

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



ASTRO 25[®] HAZLOC CERTIFICATION

Q: HAZLOC? INTRINSICALLY SAFE? WHAT DO THESE TERMS MEAN?

A: The National Electrical Code (NEC) NFPA 70 defines **Hazardous Locations** as areas “where fire or explosion hazards may exist due to flammable gases or vapors, flammable liquids, combustible dust, or ignitable fibers or flyings.”

“**Intrinsically Safe**” is an equipment design protection method for Division 1 which encompasses hazards that may be present under normal operating conditions or frequently present during maintenance and repair work.

Q: DOES THE EXPIRATION OF THE FM3610_88 STANDARD ONLY AFFECT MOTOROLA?

A: The FM3610_88 expired in 2012 and affects products from all radio manufacturers, which are certified to this standard.

Q: WHAT'S CHANGING?

A: Motorola will be adapting to a new TIA-4950 standard for Hazardous Location certification of two-way radios, which is similar to the FM3610_88 standard. Compliance testing will be done by UL (Underwriters Laboratories). Radios will be approved to TIA-4950 standard for use in Division 1, Class I, Groups C, D, Class II, Group E, F, G and Class III hazardous locations. This is the same classification rating as FM3610_88.

Q: CAN I CONTINUE TO USE MY FM APPROVED RADIO IN THE FIELD?

A: There are no known safety issues with two-way radios certified under the FM3610_88 standard. FM approved radios that are deployed in the field will maintain their FM Intrinsically Safe approval status, provided that any service and repairs are done at an FM audited repair facility.

Q: HOW LONG WILL I BE ABLE TO GET FM APPROVED RADIOS FROM MOTOROLA?

A: Radios certified to FM3610_88 will be phased out of production in December 2015.

Q: WILL MOTOROLA CONTINUE TO OFFER HAZARDOUS LOCATIONS RATED RADIO?

A: The UL approved APX2000 Two knob Series radios equipped with new NNTN8560 battery is available today. The APX 7000, APX 7000XE, APX5000 and APX6000XE are pending UL certification to TIA-4950 standard for use in hazardous locations Division 1, Class I. There are no current plans to make the APX 1000 a hazardous location rated radio.

Q: WILL I BE ABLE TO GET REPLACEMENT BATTERIES AND ACCESSORIES FOR MY OLDER FM APPROVED RADIOS?

A: FM approved battery and accessory replacements will continue to be sold.

Q: CAN I MIX BATTERIES AND RADIOS?

A: No. FM and UL approve the radio and battery together as a system. The FM approved battery may only be used on an FM approved radio, and the UL approved battery may only be used on a UL approved radio, otherwise the certification is not valid.

Q: HOW CAN I IDENTIFY A UL CERTIFIED RADIO?

A: The UL approved radios will have a new UL label, but physically they will be the same as the radios available now.

Q: WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

A: Ensure that your company documentation defines Hazardous Location requirements in terms of Division, Class and Group rather than simply FM Approved or Intrinsically Safe. Knowing the specific Hazardous Locations classification is important in selecting two-way radios that are approved for use in those environments.

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