



**STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | KA 'OIHANA ALAKAU**  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
**HMN-M-01.24**

May 1, 2024

**HARBOR MASTER NOTICE**  
**HMN-M-01.24**

**SHIPMENT OF EXPLOSIVE CARGO AT COMMERCIAL HARBORS**

In accordance with letter DIR 1.11792 (R), from the Director of the State of Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) to the United States Coast Guard Captain of the Port (USCG) dated April 26, 2024, the following maximum volumes of explosive cargo per vessel are hereby established:

1. A maximum volume of 200,000 pounds of Class 5.1 materials per vessel; or
2. A maximum volume of 120,000 pounds of Class 1.5 materials per vessel; or
3. A maximum volume of 20,000 pounds of Class 1.1 materials per vessel.

To support the safe handling of these cargoes, HDOT requires the following of the shipping company transporting these explosive cargoes:

1. Advance written notification of the planned operation involving these explosive cargoes to organizations with operations within the properly calculated arc<sup>1</sup>;
2. Advance written notification of the planned operation involving these explosive cargoes to the designated contact of the fire department for the county in which the operation will take place; and
3. In the event of an emergency, immediate notification to HDOT and the USCG, in addition to any relevant emergency personnel.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. O. K.", written over a horizontal line.

Harbor Master

May 1, 2024

Date

Attachment: DIR 1.11792 (R)

<sup>1</sup> USCG calculation of arc is in accordance with COMDTINST M16600.8, Explosive Handling Supervisor Program, dated October 19, 2018



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IN REPLY REFER TO:  
**DIR 1.11792 (R)**

April 26, 2024

Ms. Aja L. Kirksey, CAPT  
Sector Commander  
U.S. Coast Guard Sector Honolulu  
400 Sand Island Parkway  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819

Dear Captain Kirksey:

Subject: Shipments of Explosive Cargo

I am writing to rescind our previous letter dated April 15, 2024 (DIR 1.11792) and transmit this letter in its place.

Hawaii's isolated island geography underscores the significance of ocean cargo transport as the lifeline and only viable means to serve and support every facet of the local economy, including tourism, construction, national defense, agriculture, and all other industries. An estimated 91 percent of all goods consumed in Hawaii are imported, and 85 percent of the imported goods arrive through the commercial port system. Among these goods are explosive cargoes needed to support the local quarry operations to produce aggregate materials for practically all government and private construction projects across the state. Further, extraordinary events such as the Lahaina wildfires in August 2023 require the import of additional cargo to support ongoing response and rebuilding efforts.

To stabilize the supply of commercial explosives and oxidizers in the state, the Hawaii Department of Transportation (HDOT) has received requests from a number of construction industry stakeholders to establish the appropriate maximum volume of these cargoes per vessel allowed to be shipped through Hawaii's commercial ports. HDOT proposes the following:

1. A maximum volume of 200,000 pounds of Class 5.1 materials per vessel; or
2. A maximum volume of 120,000 pounds of Class 1.5 materials per vessel; or
3. A maximum volume of 20,000 pounds of Class 1.1 materials per vessel.

To support the safe handling of these cargoes, HDOT requires the following of the shipping company transporting these explosive cargoes:

1. Advance written notification of the planned operation involving these explosive cargoes to organizations with operations within the properly calculated arc;
2. Advance written notification of the planned operation involving these explosive cargoes to the designated contact of the fire department for the county in which the operation will take place; and
3. In the event of an emergency, immediate notification to HDOT and to your office.

HDOT recognizes the important role commercial explosives have in the success of Hawaii's construction industry and considers these requirements reasonable for the safe and responsible transport of larger volumes of commercial explosives

This decision is based on the consensus reached following lengthy discussions among shipping companies, suppliers of commercial explosives, end users of the materials, and members of your team during a meeting on April 23, 2024. The maximum volumes also mirror the maximums established at various ports on the West Coast. Additionally, HDOT previously consulted with the Honolulu Fire Department on appropriate notifications and communication channels. We appreciate the collaboration in addressing this critical need and look forward to continued coordination with the U.S. Coast Guard to ensure compliance.

Based on the consensus reached in the meeting, HDOT will issue harbormaster notices on May 1, 2024, to effectuate the proposed limits and requirements. Should the need arise to adjust either the limits or requirements, HDOT will transmit a subsequent letter and issue the appropriate notices. Should you have any questions, please contact Ms. DreanaLee Kalili, our Deputy Director of Transportation for Harbors at (808) 587-3651 or via email at [dreanalee.k.kalili@hawaii.gov](mailto:dreanalee.k.kalili@hawaii.gov).

Sincerely,



EDWIN H. SNIFFEN  
Director of Transportation