

**SP 4-97**

### **COAST GUARD SPECIAL PERMIT 4-97**

This Special Permit is issued pursuant to 46 CFR 148.01-9 of the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Carriage of Solid Hazardous Materials in Bulk Regulations to authorize bulk shipments of ammonium nitrate and ammonium nitrate fertilizer in covered unmanned barges under conditions as described herein. This permit does not relieve any shipper or carrier from compliance with any applicable requirement of 46 CFR 148 of the USCG Regulations, except as specifically provided for herein.

1. **BASIS** - MEMCO Barge Line, Incorporated letter of June 26, 2001.
2. **COMMODITIES:**
  - (a) Ammonium nitrate.
  - (b) Ammonium nitrate fertilizer.
3. **PROPER SHIPPING NAME, UN Number:**
  - (a) AMMONIUM NITRATE. UN 1942.  
With not more than 0.2% combustible material including any organic substance calculated as carbon, to the exclusion of any other added substance.
  - (b) AMMONIUM NITRATE FERTILIZER. UN 2067.  
Uniform non-segregating mixtures of ammonium nitrate with added material which is inorganic and chemically inert toward ammonium nitrate, with not less than 90% ammonium nitrate and not more than 0.2% combustible material (including organic material calculated as carbon).
  - (c) AMMONIUM NITRATE FERTILIZER. NA 2072  
The identification number above applies to all formulations of ammonium nitrate fertilizer in Class 5.1 (oxidizer), and may be used only for shipments in domestic commerce.
4. **REGULATION WAIVED OR AFFECTED** - 46 CFR 148.01-7.
5. **AUTHORIZED HOLDER**- MEMCO Barge Line, Incorporated, 16090 Swingley Ridge Road, Suite 600, Chesterfield, MO 63017.
6. **MODE OF TRANSPORTATION AUTHORIZED** - Unmanned covered barges.
7. **CLASSIFICATION** - Class 5.1 (oxidizer).

8. **PROPERTIES** - Ammonium nitrate and ammonium nitrate fertilizers support combustion. A major fire may involve the risk of explosion in the event of contamination (e.g. by fuel oil) or strong confinement. An adjacent detonation may also involve a risk of explosion. If strongly heated, they decompose, giving off toxic gases and gases that support combustion.
9. **SPECIAL TRANSPORTATION REQUIREMENTS:**
- (a) The shipments must be made to or from a designated waterfront facility that meets the requirements of 33 CFR 126.05(a) or at a midstream anchorage acceptable to the cognizant Coast Guard Captain of the Port.
  - (b) The cognizant Coast Guard Captain of the Port must be informed at least 24 hours in advance of unloading or transferring operations.
  - (c) The shipper or consignee shall inform the person in charge of the tug or towing vessel of the safety precautions and emergency procedures associated with the handling of ammonium nitrate and ammonium nitrate fertilizer.
  - (d) The loading and unloading of the bulk cargo must be supervised by a person familiar with the safety precautions and emergency procedures associated with handling ammonium nitrate or ammonium nitrate fertilizer.
  - (e) The loading and unloading operators must be trained in the appropriate safety precautions and emergency procedures for handling ammonium nitrate and ammonium nitrate fertilizer.
  - (f) Barges must be inspected for cleanliness and be free of combustible materials before loading.
  - (g) Barge hatches must be inspected for watertightness before loading.
  - (h) The temperature of the ammonium nitrate or ammonium nitrate fertilizer must be below 54.4°C (130°F) before loading.
  - (i) Fire hoses shall be laid out or in position near loading and unloading operations and be operable at all times.
  - (j) Smoking, the carrying of matches and lighting devices, and the performance of hot work by any person shall be prohibited on the barge during loading and unloading operations and at any time in the vicinity of the loaded barge. The area in the vicinity of cargo handling operations and the loaded barge itself shall be posted with appropriate warning signs.
  - (k) No other material may be stowed in the same barge with ammonium nitrate or ammonium nitrate fertilizer.
  - (l) After unloading ammonium nitrate or ammonium nitrate fertilizer, the cargo compartment of the barge shall be cleaned thoroughly before a different cargo is loaded.

- (m) Each bill of lading, shipping paper or other shipping document issued in connection with the shipment of ammonium nitrate or ammonium nitrate fertilizer under the terms of this permit must bear the notation "**USCG Special Permit 4-97**".
  - (n) A copy of this permit must be on board the tug or towing vessel when transporting ammonium nitrate or ammonium nitrate fertilizer. When the barge is moored, the shipping paper and a copy of this special permit must remain on the barge.
10. **REPORTING REQUIREMENTS** - Any incident or casualty occurring while shipping under the terms of this permit shall be reported in accordance with 49 CFR 171.15, and a copy of the written report forwarded to the Commandant (G-MSO-3), U.S. Coast Guard, 2100 Second Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20593-0001 at the earliest practicable moment. In addition, a record of experience under the terms of this special permit including any casualties or difficulties encountered must be sent to the Commandant (G-MSO-3) upon request for renewal.
11. **EXPIRATION DATE** - July 31, 2005.

Authorized by:

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J. M. MICHALOWSKI  
Commander, U.S. Coast Guard  
Chief, Hazardous Materials Standards Division  
By direction of the Commandant

July 13, 2001  
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DATE