

## Use of weapons and explosives

The Ministry of National Defense, through its Department of Control of the Weapons, Ammunition and Explosives Trade (DCCAЕ), regulates the use of these materials, frequently used as props in audiovisual productions. Hence, any person or company that wants to use them within Colombian territory must have the permits granted by this agency (See: <https://www.controlarmas.mil.co/>).

### Weapons

According to DCCAЕ guidelines, weapon handling can only be done by personnel trained in this matter and who are familiar with security protocols, which are based on Law 2535 of 1993, and include these guidelines:

#### The companies

- The company that supplies the weapons must have the endorsement of the DCCAЕ. In addition, it must be legally constituted according to the norms of national legislation and must put into practice the security protocol for the handling of weapons before, during and after each shoot.

#### The employees

- People who handle weapons within the set must have both a weapons handling certificate, as well as a medical certificate of psychophysical aptitude for their use.
- Likewise, they must have a uniform and a company card, as well as be affiliated with an EPS and an ARL.

#### The armament

- To be transported, weapons and ammunition must be properly inventoried and kept in separate boxes.
- Transportation must be done in vehicles duly identified with the company logo.
- There must be a folder that contains all the relevant documentation, including the name of the producer for which the material is directed, the signature of the legal representative of the company that provides it and of those in charge of handling it, as well as the field producer, after shooting (filming) has concluded.

For correct and safe use, DCCAЕ particularly recommends knowing and putting into practice the **Firearms Safety Decalogue**, which advises:

1. Whenever a weapon is handled, it must be done as if it were loaded.
2. You should never ask if a gun is loaded, but check yourself and never pull the trigger.

3. A loaded or unloaded weapon should never be pointed at objects at which it is not intended to shoot.
4. The muzzle of the weapon must be controlled in the event of a fall.
5. Alcoholic beverages should not be mixed with the use of weapons.
6. Before loading a weapon, the ammunition must be checked, which must be clean and dry, since defective cartridges cause accidents.
7. Before pulling the trigger, think about the direction the projectile will follow.
8. A weapon must not be fired through an obstacle that makes it difficult to see what is behind it.
9. Weapons should not be left in places where they can be picked up by children or inexperienced persons.
10. We must not forget the security measures in the handling of firearms, because ignoring them endangers one's life and that of others.

## **Explosives**

Due to the high risk involved in handling explosive substances, there is a broad legal framework that gathers the regulations regarding their acquisition, storage, transport, and use. This is included in the **Technical Safety Guide for the use and management of Explosives in blasting underground and open sky**, published in 2019 by the Ministry of Labor.

The Department of Control of the Arms, Ammunition and Explosives Trade (DCCAE) is also the agency in charge of granting permits for the use of explosives. These procedures can be carried out through its website <https://www.controlarmas.mil.co>, starting with the registration of all those interested in being users for the acquisition of explosives and blasting accessories.

The requirements for this procedure are:

1. Application for registration of explosives user, in original, addressed to the Head of DCCAE and signed by the legal representative of the company.
2. Legible photocopy of the citizenship card of the legal representative and of the person to be authorized to carry out procedures before the DCCAE.
3. Authorization letter for the investigation of criminal background of the legal representative and / or the person to be authorized (signed by each one), addressed to the Head of DCCAE.
4. Original Chamber and Commerce Certificate, valid for no more than sixty (60) days, whose corporate purpose is consistent with the economic activity for which registration is requested.
5. The legal representative and the person to be authorized must appear personally at the DCCAE, or at the arms trade section of the respective jurisdiction, for

enrollment by obtaining the fingerprint in the Weapons, Ammunition and Explosives Information System ( SIAEM).

6. Fill out the registration form ( <https://www.controlarmas.mil.co/inscripcion> ).

### **About the places to store explosives (ammunition dump)**

The space set aside for storing explosives must comply with the technical and safety standards established by the DCCAIE, among which are:

Each type of explosive - inductors, safety fuses, common and electrical primers, etc. - must be stored in a different section. Similarly, explosives and detonators will be stored in different spaces. Older products should be ready to go first.

Boxes with explosive material must be organized on wood pallets or non-conductive material, without exceeding a maximum height of 1.6 meters (8 INDUMIL boxes). These boxes cannot be used as steps, or for leaning or sitting.

It is forbidden to store cables, tools or any metallic object that could cause explosions due to impact or friction in the powder magazines. Nor can you store material other than explosives, such as paint, wood, garbage, or any other item.

Inside the ammunition dump, it is strictly forbidden to smoke, as well as to have flammable substances and appliances that produce raw flame, and there must be fire extinguishers both inside and outside of these spaces.

Flammable materials cannot be stored within a radius of 50 m from the access points to the ammunition dump and it is forbidden to carry out work that produces sparks or flames. And there must be warning signs in a minimum radius of 10 meters. At the same time, this entire area must be kept free of weeds, garbage, scraps of wood, papers, or other materials.

It must be ensured that the ammunition dump has suitable environmental conditions, in terms of temperature, humidity and air speed.

It is mandatory to fill out a book in which the daily record of the entries, exits and stocks from the ammunition dump is made.

### **Entry of weapons, ammunition, or explosives into the country**

In the event that any production team is faced with the need to bring weapons, ammunition, or explosives from abroad to provide their special effects managers, it is convenient to know that this procedure is regulated by the Colombian Military Industry,



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Indumil, an entity that has provided a GUIDE AUTHORIZATION PERMITS FOR IMPORT, EXPORT AND SAMPLES WITHOUT COMMERCIAL VALUE, where all the steps to be followed are detailed. (Ver: <https://www.indumil.gov.co/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Anexo-5.-GU%C3%8DA-AUTORIZACI%C3%93N-PERMISOS-A-PARTICULARES-1.pdf>)