, Washington, D.C. 20590. Attention: DHM-31.

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The original of this exemption is on file at the above office. Photo reproductions and legible reductions of this exemption are permitted. Any alteration of this exemption is prohibited.