

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Land Division
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

April 28, 2017

Board of Land and Natural Resources
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii

PSF No.17OD-034

Oahu

Issuance of Right-of-Entry Permit to Hawaii Explosives & Pyrotechnics, Inc. for Aerial Fireworks Display at Duke Kahanamoku Beach Every Friday From May 26, 2017 to April 27, 2018, Waikiki, Honolulu, Oahu, TMK: (1) 2-3-037:021 (Por).

APPLICANT:

Hawaii Explosives & Pyrotechnics, Inc.

LEGAL REFERENCE:

Sections 171-55, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as amended.

LOCATION:

Portion of Government lands situated at Waikiki, Honolulu, Oahu, identified by Tax Map Key:(1) 2-3-037:portion of 021, as shown on the map attached as **Exhibit A-1**.

AREA:

500 square feet, more or less, for set-up and firing site, plus a safety zone with a radius of approximately 250 feet around the firing site.

ZONING:

State Land Use District: Urban
City and County of Honolulu LUO: Public Precinct

TRUST LAND STATUS:

Section 5(a) lands of the Hawaii Admission Act
DHHL 30% entitlement lands pursuant to the Hawaii State Constitution: No

CURRENT USE STATUS:

Requested area is vacant and unencumbered.

CHARACTER OF USE:

Set up and conducting aerial fireworks display.

TERM:

Between 4:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. on the dates shown in **Exhibit B**.

RENTAL:

\$50.00 per event date.

At its meeting of February 14, 2014, under agenda item D-12, the Board exempted the Friday night fireworks shows at the subject location from the \$500 safety zone fee.¹

COLLATERAL SECURITY DEPOSIT:

None.

CHAPTER 343 - ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

In accordance with Hawaii Administrative Rule Section 11-200-8 and the Exemption List for the Department of Land and Natural Resources concurred with by the Environmental Council and dated June 5, 2015, the subject request is exempt from the preparation of an environmental assessment pursuant to Exemption Class No. 1, Item 51. See **Exhibit C**.

DCCA VERIFICATION:

Place of business registration confirmed:	YES <u>X</u>	NO <u> </u>
Registered business name confirmed:	YES <u>X</u>	NO <u> </u>
Applicant in good standing confirmed:	YES <u>X</u>	NO <u> </u>

REMARKS:

Hawaii Explosives & Pyrotechnics, Inc. (HE) is contracted with Hilton Hawaiian Village

¹ Prior to June 2013, no safety zone fee was imposed. On June 14, 2013 (Item D-5), Board approved the staff's recommendation of a \$500 safety zone fee on the premise that the safety zone excludes public access. The \$500 fee was an alternative to the standard 10 cents per square foot fee which would have equaled to approximately \$20,000 for the safety zone. On February 14, 2014 (Item D-12), Board exempted the \$500 fee for the regular Friday shows, based on the argument of community benefit put forth by the adjoining hotel. On October 23, 2015 (Item D-9), the Board revisited the safety zone fee, but decided that no safety zone fee will be imposed for the 2015-2016 ROE.

(HHV) to conduct aerial fireworks display every Friday for a period of 12 months from May 2017 to April 2018 at Duke Kahanamoku Beach. The subject request is a continuance of the same firework display held at the same location since the initial display over 25 years ago.

By its letter dated March 31, 2017, HE request the issuance of a right-of-entry permit (ROE) for the aerial fireworks display at Duke Kahanamoku Beach occurring every Friday between May 2017 and April 2018, with the dates shown in Exhibit B.

Alternate Firing Site

At its meeting on October 28, 2016, under agenda item D-7, the Board approved as amended the fireworks show for 6 months from November 18, 2016 to May 19, 2017, without the imposition of the safety zone fee. The Board requested during the 6 month period that HE and HHV host 3 of the shows at the HHV lagoon site to see if it is feasible to relocate the Friday night shows to the lagoon site and appear back before the Board with the report.

The 3 lagoon site shows were held on February 3, 10, and 17, 2017. HE submitted a report (see **Exhibit D**) that stated during the February 3 show, due to unfavorable southerly wind conditions the launching platform was positioned closer to the Diamond Head side of the lagoon (farther away from Holomoana Street). However, the wind conditions still caused the smoke to carry over the spectators. The spectators were gathered along the harbor roadway fence downwind of the display. Also, as the winds picked up there were severe safety issues and HE stopped the show prior to completion (the fire department also requested the show be stopped). HE noted a good amount of fireworks debris was deposited on the parking stalls along the harbor.

The report noted that during the February 10 show, the weather conditions were on-off rain and winds were again unfavorable coming on-shore from the southwest, this prompted HE to position the launching platform in the southwestern area of the lagoon (closer towards the parking lot and Diamond Head). Less than normal amount of spectators were present possible due to the bad weather. During the initial firing of a few mortars, HE determined the wind conditions made it unfavorable to fire low-level products or the finale which would have posed a hazard to the spectators. HE also noted that crowd control was difficult during post clean-up.

For the February 17 show, the report stated that wind conditions were more favorable coming from the east and the fireworks show ran its full course. HE noted that spectators were setting up blankets, tents, and barbeques early in the day within the safety zone area; HE needed to take extra measure to notify spectators to relocate. HE also setup additional barrier to assist with crowd control during post clean-up. The show was well received by spectators, but the general comments were happiness that the show would return to its original beach location.

From HE's perspective, the report concluded that the lagoon site has a higher risk of

failure due to a limited fallout zone for hazardous debris, unfavorable wind and weather conditions is more likely to have an impact for a successful show, securing the lagoon site is difficult and takes more manpower since there are multiple entry-ways, troubleshooting and fixing problems are more difficult on the water, and a limited type of product can be used with the limited space. Also, the report notes that the viewing locations are reduced, the local spectators are forced to leave the beach area to view the show from the parking lot, the show is not visible down the coastline, and decrease visibility from HHV hotel rooms.

During a conversation with staff and one of the Board members, it was suggested by the member that possibly granting a right-of-entry permit for both locations (Duke Kahanamoku Beach shoreline and the lagoon site - see **Exhibit A-2**) and allow HE to determine which location for each upcoming Friday show would be ideal based on wind and weather conditions to ensure public safety. Wind and weather reports can be obtained up to a few days ahead of time. HE would email staff (after the show) which location was selected for that particular Friday show for records purposes.

Applicant has not had a lease, permit, easement or other disposition of State lands terminated within the past five years due to non-compliance with such terms and conditions.

OCCL has no comments on the subject request. Staff has no objection to this request.

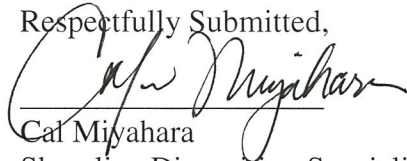
For housekeeping purposes, at its meeting on October 28, 2016, under agenda item D-7, the Board approved as amended an ROE for every Friday from November 18, 2016 to May 19, 2017 with 3 displays to be held at the lagoon site. Although this application request is from May 5, 2017 to April 27, 2018, the Applicant is in possession of a valid ROE until Friday May 19, 2017. Therefore, this ROE will commence from Friday May 26, 2017.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board:

1. Declare that, after considering the potential effects of the proposed disposition as provided by Chapter 343, HRS, and Chapter 11-200, HAR, this project will probably have minimal or no significant effect on the environment and is therefore exempt from the preparation of an environmental assessment.
2. Authorize the issuance of a right-of-entry permit to Hawaii Explosives & Pyrotechnics, Inc. on specified dates mentioned above covering the subject areas (lagoon site and Duke Kahanamoku Beach) for aerial fireworks display purposes under the terms and conditions cited above, which are by this reference incorporated herein and further subject to the following:
 - A. The standard terms and conditions of the most current right-of-entry permit form, as may be amended from time to time; and

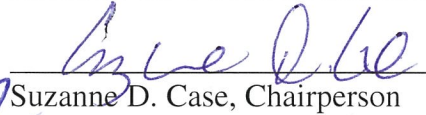
- B. Such other terms and conditions as may be prescribed by the Chairperson to best serve the interests of the State.
- C. HE shall notify the Department by email after every show regarding the selection of the show locations.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cal Miyahara
Shoreline Disposition Specialist

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:



Suzanne D. Case, Chairperson



Exhibit A-1

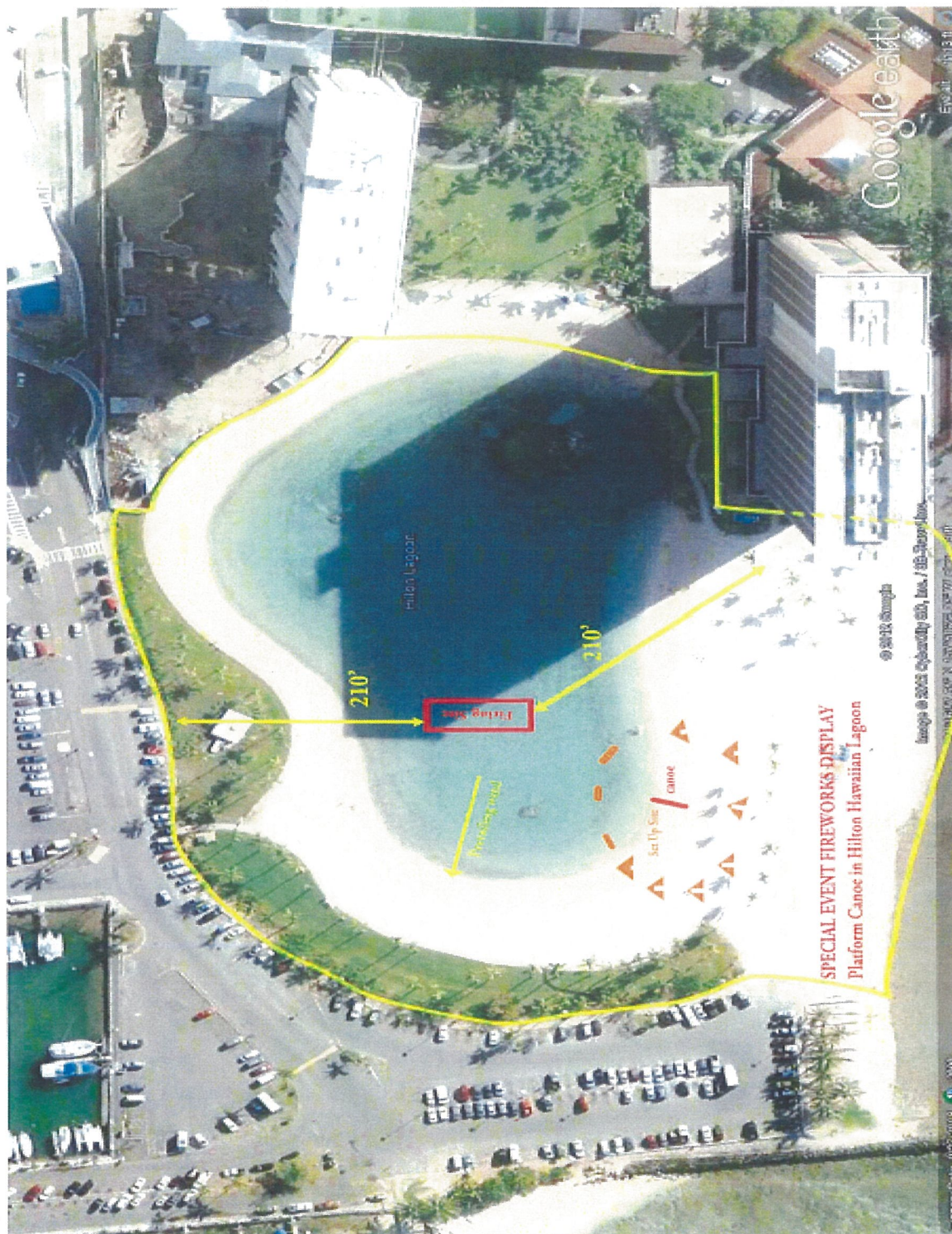


Exhibit A-2

Hawaii Explosives & Pyrotechnics, Inc.

P. O. Box 1244 Keaau, Hawaii 96749
Phone: (808) 968-0800 (Big Island); Fax: (808) 968-0800 (Big Island)
Toll Free: (800) 240-6064 Email: hepinc@hrpyro.com

March 31, 2017

Calen Miyahara
DLNR Land Division
P.O. Box 621
Honolulu, HI 96809

Dear Mr. Miyahara,

Hawaii Explosives & Pyrotechnics, Inc. is requesting the renewal of our Right-of-Entry for Duke Kahanamoku Beach to provide fireworks display services in conjunction with the weekly Hilton Hawaiian Village Rockin' Hawaiian Rainbow Revue held every Friday night. Details are as follows:

Event: Hilton Hawaiian Village
Rockin' Hawaiian Rainbow Revue Fireworks Displays
Display Site: Duke Kahanamoku Beach
Display Dates:

May	5	12	19	26	
June	2	9	16	23	30
July	7	14	21	28	
August	4	11	18	25	
September	1	8	15	22	29
October	6	13	20	27	
November	3	10	17	24	
December	1	8	15	22	29
January	5	12	19	26	
February	2	9	16	23	
March	2	9	16	23	30
April	6	13	20	27	

Display Firing Time: 8:00 p.m. (approximately) – May through September
7:45 p.m. (approximately) – October through April
Hours of Operation: Between 4:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. (each date)

Authorization to conduct all procedures associated with display operations to include:

- Closure, security and monitoring of the display site and adjacent safety zone.
- Access to discharge site (beach area within secured perimeter) via a small box truck carrying pyrotechnics, racks, and firing equipment.
- Positioning of mortar racks and firing equipment on the beach.
- Secure area for pyrotechnics prior to set up and wiring.
- Setup and wiring of pyrotechnics; display ignition from the specified area.
- Completion of all post-display operations as related to each pyrotechnic display.

Exhibit B

Plan of Action

Duke Kahanamoku Beach firing site (Exhibit A):

Our personnel will close and secure an area surrounding the intended display discharge site prior to the unloading of equipment and pyrotechnics. Approximately 500 square feet will be utilized for the setup of display equipment, positioning of racks containing 3" mortars, loading and wiring of pyrotechnics into mortars, and conduct of all other applicable display operations.

A security perimeter will be established to include the beach area adjacent to the Ala Wai Boat Harbor parking lot down to the ocean, along the Hilton Lagoon to the area fronting the Ewa side corner of the Hilton Rainbow Tower, and across the beach back down to the ocean, forming a semi-circle around the discharge site. Security personnel will monitor the established safety/fallout zones to prevent entry into the area by the general public and unauthorized personnel during display preparations, ignition, and post-display breakdown.

We will access the discharge site (beach area within secured perimeter) via a small box truck carrying pyrotechnics, racks, and firing equipment. As an additional public safety measure and in keeping with best practices, the locked box of the truck will serve as protected temporary storage for pyrotechnic articles until it is time to fully install the devices into our firing equipment. The box truck will remain on the beach during set up, firing, and throughout post display procedures.

We feel these measures combined with the secured safety zone provide an added buffer between the public and the discharge site in the event an incident should occur.

Standard Safety & Security Procedures

Hawaii Explosives & Pyrotechnics, Inc. practices safety and security procedures within industry standards to do our very best to minimize risk to the general public, tourists and hotel guests as we prepare for, fire, and clean up after our displays. Our personnel and the private security officers are trained to be courteous to everyone while being firm in preventing entry into any potentially hazardous area. It is our ultimate goal to present every display in a manner that is absolutely safe, yet spectacular and enjoyable for all.

Hawaii Explosives & Pyrotechnics, Inc. – Important Contact Names & Numbers:

Main Office (808) 968-0600 (office)

Charlene Pascual, President

Stephanie Pascual, Vice President

Donald Pascual, Safety Coordinator

Bruce Albrecht, Operations Manager

Request for Renewal
Right of Entry for Duke Kahanamoku Beach
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Enclosed please find:

Exhibit A: Firing Site Location Map

Exhibit B: Certificate of Insurance

Exhibit C: Debris report by Sea Engineering

Exhibit D: Debris report by Hawaii Explosives & Pyrotechnics, Inc.

All required permits from appropriate agencies for the conduct of each fireworks display will be obtained.

We appreciate your consideration for renewal of our Revocable Permit. The fireworks displays are enjoyed by visitors and residents alike.

Sincerely,



Stephanie Pascual
Vice President

Enclosures

EXEMPTION NOTIFICATION

Regarding the preparation of an environmental assessment pursuant to Chapter 343, HRS and Chapter 11-200, HAR

Project Title: Aerial Fireworks Display at Duke Kahanamoku Beach

Project / Reference No.: PSF 17OD-034

Project Location: Waikiki, Honolulu, Oahu, TMK:(1) 2-3-037: portion of: 021.

Project Description: Aerial Fireworks Display every Friday night from May 26, 2017 to April 27, 2018.

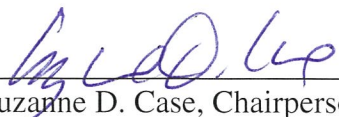
Chap. 343 Trigger(s): Use of State Land

Exemption Class No.: In accordance with Hawaii Administrative Rule Section 11-200-8 and the Exemption List for the Department of Land and Natural Resources concurred with by the Environmental Council and dated June 5, 2015, the subject request is exempt from the preparation of an environmental assessment pursuant to Exemption Class No. 1, Item 51, which states the "Permits, licenses, registrations, and rights-of-entry issued by the Department that are routine in nature, involving negligible impacts beyond that previously existing".

This Board has permitted similar events in the past. The proposed activity is of a similar type and scope of beach activities that periodically occurred and continues to occur on this and other beach areas across the State. Such activities have resulted in no known significant impacts, whether immediate or cumulative, to the natural, environmental and/or cultural resources in the area. Staff believes that the request would involve negligible or no expansion or change in use of the subject area beyond that previously existing.

Consulted Parties: Consulted with Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Board find that this project will probably have minimal or no significant effect on the environment and is presumed to be exempt from the preparation of an environmental assessment.


Suzanne D. Case, Chairperson


 4/12/17
Date

Exhibit C

Hilton Friday Night Fireworks Display from Lagoon
February 3, 2017

Display Operator: Samuel Kamelamela
Onsite Supervisor: Stephanie Pascual
Weather: Unfavorable with winds blowing towards the harbor and Ilikai
around 10-15 mph with gusts tending to be stronger. No rain

Summary:

Arrived at approximately 2:00 p.m. People were advised of our intention and respectively relocated to allow a buffer zone for our safety distance. Set up was uneventful. Wind conditions continued to persist. The decision was made by myself and display operator to position canoe platform more towards the shoreline between Rainbow Tower and the parking lot and more towards Diamond Head to increase distance from parking area closer to Ilikai side once canoe was launched. Watching the forecast closely and seeing how the area was filling up with people, I had my concerns about being able to see this show shoot at all or at 100% success rate.

Fire Inspector Jeffrey Lee showed up around 6:30 p.m. He voiced his concern about the wind and its direction. I recognized his concern and advised him all precautions, rules, regulations, and safety measures will be fully enforced. At this point the decision was made to cut several cues out of the show that consisted of the lower breaking fireworks devices that had the potential of hot sparks being carried by the wind into the crowd. The canoe was launched into the lagoon and secured into position for firing.

Additional crew was hired to handle crowd control and all the questions and concerns people may have had as a result of the temporary change. Once the canoe was launched and secured into position, the crew dispersed along the lagoon perimeter, beach area, and parking lot to offer guidance of best viewing location and closure points and time. The crowd didn't seem to get heavy until a little after 7:15pm at which point we began to witness everyone standing along the fence line, next to the parking stalls and road. There seemed to be spectators who were unaware, confused, and/or disgruntled with the change. All in all, a full lockdown of the area was in place at approximately 7:35 p.m. in anticipation of a 7:45 p.m. firing time. Final preps were conducted and firing system was armed and ready to fire. Wind was still blowing unfavorably towards Ilikai (Southerly). The show started promptly at 7:45 pm. I was positioned near the Ilikai area (downwind of the firing site). Smoke was carrying over the crowd however I did not witness (initially) any debris for the first few minutes. At approximately 3 1/2 minutes into the show I notified the display operator to stop firing display as wind got heavier and began to pose a severe safety hazard. The show immediately ended. Simultaneously, the Fire Inspector also notified me to stop firing. Crowd seemed dismayed and discerned about the length of time that was required to keep the area closed. During post display clean up we found a good amount of debris that carried into the paid parking stalls along the Harbor. When all was said and done, we left the lagoon at approximately 9:50 p.m.

Exhibit D

Hilton Friday Night Fireworks Display Report

I was the COF holder for two of the three demo shows fired from a canoe platform in the lagoon at the request of the Hawaii DLNR Land Board. The displays were conducted on February 10 and February 17, 2017. Summaries of the 2 displays follow, as well as an overall assessment at the end of this report.

February 10, Display

We arrived at the beach at 3:30 pm. Weather conditions were poor, with a downpour occurring in the area just prior to arrival. Winds were Southerly at 10-15 mph with gusts to 20 mph. Forecast called for adverse conditions to persist throughout the evening. Thunderstorms were in the forecast region but not close enough to threaten display.

Due to the weather conditions, a smaller amount of people were present than is typical for a Friday afternoon. Setup of display was uneventful without any substantial rain. We completed setup operations of show by 6:00 pm and barge was launched into the lagoon at 6:30 pm. Wind shifted gradually during this period to being Southwesterly. I decided to position canoe farther to the South and West—closer to the parking lot and Diamond Head—than is typical for a lagoon display in an attempt to increase the downwind fallout zone.

Hotel Manager Scott Hamilton met with me at approximately 6:30 pm to inform me that the hotel-related activities were cancelled due to the weather. I informed him there was a high probability that I would have to cancel the display if the weather conditions remained unfavorable. My staff and security began establishing our display safety zone at 7:30 pm. The area was cleared of all spectators by 7:40 pm. Despite the smaller crowd due to the weather, there was still considerable confusion amongst the audience as to where they could view the show and what areas would be closed, with some repeat spectators expressing dismay that they could not view the show from the regular vantage points. Due to the persistent onshore wind, I stationed one crew member directly downwind from the display at the edge of the safety zone. This was on the sidewalk on Holomoana Street adjacent to the boat slips and the Hilton Chapel to alert me if any hazardous conditions developed.

At 7:45 pm, I began the display by firing several shells into the air. I then paused to watch how the fallout and smoke travelled in the steady Southwesterly winds. Based upon this test, I determined it was not safe to fire either the low-level product or the finale as these effects would have, in my opinion, posed a hazard to the spectators standing downwind. I continued firing the remainder of the product whilst closely monitoring the smoke and sparks for signs of hazards to people or property outside the safety zone.

After the display finished, crowd reaction was mixed. This was likely due to the reduced amount of effects used as well as the positioning of the show. Spectators were again confused about which areas were safe to enter post-display and security had a challenging time keeping the crowd at a safe distance until my crew could secure the unfired product. During cleanup, small amounts of debris was discovered in the harbor parking area downwind from the show. Cleanup that evening was completed by 9:30 pm.

February 17 Display

The crew arrived at the beach at 3:30 pm. Weather was much better than the prior week, with light Easterly trade winds blowing approximately 5 mph. Beachgoing crowd was typical size for a Friday afternoon. Setup operations were completed around 6:00 pm and platform was launched around 6:30 pm. Platform was positioned in its usual location centered in lagoon based upon predictions of favorable weather.

Crew observed that a large number of beachgoers had set up blankets, tents, barbecues and other equipment within the closure zone. It was therefore decided to employ extra measures to notify spectators of the need to relocate. We also decided to initiate the closure earlier than usual, 7:15 pm, to allow adequate time to get everyone moved.

Show began at 7:45 pm and fired without incident. Additional barriers were placed to reduce confusion and maintain better control of the safety zone during post-display operations. The show seemed generally well received by those spectators who chose to comment, though it was observed that many seemed to be happy to hear the show would be returning to its regular position the following week. Cleanup was uneventful and crew was dismissed at approximately 9:45 pm.

Analysis and Conclusion

From the operator's standpoint, displays fired in the lagoon carry a higher risk of failure due to multiple factors. Foremost of these is the limited fallout zone available for hazardous debris. Unfavorable wind and weather conditions are much more likely to impact success. Secondary risk is the additional size of the land-based safety zone. Closing the entire area around the lagoon is difficult and takes substantial manpower due to the large area and multiple entry points. A security breach is more likely in this area in comparison to the beach. Tertiary risk is the location of the discharge site on the water. This complicates the process of troubleshooting and eliminating problems with the firing system or other equipment should they arise.

From an aesthetic standpoint, I believe the lagoon shows do not have the same visual impact as the beach site. The viewing locations for spectators are reduced, with many of the local audience members forced to watch the show from the parking lot rather than relaxing on the beach. Also, the show is not as visible down the coastline for others, and it serves a smaller portion of rooms on the Hilton property. In addition, the type of product that can be utilized is limited by the smaller safety zone available. Lagoon-based shows are highly effective for spectators at the Hilton Great Lawn, but less effective just about everywhere else. It is my opinion that most residents and visitors would prefer the beach-positioned display over the lagoon show.

Bruce Albrecht
Operations Manager
Hawaii Explosives & Pyrotechnics, Inc.