

§ 18.1

Subpart B—Construction and Design Requirements

- 18.20 Quality of material, workmanship, and design.
- 18.21 Machines equipped with powered dust collectors.
- 18.22 Boring-type machines equipped for auxiliary face ventilation.
- 18.23 Limitation of external surface temperatures.
- 18.24 Electrical clearances.
- 18.25 Combustible gases from insulating material.
- 18.26 Static electricity.
- 18.27 Gaskets.
- 18.28 Devices for pressure relief, ventilation, or drainage.
- 18.29 Access openings and covers, including unused lead-entrance holes.
- 18.30 Windows and lenses.
- 18.31 Enclosures—joints and fastenings.
- 18.32 Fastenings—additional requirements.
- 18.33 Finish of surface joints.
- 18.34 Motors.
- 18.35 Portable (trailing) cables and cords.
- 18.36 Cables between machine components.
- 18.37 Lead entrances.
- 18.38 Leads through common walls.
- 18.39 Hose conduit.
- 18.40 Cable clamps and grips.
- 18.41 Plug and receptacle-type connectors.
- 18.42 Explosion-proof distribution boxes.
- 18.43 Explosion-proof splice boxes.
- 18.44 Non-intrinsically safe battery-powered equipment.
- 18.45 Cable reels.
- 18.46 Headlights.
- 18.47 Voltage limitation.
- 18.48 Circuit-interrupting devices.
- 18.49 Connection boxes on machines.
- 18.50 Protection against external arcs and sparks.
- 18.51 Electrical protection of circuits and equipment.
- 18.52 Renewal of fuses.
- 18.53 High-voltage longwall mining systems.
- 18.54 High-voltage continuous mining machines.

Subpart C—Inspections and Tests

- 18.60 Detailed inspection of components.
- 18.61 Final inspection of complete machine.
- 18.62 Tests to determine explosion-proof characteristics.
- 18.63 [Reserved]
- 18.65 Flame test of hose.
- 18.66 Tests of windows and lenses.
- 18.67 Static-pressure tests.
- 18.68 Tests for intrinsic safety.

30 CFR Ch. I (7–1–10 Edition)

- 18.69 Adequacy tests.

Subpart D—Machines Assembled With Certified or Explosion-Proof Components, Field Modifications of Approved Machines, and Permits To Use Experimental Equipment

- 18.80 Approval of machines assembled with certified or explosion-proof components.
- 18.81 Field modification of approved (permissible) equipment; application for approval of modification; approval of plans for modification before modification.
- 18.82 Permit to use experimental electric face equipment in a gassy mine or tunnel.

APPENDIX I TO SUBPART D—LIST OF TABLES
APPENDIX II TO SUBPART D—LIST OF FIGURES

Subpart E—Field Approval of Electrically Operated Mining Equipment

- 18.90 Purpose.
- 18.91 Electric equipment for which field approvals will be issued.
- 18.92 Quality of material and design.
- 18.93 Application for field approval; filing procedures.
- 18.94 Application for field approval; contents of application.
- 18.95 Approval of machines constructed of components approved, accepted or certified under Bureau of Mines Schedule 2D, 2E, 2F, or 2G.
- 18.96 Preparation of machines for inspection; requirements.
- 18.97 Inspection of machines; minimum requirements.
- 18.98 Enclosures, joints, and fastenings; pressure testing.
- 18.99 Notice of approval or disapproval; letters of approval and approval plates.

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Subpart A—General Provisions

§ 18.1 Purpose.

The regulations in this part set forth the requirements to obtain MSHA: Approval of electrically operated machines and accessories intended for use in gassy mines or tunnels, certification of components intended for use on or with approved machines, permission to modify the design of an approved machine or certified component, acceptance of flame-resistant hoses, sanction for use of experimental machines and accessories in gassy mines or tunnels; also, procedures for applying for such

approval, certification, acceptance for listing.

[43 FR 12313, Mar. 24, 1978, as amended at 52 FR 17514, May 8, 1987; 57 FR 61223, Dec. 23, 1992; 73 FR 80611, Dec. 31, 2008]

§ 18.2 Definitions.

As used in this part—

Acceptance means written notification by MSHA that a hose has met the applicable requirements of this part and will be listed by MSHA as acceptable flame-resistant auxiliary equipment.

Acceptance marking means an identifying marking indicating that the hose has been accepted by MSHA for listing as flame resistant.

Accessory means associated electrical equipment, such as a distribution or splice box, that is not an integral part of an approved (permissible) machine.

Afterburning means the combustion of a flammable mixture that is drawn into a machine compartment after an internal explosion in the compartment.

Applicant means an individual, partnership, company, corporation, organization, or association that designs, manufactures, assembles, or controls the assembly of an electrical machine or accessory and seeks approval, certification, or permit, or MSHA acceptance for listing of flame-resistant hose.

Approval means a formal document issued by MSHA which states that a completely assembled electrical machine or accessory has met the applicable requirements of this part and which authorizes the attachment of an approval plate so indicating.

Approval plate means a metal plate, the design of which meets MSHA's requirements, for attachment to an approved machine or accessory, identifying it as permissible for use in gassy mines or tunnels.

Assistant Secretary means the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Mine Safety and Health.

Branch circuit means an electrical circuit connected to the main circuit, the conductors of which are of smaller size than the main circuit.

Bureau means the U.S. Bureau of Mines.

Certification means a formal written notification, issued by MSHA, which states that an electrical component

complies with the applicable requirements of this part and, therefore, is suitable for incorporation in approved (permissible) equipment.

Certification label means a plate, label, or marking, the design of which meets MSHA's requirements, for attachment to a certified component identifying the component as having met the MSHA's requirements for incorporation in a machine to be submitted for approval.

Component means an integral part of an electrical machine or accessory that is essential to the functioning of the machine or accessory.

Connection box (also known as conduit or terminal box) means an enclosure mounted on an electrical machine or accessory to facilitate wiring, without the use of external splices. (Such boxes may have a joint common with an explosion-proof enclosure provided the adjoining surfaces conform to the requirements of subpart B of this part.)

Cylindrical joint means a joint comprised of two contiguous, concentric, cylindrical surfaces.

Distribution box means an enclosure through which one or more portable cables may be connected to a source of electrical energy, and which contains a short-circuit protective device for each outgoing cable.

Experimental equipment means any electrical machine or accessory that an applicant or MSHA may desire to operate experimentally for a limited time in a gassy mine or tunnel. (For example, this might include a machine constructed at a mine, an imported machine, or a machine or device designed and developed by MSHA.)

Explosion-proof enclosure means an enclosure that complies with the applicable design requirements in subpart B of this part and is so constructed that it will withstand internal explosions of methane-air mixtures: (1) Without damage to or excessive distortion of its walls or cover(s), and (2) without ignition of surrounding methane-air mixtures or discharge of flame from inside to outside the enclosure.

Flame-arresting path means two or more adjoining or adjacent surfaces between which the escape of flame is prevented.