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Safe use of Pyrotechnics

Pyrotechnic materials for general use are designed to be safe when handled and used correctly. They are NOT safe in irresponsible hands. This Guide should be read by everyone who will have any involvement whatever with Pyros, from drivers to directors

PYROTECHNICS: This guide covers electrically-fired devices, i.e.containing their own means of ignition. Use of smoke-pellets, powder etc. is described seperately in the product-guide/price list.

FIRING-POINT: The unit in which an effect is set, and connected electrically. May be a flash-pod, bomb-tank, confetti cannon, etc.

TRIGGER-UNIT: Control box for selecting and firing the desired effect on cue must incorporate a key-switch which totally disables it.

Pyros should be treated as if very fragile and very valuable!

USE:-Choose an operating position which has direct unobstructed view of all Firing points controlled from it. Remember to take into account mobile obstructions such as actors!

Keep Firing-points clear of anything which might be damaged by the effect to be set off in them. The risk varies between effects, so be sure the nature and scale of each type is understood. See product guide/price list for details.
If a Firing-point is accidentally moved, or if the view of it is obstructed, or if a cast or crew member or anything else damageable strays into the risk zone,
DO NOT FIRE THE EFFECT. Disconnect that cable from the controller,and as soon as possible unload the Firing-point and return the effect to storage.

Use only the smallest effect available which will give the desired result.Do not load Firing-points any sooner than absolutely necessary. First disconnect the trigger unit from the supply, and take the key with you. Should an effect not fire when triggered, unload it as soon as convenient, and test with a fresh one. If that fails too,check/swap all cabling and connectors to that point. Re-test the first effect. Success indicates a fault found/repaired in the triggering system. Failure of the first, but re-test success with the second indicates an effect defect. Retain the failure, seal it's connections with tape clearly marked "FAILED" and return it to secure storage until Northern Light Sales Department can be contacted for Return or Safe Disposal instructions.

RULES ON CARE:

· ALWAYS know who is responsible for them at any time.
· NEVER leave them unattended and unsecured.
· ALWAYS keep them in their original packaging until needed.
· NEVER allow smoking or sources of ignition in the same room/hall/vehicle etc.
· CARRIAGE: Strict rules apply to transporting pyros. Northern Light or their appointed specialist carrier will deliver to you, or you may collect in person.
· DO NOT ask anyone else to transport pyros unless they understand and
agree to the risk in the nature of the goods. Public transport may not be used, and Commercial vehicles must carry TREM cards with the consignment specially packaged. Please ask us if you need particular advice or

assistance.
· STORAGE: If you buy only for your own immediate needs, the guidelines following should satisfy the Police, Fire, Local Authority and Insurers' requirements for storage.Only they can confirm that however, so keep them informed. Northern Light will provide appropriate product details for you on request.
· N.B. Holding of pyros not for immediate use (i.e. more than 2 Kilos gross,for 2 wks or over.) or with the intent to issue to other end-users needs regulated and registered storage. You should arrange this before purchasing stock.
· IMMEDIATE USE STORAGE:- Keep pyros locked in a cool, dry room, cupboard or secure flameproof containment used solely for that purpose. The operator should be the primary keyholder. (See "Responsibility") Keep lockfast area free of all combustible material and sources of ignition. It should have half-hour fire-resistance separation from adjoining areas, and be sited where any fire/explosion would least affect the safety of the building's occupants.- Fix a NO SMOKING sign on the locked door, and on any access doors to that room or area. Keep pyro's in their original packaging- including special transit cartons if used - until required.
· Take out only what is needed immediately prior to one loading of each firing-point.
· DO NOT "keep aside" loose items for re-loading at a later stage Ensure constant supervision of all pyro's while out of storage, until fired.
· Keep appropriate fire-extinguishers to hand at storage and near firing points, know how to use them, and arrange first-aid cover and emergency procedures.

****PLEASE NOTE****

That we are only permitted to sell certain Pyrotechnics in manufacturers boxed quantities. Please check with Sales Department for details.

RESPONSIBILITY: Stage Pyrotechnics are classed as fireworks. Fireworks should not be purchased by anyone under 16, or used by them without strict adult supervision.

THE OPERATOR - the person who will actually fire the pyrotechnics - should carry the key for their storage and the key for the trigger unit at all times. If extra keys exist, they should be lodged with a responsible 3rd party, e.g. the Manager of the premises. The operator must tell everyone with access to the performance area about the safety regulations, and ensure they all know
WHAT is going to happen, WHERE its going to happen. WHEN its going to happen.
(and what to do in an emergency.)
The operator alone is responsible for the positioning and loading of Firing points, and for ensuring that there is always sufficient time and clear access to allow this to be carried out safely.