

Nxburst™ Storage

Throughout North America, explosives storage is a fairly simple affair. In Canada all explosives storage is regulated federally by The Ministry of Natural Resources, In the United States The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives oversees it's storage. There can sometime be additional layers of regulation within local jurisdictions but overall regulations are standardized across the respective countries, for 1.1 class explosives anyways. Nxburst however is a bit of a different animal. As a 1.4s/c explosive the storage regulations in the United States are still pretty standard and follow the same basic rules. In Canada however, things are very different. In Canada the Nxburst and Fragmentor cartridges are classified as an S.2 high hazard special purpose explosives. At one time our cartridges were classed as a S.1 low hazard special purpose explosives but issues with other S.1 products resulted in a classification shift to a S.2 high hazard special purpose. After a few meetings and discussions with NR-CAN our storage regulations were scaled back to the S.1, our actual classification remains as S.2. If you haven't had Nxburst training or it's been a few years since your training, the S.1/S.2 storage regulations may be unfamiliar to you. Essentially the difference between the two regulations is in the quantity of explosives you are allowed to store in a location, with dwelling storage removed in S.2. The vast majority of Nxburst users are using a storage unit to store their cartridges, which by definition is any storage location that is not a dwelling and is also unlicensed as a magazine.

Shipping containers are a great option for Nxburst storage, they are easy to secure, well ventilated, dry and easy to purchase and place. In almost every quarry shipping containers are already in use for storage of tools, hydraulic oil and all the other tools of the trade. This makes finding a storage location for cartridges fairly simple, there is however some considerations to take into account. In the storage of Nxburst cartridges there are some conditions that satisfy both the manufacturer, NXCO Mining Technologies as well as the NRCAN's regulations. We won't go into details regarding a licensed magazine storage situation





What's New

as quantities and the like are very site specific it would however be stored with high explosives and not detonators (In the US it is the exact opposite). As required in the S.1 storage regulations a user is allowed to store less than 1,000Kg of Nxburst in a storage unit. As a point of reference we do not have a single customer that requires anywhere near this quantity.

Nxburst Storage conditions

The interior of a magazine or container used to store Nxburst™ must be kept scrupulously clean and must be constructed, covered or lined to prevent the exposure of any ferrous metals or gritty materials.

Precautions must be taken to exclude moisture from a container or magazine to store Nxburst™.

Any article or substance likely to cause a fire or explosion must be kept out of, and at a safe distance from Nxburst™, its storage container

Nxburst™ cartridges should be stored in their original containers (boxes), sealed until ready to use and regularly monitored

Based on the above criteria a shipping container that also houses drilling consumables like bits and drill steel, hydraulic oil, diesel and gas cans etc. is not an allowable solution. Is there a way to avoid buying another shipping container or additional storage? Simply adding a partition wall and a lockable door will allow you to keep your Nxburst cartridges locked away from general access as well as separate from your tools and equipment. This solution keeps you on the right side of the regulations without a significant cost or eating up space that you may not have on-site. If you have any questions we would be happy to help with storage solutions that keep you and your staff safe and compliant.



Coogar Sales & Services is the proud distributor of Nxco's **Nxburst™** and **Fragmentor™** throughout Canada, US and Mexico as well as the full line of MacLean Engineering's **MDA Rock Drills** and the **QuikDraw Mine Hang-up Relief System**. With our staff having practical drill and blast experience we can guide you through even the most delicate of jobs safely and effectively helping you and your bottom line.

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