

Compulsory Specification for

Small arms shooting ranges

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VC9088:2015

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY

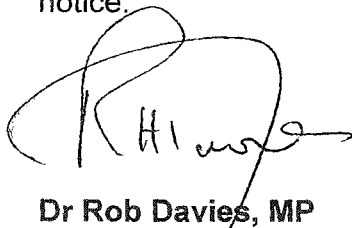
No. 518

19 June 2015

**NATIONAL REGULATOR FOR COMPULSORY SPECIFICATIONS ACT
(Act 5 of 2008)**

**AMENDMENT OF THE COMPULSORY SPECIFICATION FOR SMALL ARMS
SHOOTING RANGES -VC 9088**

I, Dr Rob Davies, Minister of Trade and Industry, under Section 13 (1) (a) of the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications Act (Act 5 of 2008) hereby declare the amendment of the Compulsory Specification as set out in the attached schedule, with effect six (6) months from the date of publication of this notice.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Davies', is written over the printed name of Dr Rob Davies.

Dr Rob Davies, MP

Minister of Trade and Industry

SCHEDULE

THE AMENDMENT OF THE COMPULSORY SPECIFICATION FOR SMALL ARMS SHOOTING RANGES -VC 9088

1. SCOPE

1.1 This Compulsory Specification covers general requirements for the planning, design and construction of indoor and outdoor small arms shooting ranges (hereafter referred to as shooting ranges).

1.2 The following are excluded from the scope in 1.1:

- a) "sighting range": used to sight in a rifle on a farm for hunting purposes;
- b) A bush "jungle lane": found on a farm or other rural land where it is lawful to discharge a firearm usually shielded on one or more sides by a natural hill and used to test both a person's observation and firearm skills when faced with shoot and non-shoot targets in a bush environment.
- c) Open areas for field target training: any rural area where it is lawful to discharge a firearm for hunting purposes.
- d) Ballistic test range: a designated safe area designed for the testing of a bullets effect on a piece of equipment.
- e) Gunsmith test firing range: a designated safe area comprising of a ballistic tube, tank or trap used for the sole purpose of test firing repaired firearms by a gunsmith or manufacturer.
- f) Air gun, air soft and paint ball ranges: any designated area used for the purpose of discharging air gun, air soft and paint ball guns which are not capable of discharging live ammunition.

2. DEFINITIONS

2.1 For the purposes of this Compulsory Specification, the terms and definitions in the latest edition of SANS 10353, *Small arms shooting ranges*, shall apply except where added or redefined in this Compulsory Specification.

2.2 The following definitions shall apply:

2.2.1 Applicant:

The owner or an authorised representative of the owner of a shooting range facility.

2.2.2 Approval:

Confirmation by the NRCS that a shooting range facility satisfies the requirements of this Compulsory Specification.

2.2.3. The Letter of Authority certificate:

As defined in section 1 of the NRCS Act, 5 of 2008.

2.2.4 NRCS:

The National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications as established by the National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications Act, 2008 (Act No. 5 of 2008).

2.2.5 Small arms

Handguns, rifles and shotguns firing burning propellant.

2.2.6 Small arms shooting range

An enclosed or open demarcated area (indoor or outdoor) specifically designed for the discharge of small arms.

2.2.7 Facility

An area, place or a building with one or more shooting range.

3. SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

3.1 Shooting ranges shall comply with the latest edition of SANS 10353, *Small arms shooting ranges*.

3.2 Each facility shall be approved by the NRCS through the issuance of a Letter of Authority Certificate in accordance with the requirements of Annexure A of this Compulsory Specification, before it is used.

3.3 A copy of the NRCS Letter of Authority Certificate shall be displayed in a prominent place i.e. in the view of users of the shooting range at all times.

3.4 The applicant shall inform the NRCS of any change (s) in the construction of the shooting range affecting any requirement of this Compulsory Specification. In the event of such change (s) the NRCS may, at its discretion, demand the submission of new evidence of conformity or a new application for approval.

4. TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

4.1 For the purposes of this Compulsory Specification, a new edition of a referenced standard shall become effective six months from the date of publication as a South African National Standard.

4.2 When a new edition of a referenced standard is published, facilities originally approved in accordance with the previous edition of that standard may continue to operate under their original approval for a period of two (2) years after the date of publication of the new edition of the referenced standard.

4.3 The Letter of Authority certificate issued to a facility that was approved in accordance with Compulsory Specification VC 9088, *Small arms shooting ranges*, as published by Government Notice R. 643 in Government Gazette no. 26375 of 28 May 2004, shall remain valid as long as each shooting range within that facility complies with SANS 10353.

ANNEXURE A

APPROVAL OF SMALL ARMS SHOOTING RANGES

A.1 APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL

The owner or an authorised representative of the owner of a facility shall apply to the NRCS for the approval of the facility. The application shall be accompanied by the following pertaining to the facility

A.1.1 Completed and signed NRCS application form.

A.1.2 Technical drawings to scale indicating the following as a minimum:

A.1.2.1 Range dimensions.

A.1.2.2 Materials used for the construction of the stop butt, baffles, bullet traps, back plate and sound proofing, as may be applicable.

A.1.3 Aerial photographs of outdoor ranges.

A.1.4 Photographs of the interior of indoor facilities or and the features of outdoor facilities, as may be appropriate to demonstrate compliance with requirements.

A.1.5 Zoning / land use certificates.

A.1.6 Any reasonable additional information required to clarify the above as may be requested by the NRCS

A.2 THE ISSUANCE OF THE LETTER OF AUTHORITY CERTIFICATE

A.2.1 The NRCS shall assess the application submitted in accordance with paragraph A.1 and grant approval where the requirements of this Compulsory Specification are met.

A.2.2 The NRCS shall confirm that approval has been granted to the applicant by issuing a Letter of Authority Certificate with an assigned unique approval number.

A.2.3 The approval granted to a facility pursuant to this Compulsory Specification may be withdrawn by the NRCS, at any time, after the applicant has been notified in writing, if the requirements of this Compulsory Specification have not been met or maintained.