

Entertainment Special Effects (General) Regulation

Entertainment Special Effects (Fees) Regulation

Entertainment Special Effects List Regulation

**Information Technology and
Broadcasting Bureau**

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Background

- The Entertainment Special Effects Ordinance, which governs the use of dangerous goods for the production of special effects in films, television programmes and theatrical performances, was enacted by the Legislative Council in June.
- To submit the three draft regulations which prescribe the detailed requirements of the new regulatory system under the Entertainment Special Effects Ordinance.

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Objectives of introducing the New Regulatory Regime

- To streamline and improve existing regulatory measures
- To meet the operational needs of the industry and protect public safety

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Existing Regulatory System

- Governed by the Dangerous Goods Ordinance and the Gas Safety Ordinance
- Existing legislation is not specifically designed for the entertainment industry, thus cannot meet the needs of the industry

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Inadequacies of Existing Regulatory System

- Regulatory responsibilities are shared among five different departments
- A separate discharge permit is required for each discharge of pyrotechnic materials (including rehearsals, reshooting etc.)
- No licensing system for local special effects operators
- Very stringent regulation of the combined use of pyrotechnic materials and other dangerous goods

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Conducting a Review

Considerations -

- Operational needs of the film and entertainment industries
- Public safety and security requirements
- Regulatory system for the film industry in Hollywood and advice of the US consultant engaged

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New Regulatory System under Entertainment Special Effects Ordinance

- To set up an Entertainment Special Effects Licensing Authority
- To license special effects operators
- To issue permits for the discharge of special effects materials
- To regulate the registration, supply, conveyance and storage of pyrotechnic special effects materials
- To issue codes of practice

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Entertainment Special Effects (General) Regulation Licensing System for Special Effects Operators

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stream A
(Films and TV Programmes)
SEO Class I
SEO Class I
SEA
SEO (Short Term)
SEA (Short Term) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Stream B
(Theatrical Performance)
SEO
SEA
SEO (Short Term)
SEA (Short Term) |
|--|---|
- Licences will be valid for two years
 - Applicants should possess recognized qualifications or relevant working experience
 - Applicants may be required to go through a written examination, an interview and to conduct a demonstration

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**Entertainment Special Effects (General) Regulation
Permits for the Discharge of
Special Effects Materials**

- Stream A – Films and TV Programmes
Stream B – Theatrical Performance
- Normally, permits will be valid for 24 hours
- Applicants are required to submit information on :
 - discharge venue
 - type(s) and quantities of materials to be used
 - arrangements for producing special effects
 - safety measures to be adopted
 - proof of an insurance policy for the discharge
- A licensed special effects operator should be engaged to carry out the discharge

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**Entertainment Special Effects (General) Regulation
Registration of
Pyrotechnic Special Effects Materials**

- Practitioners may apply for registration of pyrotechnic special effects materials free of charge
- Applications for registration of materials should be submitted together with information related to the materials
- The Authority may classify the materials according to their hazard levels, and may impose restrictions on their conveyance, storage and use

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**Entertainment Special Effects (General) Regulation
Pyrotechnic Special Effects Materials
Supplier Licences**

- Applicants should have sufficient space for the storage of pyrotechnic special effects materials
- Suppliers should engage a licensed special effects operator to be the operator-in-charge
- Suppliers should keep a record of every transaction and submit information on materials in their possession on a regular basis
- Suppliers should keep the records for three years

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**Entertainment Special Effects (General) Regulation
Pyrotechnic Special Effects Materials
Conveyance Permits**

- A permit covers the routes specified therein during the validity period of the permit
- No permit is required if the quantities of materials to be conveyed do not exceed the stipulated level
- For conveyance of materials by sea, no need for the materials to be carried by special dangerous goods vessels if the quantities of such materials do not exceed the stipulated level

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**Entertainment Special Effects (General) Regulation
Pyrotechnic Special Effects Materials
Store Licences**

- **Movable Store**
 - for storing and carrying small quantities of pyrotechnic special effects materials to the discharge venue
 - when not in use, a movable store must be kept in a designated location approved by the Authority
- **Non-movable Store**
 - for storing large quantities of pyrotechnic special effects materials
 - may be located in non-residential premises that meet safety standards
 - appropriate security and safety measures should be put in place

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**Entertainment Special Effects (General) Regulation
Other Requirements in relation to
Store Licences**

- Licensees should engage a licensed special effects operator to be the operator-in-charge
- Licensees should record every delivery and dispatch of materials and record the balance on a monthly basis
- Licensees should keep such records for three years
- Licensees should arrange for the operator-in-charge to conduct monthly inspections of the store and the designated location for keeping the movable stores

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**Entertainment Special Effects
(Fees) Regulation**

- Specify the fees to be charged for various licences and permits

**Entertainment Special Effects List
Regulation**

- Specify the special effects materials that may be used by special effects operators

**Codes of Practice
to be issued under the
Entertainment Special Effects Ordinance**

- **Code of practice in relation to special effects materials**
 - guidance on the use, storage and conveyance of such materials
 - basic duties and responsibilities of parties concerned
 - fire precautions and safety measures

- **Code of practice in relation to liquefied petroleum gas (LPG)**
 - technical requirements for LPG installations
 - safety measures

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Public Consultation

Parties consulted

- Film and entertainment industries
- Local special effects operators

Response

- Supportive of the draft Regulations and codes of practice in general
- Specific comments have been incorporated into the Regulations and codes of practice
- The fee levels of the licences and permits are acceptable

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Steps Forward

- Introduce the Regulations into the Legislative Council in early December for negative vetting
- Implement the new regulatory system when the legislation comes into operation early next year
- Finalize the codes of practice and issue them at the same time when the legislation comes into operation