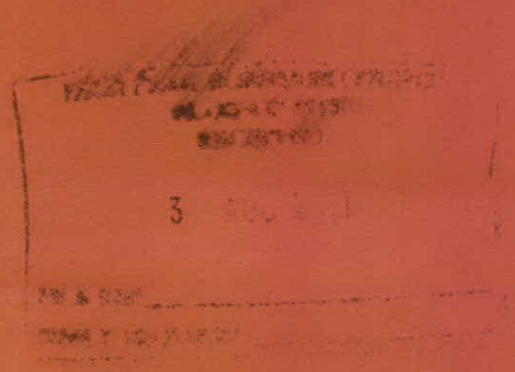
HPK/2011/0481

HEALTH & SAFETY LABORATORY

RETAINED ESTATE CONDITION SURVEY

Explosives Test Pad

Design and Access Statement



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Explosives Test Pad

The Explosion Safety Unit(XSU) of the Health and Safety Laboratory (HSL) carries out incident investigation, research and testing in support of the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) but also other public and private sector organisations including local authorities.

A key aspect of this is the testing of imported fireworks (generally imported from China) to a number of British and European Standards, to ensure the safety of these fireworks prior to sale to the public. This involves collecting the fireworks at the point of import, transfer to HSL, and prompt and effective testing. To allow these tests to be performed correctly, a number of measurements (including sound, display pattern and trajectory) need to be measured to ensure compliance, and these measurements need to be made on correctly specified test pad, of known size, shape and surface finish. This test pad is the CEN pad,and this facility is unique in the UK.

The proposed construction of this unique facility arises to ensure that imported fireworks are tested correctly, to ensure compliance and the safety of the British Public.



23 August 2011



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