

January 10, 2018



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

East Building, PHH-30  
1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

**Pipeline and Hazardous  
Materials Safety Administration**

DOT-SP 15647  
(FOURTH REVISION)

(FOR RENEWAL, SEE 49 CFR § 107.109)

1. GRANTEE: (See individual authorization letter)
2. PURPOSE AND LIMITATION:
  - a. This special permit authorizes the retesting of certain DOT Specification and non-DOT Specification multi-unit tank car tanks without approval from the Association of American Railroads (AAR). This special permit provides no relief from the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR) other than as specifically stated herein. The most recent revision supersedes all previous revisions.
  - b. The safety analyses performed in the development of this special permit only considered the hazards and risks associated with the transportation in commerce.
  - c. Unless otherwise stated herein, this special permit consists of the special permit authorization letter issued to the grantee together with this document.
3. REGULATORY SYSTEM AFFECTED: 49 CFR Parts 106, 107 and 171-180.
4. REGULATIONS FROM WHICH EXEMPTED: 49 CFR §§ 179.7 and 180.505 in that each tank car facility must have a quality assurance program approved by AAR, and 180.519(b)(6) in that multi-unit tank car tank must be marked with the test date and registered symbol except as provided herein.
5. BASIS: This special permit is based on the application of Thunderbird Cylinder, Inc. dated September 20, 2017, submitted in accordance with § 107.105 and the public proceeding thereon.

6. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS (49 CFR § 172.101):

<b>Hazardous Materials Description</b>			
<b>Proper Shipping Name</b>	<b>Hazard Class/ Division</b>	<b>Identification Number</b>	<b>Packing Group</b>
Hazardous materials authorized for transportation in DOT 106A, DOT 110AW multi-unit tank car tanks or non-DOT specification multi-unit tank car tank approved under special permit.	Various	Various	Various

7. SAFETY CONTROL MEASURES:

a. Packaging - DOT specification multi-unit tank car tank (DOT-106A and DOT 110AW) and non-DOT specification multi-unit tank car (multi-unit tank car tank authorized under special permit)

b. TESTING - Packages listed in 7.a. may be requalified by hydrostatic testing or internal visual inspection per according to the following:

- (1) Testing is only conducted by facilities that hold a current Requalification Identification Number (RIN).
- (2) The RIN approval must include, or be amended to include DOT-106A, DOT-110AW, and any non-DOT specification multi-unit tank car tank manufactured under a special permit(s).
- (3) In lieu of the marking requirements listed in § 180.519(b)(6) the tanks that successfully pass the requalification test must be marked in accordance with § 180.213.
- (4) Visual inspected tanks §180.519 (c) must include the month and date followed by the letter "V" stamped plainly and permanently in the metal of one head.

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- (5) When performing requalification by hydrostatic testing:
- (i) Each multi-unit tank car tank must be subjected to an internal test pressure using water jacket equipment and method or, as an equivalent alternative, the direct expansion testing method. The direct expansion test method may only be used if the testing facility follows the guidance provided in Compressed Gas Association (CGA) pamphlet C-1, "Methods for Pressure Testing Compressed Gas Cylinders" for the direct expansion method.
  - (ii) The direct expansion test method is not authorized for use on any multi-unit tank car tanks that are stamped with a "+" indicating allowance for the tank to be filled to 10% over its service pressure.
  - (iii) Retest pressures must conform to the pressures listed in § 180.519 for DOT specification multi-unit tank car tanks or those listed in a special permit for non-DOT specification multi-unit tank car tanks.
- (6) When performing requalification by visual inspection:
- (i) Visual inspection must be performed in accordance with §180.519 (c) and GCA Pamphlet C-6: Standards for Visual Inspection of Steel Compressed Gas Cylinders:
  - (ii) The multi-unit tank owner must provide certification that the multi-unit tank car tank is in dedicated fluorinate hydrocarbon and mixtures service.
  - (iii) The multi-unit tank car tank must have the original manufacturer's tare weight stamp. If the original manufacturer's tare weight stamp is missing or illegible; the multi-unit tank car tank cannot be visually inspected.

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- (iv) If the actual tare weight is less than 90% of the original stamped tare weight the multi-unit tank car tank cannot be visually inspected.
8. SPECIAL PROVISIONS: A current copy of this special permit must be maintained at each facility where multi-unit tank car tanks are re-qualified.
9. MODES OF TRANSPORTATION AUTHORIZED: Motor Vehicle, Rail Freight.
10. MODAL REQUIREMENTS: None.
11. COMPLIANCE: Failure by a person to comply with any of the following may result in suspension or revocation of this special permit and penalties prescribed by the Federal hazardous materials transportation law, 49 U.S.C. 5101 et seq:
- o All terms and conditions prescribed in this special permit and the Hazardous Materials Regulations, 49 CFR Parts 171-180.
  - o Persons operating under the terms of this special permit must comply with the security plan requirement in Subpart I of Part 172 of the HMR, when applicable.
  - o Registration required by § 107.601 et seq., when applicable.

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

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

Under Title VII of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU)—"The Hazardous Materials Safety and Security

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Reauthorization Act of 2005" (Pub. L. 109-59), 119 Stat. 1144 (August 10, 2005), amended the Federal hazardous materials transportation law by changing the term "exemption" to "special permit" and authorizes a special permit to be granted up to two years for new special permits and up to four years for renewals.

12. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: Shipments or operations conducted under this special permit are subject to the Hazardous Materials Incident Reporting requirements specified in 49 CFR §§ 171.15 Immediate notice of certain hazardous materials incidents, and 171.16 Detailed hazardous materials incident reports. In addition, the grantee(s) of this special permit must notify the Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety, in writing, of any incident involving a package, shipment or operation conducted under terms of this special permit.

Issued in Washington, D.C.:



for William Schoonover  
Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety

Address all inquiries to: Associate Administrator for Hazardous Materials Safety, Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation, East Building PHH-30, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, Southeast, Washington, D.C. 20590.

Copies of this special permit may be obtained by accessing the Hazardous Materials Safety Homepage at [http://hazmat.dot.gov/sp\\_app/special\\_permits/spec\\_perm\\_index.htm](http://hazmat.dot.gov/sp_app/special_permits/spec_perm_index.htm). Photo reproductions and legible reductions of this special permit are permitted. Any alteration of this special permit is prohibited.

PO: TARR:FRA:dl