


**NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
IN MINE SAFETY AND PROTECTION
TO EXPLOSION
INCD INSEMEX PETROSANI**




***Romanian legislation is
being changed
in the field of mine rescuing***


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After the Romanian adhesion to the European Union on the first of January 2007 and as a result of the harmonization of the Romanian legislation with the European legislation, the Technical Prescriptions annexed to the Specific Norms for Labour Protection for coal, bituminous shales and sands have been withdrawn.




Considering the legislation void occurred unexpectedly further to this moment, both the economic agents from the extractive industry and the control bodies have experienced the need to develop a new legislation framework for this domain.



In the light of the above said aspects, INCD INSEMEX Petrosani, in cooperation with the state authorities have started the development of a legislation framework for subsequent implementation on the organization of the rescue operations within the Romanian economy.

Consequently on June 19, 2007, there was published the order delivered in common by the ministry of economy and finances and the ministry of labour, family and equal chances for the approval of the ``Norms for the organisation of rescuing and interventions operations at industrial undertakings with potential hazard of toxic and/or explosive gas emissions``.




Compared to the provisions that covered 111 articles and 6 annexes, this norm is much more concise; it covers 22 articles and 5 annexes and states the wide framework minimum necessary with respect to the organization of rescuing operations at economic agents which carry on their activity at surface or in underground.

Summarized, the norms cover the following provisions:

1. This norm intends to settle the general provisions on the organisation of rescuing operations at industrial undertakings with hazard of toxic / explosive flammable gases.
2. This norm applies to all operators in the economy whose activity is susceptible to generate hazardous event, occupational accidents as a result of potential emissions of toxic / explosive / flammable gases.

3. Whether there is hazard of emissions of toxic / suffocating / flammable / explosive gases / vapours / powders during the production process, the economic operator shall organize a rescue station in the undertaking for performing rescuing operations in toxic / explosive/ flammable atmospheres, called hereinafter rescue stations.



Only the operation of the rescue stations approved by the National Institute for Research and Development for Mine Safety and Explosion – proof Protection – INSEMEX Petrosani, caller hereinafter INCD INSEMEX shall be allowed.

In order to get the approval said at paragraph , the economic operators shall submit an application to INCD INSEMEX which shall be accompanied by a documentation covering mainly:

- a) details on the area assigned for the rescue station;
- b) the structure of the personnel;
- c) checklist with the necessary equipment;
- d) procedures settled for a rapid alarm and intervention.


4. The rescue stations shall be served by rescuers, by staff involved in control and coordination operations and by mechanics.

Their number shall be at least 2 % of the employees in the undertaking.

5. The staff that serves at rescue stations shall be trained and approved by INCD INSEMEX.

6. The space assigned for the rescue station shall have to provide:

- a) suitable conditions for a theoretical training of the rescue station personnel;
- b) storage of breathing apparatus, of the control apparatus and of the resuscitation apparatus;
- c) storage of the rescuing materials and of spare parts ;



d) storage of moving vessels under pressure used with the breathing apparatus.

The breathing and the resuscitation apparatus shall be stored in glass cases or inside special desks .

7. The space assigned for the rescue station shall be easy access both for rescuers and for vehicles and shall have a telephone connection with the economic operator.

- a) The access of persons with no occupation duties;
- b) The carrying out of activities that are not related to the activity of the rescue station is strictly forbidden.

8. The minimum equipment of rescue station means:

- a) ready to use at least breathing apparatus for each rescuer and a spare breathing apparatus for every five breathing apparatus;
- b) a control apparatus for general use for every ten breathing apparatus, but not less than two;
- c) one resuscitation apparatus for every ten breathing apparatus, but not less than two;

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- d) two fully loaded, spare oxygen compressed vessels for every breathing apparatus;
 - e) a first-aid kit for each rescue team ;
 - f) one safety belt, with rope equiped with hooks and safety hooks, for every five breathing apparatus;
 - g) one stretcher for every five breathing apparatus.

9. The conditions necessary for being employed at the rescue station:

- a) the operation rescuers shall be between 20-50 years old and the personnel involved in control and coordination operations shall can reach 55 years old
- b) the requirements of the point 5 shall be observed;
- c) the persons to be employed shall be declared as medically and psychologically capable to perform rescuing operations and interventions in toxic / explosive / flammable atmospheres;

The control and the coordination of rescuing operations shall be performed by persons with engineering training.

10. Considering the operations plan drawn up by the person in charge with the liquidation of effects of occupational accidents or of hazardous incidents, the head of the rescue station or his deputy shall draw up the action schedule covering the rescue operation stages.


The action schedule of rescue teams operating in the damaged area shall have to cover the following aspects:

- a) a delimitation of the damaged area or of the jeopardized areas;
- b) the access routes and the escape routes of rescuers ;
- c) guard location ;
- d) manner used for escaping outside the damaged area and from jeopardized areas;

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- e) the operations to be formed inside the damaged area to limit the effects of occupational accidents or of hazardous incidents and then to liquidate them;
 - f) safety measures to be taken during the operation inside the damaged area
 - g) a list with the names of those persons that can give orders during the operations performed inside the damaged area;

At the end of the rescue operation shift, the team leader / the head of the rescues groups shall draw up a detailed report covering:


- a) number of rescuers used during operation ;
- b) the operations that have been carried out;
- c) problems come up and the gas concentrations inside the damage area;

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- d) the behaviour of rescuers;
 - e) whether the breathing apparatus was put into operation;
 - f) observations, failures, proposals;


The action schedule and the report on the action performed shall be registered in the registration book .

The rescuers shall be considered in operation at the moment when they arrive at the rescue station.

The rescuers shall be scheduled so that they have a suitable period for rest.



Until the suitable number of rescuers is being provided, the first rescue team can exceed the 8 hours working period with the doctor or of the head of the rescue station (whether the doctor is absent).

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11. Only those persons listed in the action schedule shall be allowed within the damaged area
 12. For the application of the provisions at point 3, paragraph 2 and at point 5, INSEMEX shall develop specific procedures.

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