Subpart J—Electric Motor Assemblies

SOURCE: 57 FR 61193, Dec. 23, 1992, unless otherwise noted.

§ 7.301 Purpose and effective date.

This subpart establishes the specific requirements for MSHA approval of certain explosion-proof electric motor assemblies intended for use in approved equipment in underground mines. Applications for approval or extensions of approval submitted after February 22, 1996 shall meet the requirements of this part. Those motors that incorporate features not specifically addressed in this subpart will continue to be evaluated under part 18 of this chapter.

§ 7.302 Definitions.

The following definitions apply in this subpart:

Afterburning. The combustion of any flammable mixture that is drawn into an enclosure after an internal explosion in the enclosure. This condition is determined through detection of secondary pressure peaks occurring subsequent to the initial explosion.

Cylindrical joint. A joint comprised of two contiguous, concentric, cylindrical surfaces.

Explosion-proof enclosure. A metallic enclosure used as a winding compartment, conduit box, or a combination of both that complies with the applicable requirements of §7.304 of this part and is constructed so that it will withstand the explosion tests of §7.306 of this part.

Fastening. A bolt, screw, or stud used to secure adjoining parts to prevent the escape of flame from an explosion-proof enclosure.

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

Internal free volume (of an empty enclosure). The volume remaining after deducting the volume of any part that is essential in maintaining the explosion-proof integrity of the enclosure or necessary for operation of the motor. Essential parts include the parts that constitute the flame-arresting path and those necessary to secure parts that constitute a flame-arresting path.

Motor assembly. The winding compartment including a conduit box when specified. A motor assembly is comprised of one or more explosion-proof enclosures.

Plane joint. A joint comprised of two adjoining surfaces in parallel planes.

Step (rabbet) joint. A joint comprised of two adjoining surfaces with a change or changes in direction between its inner and outer edges. A step joint may be composed of a cylindrical portion and a plane portion or of two or more plane portions.

Stuffing box. An entrance with a recess filled with packing material for cables extending through a wall of an explosion-proof enclosure.

Threaded joint. A joint consisting of a male- and a female-threaded member, both of which are the same type and gauge.

§ 7.303 Application requirements.

(a) An application for approval of a motor assembly shall include a composite drawing or drawings with the following information:

(1) Model (type), frame size, and rating of the motor assembly.

(2) Overall dimensions of the motor assembly, including conduit box if applicable, and internal free volume.

(3) Material and quantity for each of the component parts that form the explosion-proof enclosure or enclosures.

(4) All dimensions (including tolerances) and specifications required to ascertain compliance with the requirements of §7.304 of this part.

(b) All drawings shall be titled, dated, numbered, and include the latest revision.

§ 7.304 Technical requirements.

(a) Voltage rating of the motor shall not exceed 4160 volts.

(b) The temperature of the external surfaces of the motor assembly shall not exceed 150 °C (302 °F) when operated at the manufacturers' specified ratings.

(c) Minimum clearances between uninsulated electrical conductor surfaces, or between uninsulated conductor surfaces and grounded metal surfaces, within the enclosure shall meet the requirements of table J–1 of this section.