

# SSAN Storage and Transport Notes

Legislation controlling the sale and use of Security Sensitive Ammonium Nitrate (SSAN) fertilisers came into force in Queensland and the ACT in July 2005, and in New South Wales and Victoria in January 2006. The implementation date in South Australia is expected to be 1 July 2006. SSAN fertilisers have been banned in Tasmania.

Once the legislation takes effect, it is strictly enforced. In short no licence, no supply. Customers ordering SSAN for the first time will need to provide details of their SSAN licence, which will then be verified with the State authority.

On the mainland, the legislation ensures that only people with a legitimate need, such as farmers, can purchase and use SSAN fertilisers. Home gardeners are not allowed to buy SSAN fertilisers.

The legislation also ensures that SSAN fertilisers are stored, handled and transported safely and securely.

Persons of security concern will not be able to purchase security sensitive fertilisers, or have responsibility for its custody in storage or transit.

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## ***What is SSAN?***

SSAN stands for **Security Sensitive Ammonium Nitrate**.

Any fertiliser that contains more than 45% ammonium nitrate, excluding solutions, is classified as SSAN.

## ***Which Incitec Pivot Products are classified as SSAN?***

Incitec Pivot no longer markets ammonium nitrate (**Nitram** and **Liquifert Pinnacle**) or uses it in blends with other fertilisers.

**Cal-Am** (Calcium Ammonium Nitrate), which contains approximately 80% ammonium nitrate, is a SSAN product. Cal-Am is the only SSAN fertiliser listed on the Incitec Pivot product range.

Range Blends containing Cal-Am have been reformulated so that none contain more than 55% Cal-Am (equivalent to 45% ammonium nitrate). A SSAN Licence is not required to purchase and use these blends.

Many of the replacement blends have the prefix **Cal-Gran** in their names, e.g. Cal-Gran Aftergraze and Cal-Gran 140, denoting the use of Cal-Am and Gran-am (granulated ammonium sulfate) in the formulation.

Blends containing more than 55% Cal-Am can only be ordered as Custom Blends by SSAN licensed customers.

**N-Sure** (Ammonium Sulfate Nitrate) is not a SSAN product, as it contains less than the critical figure of 45% ammonium nitrate.

**EASY N** (UAN) is not a SSAN product as it is a solution.

### ***Are other solid fertilisers likely to be subject to similar security controls?***

A small number of other fertilisers, including potassium nitrate, may be considered for tighter government control. However, there are unlikely to be any decisions made for some time on which fertilisers, if any, need to be controlled and if so, whether they should be subject to the same degree of control as SSAN products. In due course the Commonwealth and State and Territory governments will undertake consultation with industry groups and stakeholders in relation to these other fertilisers.

### ***Will there be a minimum quantity below which the legislation will not apply?***

No. All pack sizes used for fertiliser are covered by the legislation. The regulations apply to SSAN in any quantity.

### ***Who needs to be licensed to handle SSAN?***

Anyone who is responsible for or is involved in the unsupervised transport, storage, handling or application of SSAN must be licensed.

These people will need to be authorised under licence to have unsupervised access to SSAN and will require a:

- police check, and a
- politically motivated violence (PMV) check.

If businesses arrange their storage and handling procedures so that only one or two people have unsupervised access to SSAN, then only these people will need to undertake the above checking to become 'authorised'.

Other workers under the supervision of these authorised persons will not require checks.

SSAN must not be supplied to anyone, e.g. reseller, primary producer, or transport driver, who is not licensed to receive it.

### ***What is a Security Plan?***

SSAN must be kept secure from:

- theft,
- sabotage,
- unauthorised access.

Unexplained losses must be reported.

To obtain a licence to transport or store SSAN, a security plan must be submitted to the regulatory authority for approval. The licence to store may also authorise the purchase and sale of SSAN, or use, depending on the nature of the business, e.g. reseller, primary producer.

A security risk assessment is a necessary prerequisite to developing a security plan. This assessment will describe existing security measures and examine the level and type of security risks to your particular business.

Fertiliser resellers and farmers should consider whether current security arrangements leave the SSAN vulnerable to theft or sabotage, and consider security improvements appropriate to manage the assessed risk.

The **Security Plan** will provide information to the regulatory authority about how security requirements will be met. It will have three main elements:

- personnel management;
- site security; and
- procedures.

### ***What are the Minimum Security Requirements for Storage of SSAN?***

These vary with the location and risk.

As a guide, minimal storage security requirements are:

- The facility must be locked or under constant surveillance.
- There must be procedures for controlling access, including:
  - designating a responsible person to maintain the security plan,
  - training of staff on the security plan procedures,
  - ensuring anyone who has unsupervised access is licensed.
- Keeping stock records, and reporting any unexplained loss, theft, attempted theft or any other security incident to the authorities.

Bulk bags may be stored in the open provided that:

- The storage area is surrounded by a security fence
  - that meets Australian Standard AS 1725.
  - The chain wire fence must be at least 2.45 metres high, be galvanised or plastic coated, with both selvages twisted and barbed, and capped with three rows of barbed wire at 150 mm spacings.
- Access is controlled.
- The bags are not stored within 3 metres of the fence.
- The bags are sealed so that theft of product is easily detectable.

Customers who intend to store Cal-Am or custom blends containing more than 55% Cal-Am in the open should advise Incitec Pivot of this when ordering the product and request that tamper-proof seals be fitted. This can be done on request.

### ***What are the Minimum Security Requirements for Transport of SSAN?***

The minimum security requirements for transport of SSAN are:

- Designating a responsible person to maintain the security plan. In the case of a company or other entity, training, audits and ongoing maintenance of the plan must be confirmed regularly by the owners and senior officers.
- Procedures for checking and authorising drivers.
- Ensuring that SSAN is secure for the duration of the entire journey, e.g. locked containers or under constant surveillance.
- Ensuring loading or temporarily storage areas are secure.
- Reporting any unexplained loss, theft, attempted theft or any other security incident.

Limits may apply to the amount of SSAN that can be transported on a farmer licence, e.g. five tonne in Queensland.

### ***What interim security measures should be taken - prior to the enactment of SSAN legislation?***

In those States and Territories in which the legislation is still to be implemented, e.g. South Australia, SSAN products should be stored and transported in as secure a way as possible.

Agents and Dealers should:

- Know their customers, and only supply SSAN to those for whom full address and contact details are recorded.
- Ask new customers to open an account, and ask for and record photo identification details, e.g. drivers licence.
- For all transactions, record the date, total quantity, number and size of bags, and anticipated use.

SSAN should only be supplied if you are satisfied that it is for genuine agricultural use. If you are not sure, you can refuse a sale.

The following signs may indicate a suspicious buyer:

- New customer.
- Not from the local area.
- Does not want product delivered.
- Insists on paying cash.
- Will not supply adequate identification.
- Is nervous or impatient.
- Has little knowledge of fertilisers or agriculture, e.g.
  - Vague about the quantity required
  - Vague about use.
  - Purchasing out of season.
  - Not interested in alternatives, and insists on SSAN.

Farmers should also be on the lookout for suspicious behaviour and circumstances.

Suspicious incidents or purchase attempts can be reported on the 24 hour National Security Hotline (1800 123 400).

Unexplained loss, theft, attempted theft or any other security incident should be reported.

### ***Which State Departments will be responsible for Licensing?***

The States will administer licensing arrangements. The Departments involved will vary from State to State. The intent of the legislation, however, will be the same, so that there will be a uniform national approach.

The State and Territory agencies administering the licensing system are listed on the next page.

<p><b>NSW:</b></p> <p>WorkCover Assistance Service  Phone 131 050  Email <a href="mailto:contact@workcover.nsw.gov.au">contact@workcover.nsw.gov.au</a></p>
<p><b>VIC:</b></p> <p>Dangerous Goods Unit  WorkSafe Victoria  Phone 03 9641 1555  Email <a href="mailto:info@workcover.vic.gov.au">info@workcover.vic.gov.au</a></p>
<p><b>QLD:</b></p> <p>Chief Inspector of Explosives  Department of Natural Resources and Mines;  Phone 32371386  Fax. 32354395  Email <a href="mailto:explosives@nrm.qld.gov.au">explosives@nrm.qld.gov.au</a>  Website <a href="http://nrm.qld.gov.au/mines/explosives">nrm.qld.gov.au/mines/explosives</a></p>
<p><b>WA:</b></p> <p>Safety, Health and Environment Division  Department of Industry and Resources  Call centre phone number 08-9222 3413  Call centre fax number is 08-9222 3525  Email <a href="mailto:edg@doir.wa.gov.au">edg@doir.wa.gov.au</a></p>
<p><b>SA:</b></p> <p>Workplace Services  Department for Administrative and Information Services  Information Service 1300 365 255  Reception Phone (08) 8303 0400  Reception Fax (08) 8303 0423  Website <a href="http://www.Eric.sa.gov.au">www.Eric.sa.gov.au</a></p>
<p><b>TAS:</b></p> <p>Helpline  Workplace Standards Tasmania  PO Box 56  Rosny Park Tas 7018  Phone: 1300 366 322 (local rate within Tasmania)  Phone: 03 6233 7657 (outside Tasmania)  Fax: 03 6233 8338</p>
<p><b>NT:</b></p> <p>NTWorkSafe  Phone 1800 019 115  Email <a href="mailto:ntworksafe.deet@nt.gov.au">ntworksafe.deet@nt.gov.au</a>  Website <a href="http://www.worksafe.nt.gov.au">www.worksafe.nt.gov.au</a></p>
<p><b>ACT:</b></p> <p>Manager  Dangerous Substances, Gas and Plant  ACT WorkCover  Phone 6205 0200</p>

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