

parts, so that the cable jacket is not damaged.

(2) When the packing is properly compressed, the gland nut shall have—

(i) A clearance distance of $\frac{1}{8}$ inch or more, with no maximum, to travel without interference by parts other than packing; and

(ii) A minimum of three effective threads engaged (see figures J-8, J-9, and J-10).

(3) Packing nuts (see figure J-7) and stuffing boxes shall be secured against loosening (see figure J-11).

(4) Compressed packing material shall be in contact with the cable jacket for a length of not less than $\frac{1}{2}$ inch.

(5) Requirements for lead entrances in which MSHA accepted rope packing material is specified, are:

(i) Rope packing material shall be acceptable under § 18.37(e) of this chapter.

(ii) The width of the space for packing material shall not exceed by more than 50 percent the diameter or width of the uncompressed packing material (see figure J-12).

(iii) The maximum diametrical clearance, using the specified tolerances, between the cable and the through holes in the gland parts adjacent to the packing (stuffing box, packing nut, hose tube, or bushings) shall not exceed 75 percent of the nominal diameter or width of the packing material (see figure J-13).

(6) Requirements for lead entrances in which grommet packing made of compressible material is specified, are:

(i) The grommet packing material shall be accepted by MSHA as flame-resistant material under § 18.37(f)(1) of this chapter.

(ii) The diametrical clearance between the cable jacket and the nominal inside diameter of the grommet shall not exceed $\frac{1}{16}$ inch, based on the nominal specified diameter of the cable (see figure J-14).

(iii) The diametrical clearance between the nominal outside diameter of the grommet and the inside wall of the stuffing box shall not exceed $\frac{1}{16}$ inch (see figure J-14).

(i) *Combustible gases from insulating material.* (1) Insulating materials that give off flammable or explosive gases when decomposed electrically shall not be used within explosion-proof enclo-

tures where the materials are subjected to destructive electrical action.

(2) Parts coated or impregnated with insulating materials shall be treated to remove any combustible solvent before assembly in an explosion-proof enclosure.

§ 7.305 Critical characteristics.

The following critical characteristics shall be inspected on each motor assembly to which an approval marking is affixed:

(a) Finish, width, and planarity of surfaces that form any part of a flame-arresting path.

(b) Clearances between mating parts that form flame-arresting paths.

(c) Thickness of walls, flanges, and covers that are essential in maintaining the explosion-proof integrity of the enclosure.

(d) Spacing of fastenings.

(e) Length of thread engagement on fastenings and threaded parts that assure the explosion-proof integrity of the enclosure.

(f) Use of lockwasher or equivalent with all fastenings.

(g) Dimensions which affect compliance with the requirements for packing gland parts in § 7.304 of this part.

§ 7.306 Explosion tests.

(a) The following shall be used for conducting an explosion test:

(1) An explosion test chamber designed and constructed to contain an explosive gas mixture to surround and fill the motor assembly being tested. The chamber must be sufficiently darkened and provide viewing capabilities of the flame-arresting paths to allow observation during testing of any discharge of flame or ignition of the explosive mixture surrounding the motor assembly.

(2) A methane gas supply with at least 98 by volume per centum of combustible hydrocarbons, with the remainder being inert. At least 80 percent by volume of the gas shall be methane.

(3) Coal dust having a minimum of 22 percent dry volatile matter and a minimum heat constant of 11,000 moist BTU (coal containing natural bed moisture but not visible surface water)