



BULLETIN #04-2018

October 04, 2018

Section A4.1– Security for Anhydrous Ammonia Storage and Handling Operations

COMING INTO FORCE

January 1, 2019 for newly commissioned sites and January 1, 2021 for existing certified sites

Protocol A4.1 outlines a number of acceptable measures to prevent the unauthorized access to anhydrous ammonia while in retail storage including fencing, valve and tank securement, and other physical means of security. The current Ammonia Code of Practice – 2017 Edition (Code) text reads:

The anhydrous ammonia storage and handling operation must incorporate measures to prevent unauthorized access to the product. Acceptable measures include one or more of the following:

Fencing – Ammonia equipment is secured within a security fence and lockable security gates.

Minimum height for fencing is 6 feet. Fencing can be either 5-foot wire fence topped with three-strand barb wire or 6-foot chain link, with or without three strands of barbed wire.

– OR –

Valve and Tank Securement – All liquid valves that provide primary access to anhydrous ammonia as a means of **containment** have been physically secured with a valve lock. There must also be physical measures taken to prevent unauthorized removal of portable anhydrous ammonia storage vessels.

– OR –

Other Physical Means of Security – Other acceptable means of security include intrusion detection systems, security presence or surveillance. There must also be physical measures taken to prevent unauthorized removal of portable anhydrous ammonia vessels.

Compliance will be indicated through site inspection to verify the presence of required security measures.

After careful consideration, Fertilizer Canada and its committees have decided that only the fencing option provides suitable protection against unwanted access of anhydrous ammonia assets. The amendment requires the mandatory installation and use of fencing measures and forgoing the options of valve and tank securement or other physical means of security. All



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newly commissioned sites on or after January 1, 2019 must include fencing while currently certified sites must install fencing by January 1, 2021.

Effective immediately, the amendment to the Code is as follows and replaces the current text:

The anhydrous ammonia storage and handling operation must incorporate measures to prevent unauthorized access to the product. The only acceptable measure is ensuring the ammonia equipment is secured within a security fence with lockable security gates.

The minimum requirements for fencing of sites, commissioned on or after January 1, 2019, is 6' chain link with a barbed wire top.

Implementation Guide text is as follows:

A4.1 – Access to Anhydrous Ammonia must be controlled at all times (Appendix A4.1)

The Ammonia Code of Practice outlines important security requirements that agri-retailers are required to meet. Retail facilities must ensure that access to ammonia is controlled at all times to deter theft and vandalism. As outlined in Section A4.1 of the Code, only a 6' chain link fence with a barbed wire top and lockable security gates will be accepted on sites commissioned on or after January 1, 2019.

*Existing certified sites using fencing, as the primary means of site security / compliance with this Protocol, can continue to use either a 5-foot wire fence topped with three-strand barb wire **or** 6-foot chain link, with or without three strands of barbed wire. Both must have lockage security gates.*

*For existing certified sites where fencing (all 4 sides) **is not** the primary means of securing the ammonia equipment, fencing using 6' chain link with a barbed wire top and lockable security gates must be installed by January 1, 2021, in order to remain in compliance with this protocol.*

Auditors will be verifying that this requirement has been met during the facility's next scheduled audit after the amendment comes into force date. Spot audits may also be conducted to verify compliance with this protocol.

This Ammonia Code of Practice Bulletin (#04-2018) serves as a notice for this requirement and the respective timelines for compliance.

The Ammonia Code of Practice is designed to provide uniform safety and security practices for the handling and storage of anhydrous ammonia at agri-retail facilities in Canada. Anhydrous ammonia is a highly effective fertilizer in the production of safe and healthy food for Canadians and people around the world. It is imperative that proper precautions are taken to ensure that the hazards of anhydrous ammonia never outweigh its benefits.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Ammonia Code Senior Auditor Dennis Black via email: deblack1@mts.net or via phone: 204-512-2109, or the Ammonia Code Project Manager, Anthony Laycock via email: manager@awsa.ca or via phone 877-236-2972. You may alternately contact Fertilizer Canada at the coordinates below.



FERTILIZER CANADA
FERTILISANTS CANADA

907 – 350 Sparks, Ottawa ON K1R 7S8
T (613) 230-2600 | F (613) 230-5142

info@fertilizercanada.ca
fertilizercanada.ca | fertilisantscanada.ca

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Regards,

Giulia Brutesco P.Eng.
Vice President, Safety and Security
Fertilizer Canada
T: 613-230-2600
codes@fertilizercanada.ca