

WASC 2054

Regulations of
Grand Junction
Canal Co. relating
to carriage of explosives

Ref.: RAIL 830 / 50

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The Committee had under consideration the subject of Bye Laws for regulating the Conveyance, Loading and Unloading of Gunpowder and other Explosives on the Canal of the Company as required by the Explosives Act 1875.

The following regulations were agreed to as applicable to Gunpowder and other Explosives passing over the Canal on Tolls, and arrangements were made to have them published in the Newspapers in the manner prescribed by the Act with a view to their being confirmed by the Board of Trade.

Note:— "Explosives" are divided for the purposes of the Act (by an Order in Council, dated the 5th day of August, 1875), into seven classes, as follows, viz:—

- Class 1.— Gunpowder.
- Class 2.— Nitrate Mixture.
- Class 3.— Nitro Compound.
- Class 4.— Chlorate Mixture.
- Class 5.— Fulminate.
- Class 6.— Ammunition.
- Class 7.— Fireworks.

1. No Boat shall load or unload Gunpowder or other Explosives, or move or stop with Gunpowder

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or other Explosive on board at any
 of the Company's Stations, Wharves,
 or Warehouses, used for the conduct
 of their ordinary carrying business.

2. The Master of any Boat convey-
 ing Gunpowder or other Explosive
 must always be present when
 Gunpowder or any other Explosive
 is taken on board at the loading
 place and when the same is
 unloaded at its destination. The
 hatches must not be removed
 unless the Master of the Boat is
 present to superintend the
 unloading of the Cargo. Slippers
 or shoes without nails or tips of
 any kind shall be worn by the
 crew of the Boat during the
 process of loading and unloading
 the Cargo. And the crew
 shall not carry about their
 clothing any Tissues or Matches
 or other combustible.

3. No other Goods or Cargo of
 any kind shall be carried by
 any Boat having Gunpowder
 or other Explosive on board.

4. Every Boat used for the
 conveyance of Gunpowder or
 other Explosive shall be provided
 with a close deck. All

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Right hand

exposed from in the stowage space of the Boat must be covered with sheet lead, or in some other manner that shall be approved by one of the Inspectors under the Explosives Act, 1875; and double bulkheads lined with some non-combustible material shall be placed at each end of the hold where the Gunpowder is stowed. The fire place to be placed not less than 6 inches from the bulkhead of the hold, and the woodwork near the fire place must be lined or covered with lead or copper. The Boat to be painted outside with a red stripe along the gunwale not less than 6 inches broad.

5. Boats carrying Gunpowder or other explosive are to be carefully examined at frequent intervals by the Steerer, to ascertain that all iron knees, bolts, nails, &c., are covered with sheet lead, or other suitable material, and that there is nothing in the Boats likely to endanger the safety of the Cargo.

6. The Boats are to be carefully

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the stowage must be in such a manner that it can be removed by one of the crew; and the stowage is to be lined with combustible material and placed at such a height where it is stowed. It is to be placed not less than 18 inches from the bulkhead, and the bulkhead is to be covered with lead. The Boat is to be stowed with a hatch 18 inches broad. No gunpowder is to be carried at frequent intervals, to ascertain if there are any bolts, nails, etc., loose, or heat lead, or other material, and to be removed from the Boats for the safety of the crew. It is to be carefully

swept and washed out before loading and after unloading. When carrying gunpowder, the floor of the Boat is to be covered with raw hides or tarpaulin, on which the barrels are to be laid; the barrels are also to be covered with raw hides or tarpaulin.

7. No person shall be allowed to smoke on board any boat carrying gunpowder or other explosive.

8. No fires or lights are under any circumstances to be permitted on board any Boat during the loading or unloading of gunpowder or other explosive, or while lying alongside (or within a quarter of a mile) of any magazine, or when the hatches are open.

9. No person having the care or management of any Boat containing gunpowder or other explosive, and no person on board such Boat shall bring, have, or use, or permit anyone to bring, have, or use, any charcoal, lucifer matches, or other explosive matter, during the time of loading or unloading, or when the hatches

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are open.

10. The hatches when closed, when Gunpowder or other Explosive is on board, shall be covered with tarpaulin properly battened down, and they must not be opened, except for loading or unloading Cargo.

11. Loading and unloading of Gunpowder or other Explosive must always be performed in daylight.

12. No Boat with Gunpowder or other Explosive on board shall be left at any time without two men at least being on board to take care of the Boat and Cargo.

13. Safety matches of a description only, which shall have been approved by one of the Inspectors under the Explosives Act, 1875, shall be kept or used on board any Boat carrying Gunpowder or other Explosive.

14. No person having the care or charge of a Boat containing Gunpowder or any other Explosive

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shall, after beginning to load or unload the same, stop or stay at any wharf or quay, or other place of loading, nor shall allow any time to be spent in loading or unloading, beyond what with all due diligence may be reasonably necessary, not exceeding in any case 18 hours, unless hindered by weather.

15. Gunpowder shall in all cases be packed and marked in accordance with the General Rules contained in section 33 of the Explosives Act, 1875, and other explosives shall be packed and marked in accordance with the General Rules as altered by the Secretary of State in pursuance of section 40, subsection 3 of the said Act.

16. No person having the care or charge of any boat carrying gunpowder or other explosive, shall receive on board any barrels, boxes, or packages, which are damaged, broken, or in any respect imperfect.

17. Any Boat carrying gunpowder or other explosive shall proceed to her destination without any delay

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18. No Boat shall at any one time carry more than 500 barrels of Gunpowder, or 50,000 lbs. in weight if carried in other packages or its equivalent in any other explosive.

19. Boats when loaded with Gunpowder or other explosive shall not travel on the Canal in tow of a Steam Tug of any kind, but must be hauled by horses.

20. Boats having Gunpowder or other explosive on board, are to be legged through Blisworth and Braunston Tunnels, and are not to be permitted to pass through the Tunnels whilst the Tugs are proceeding in the opposite direction.

21. Boats having Gunpowder or other explosive on board shall travel singly, and must by no means pair with, accompany, or buttly any other Boat.

22. Every Boat carrying Gunpowder or other explosive shall exhibit a Red Flag, not less than 2 feet square.

23. In the event of a breach of

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any of these Bye-laws, by any
 person in charge of or on board
 of any Boat conveying Gunpowder
 or any other explosive, the said
 Boat shall be liable, with its
 tackling, horses, and accoutrements,
 &c., to seizure by the Company,
 and may be used for a period
 of 48 hours for removal and sale
 of the Gunpowder or other explosive.

24. Copies of these Bye Laws shall
 be exhibited in conspicuous places
 at the Wharves and Warehouses on
 the line of Canal, and may be
 obtained on application to the
 Secretary of the Company.

25. In the event of any breach
 (by any act or default) of any
 of the above Bye Laws, the
 Gunpowder or other explosive
 in respect of which the breach
 is committed may be forfeited
 to the Company; and the person
 guilty of such breach shall be
 liable to a penalty not exceeding
 £20, and £10 for each day during
 which the offence continues.

26. The terms, expressions, and
 definitions contained in the said
 Act and the order in Council of
 5th August, 1875, shall be

applicable to these Bye-Laws,
 unless there be anything in the
 subject or context repugnant
 thereto.

Drafts were issued on the
 Treasurer on account of the
 Carting Department

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James Beaman
 Chairman.

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