



Lead Lines



Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter
International Society of Explosives Engineers
www.easternpaisee.com

Volume 21 Number 4

Fall 2014

The Eastern PA ISEE welcomes requests for topics, and invites readers' letters and other contributions that relate to drilling, blasting, seismology and explosives engineering.

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November Chapter Meeting

Thursday, November 6, 2014

Hollywood Casino

777 Hollywood Blvd, Grantville, PA 17028

Join us in the Epic Buffet for the Chapter Meeting

6:00pm - Registration/Social Hour

6:30pm - General Meeting

6:45pm - Dinner

7:15pm - Featured Speakers

Rick Lamkie

PA DEP Bureau of Mining Programs

Chief of Explosives & Safety Section

"Regulatory Update"

Special Appearance by

Mike Koehler

Administrative President of the ISEE

Please RSVP to Dan Leach

717.574.4024 or dan.leach@am.dynonobel.com

The cost is \$30.00 per person.

Please make checks payable to: Eastern PA Chapter ISEE

Directions: From 81, take exit 80 and follow signs for the Hollywood Casino. The casino will be 1.5 miles off the exit, on your right. Meet at the Epic Buffet.



Guest Speaker

Mike Koehler

Mike Koehler, Administrative President of the ISEE will speak at the November chapter meeting.

Mike has a Bachelor of Science in Resource Management from Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania. He has an extensive background in blast design and troubleshooting with over 30 years in the industry working for explosives manufacturing companies and his drill / blast / consulting company. 17 years ago he founded B.E. Consultants,

Inc., a company that consults/manages/performs mining and construction projects. His background and knowledge base stems from hands on blasting experience and he continues as a licensed blaster in multiple states. His work includes both domestic and international

consulting. Last year he completed two trips to Russia consulting at multiple mine sites throughout the country from Moscow to Siberia. Mike is also a Seismograph Dealer working expansively in blast vibration, dynamic compaction, and pile driving. He is currently the Administrative President of the ISEE and speaks throughout the country at chapter conferences, in addition to his firm's independent training classes.



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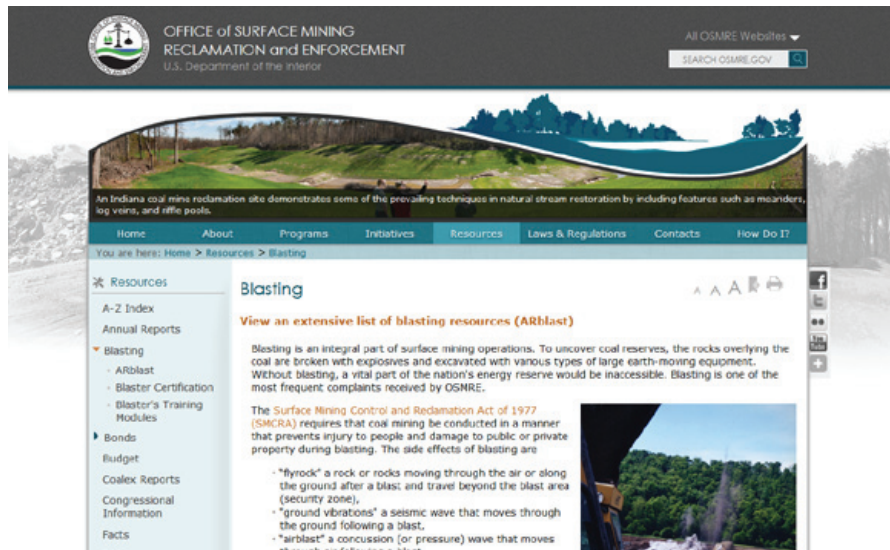
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The ARblast Website Has Moved!

The ARblast website is a valuable resource that contains blasting reference materials, blaster certification, and



blaster's training modules. The ARblast website (www.ARblast.osmre.gov) recently moved to the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) website (www.osmre.gov). From the OSMRE homepage, select "Industry", then using the resource index, select "Blasting". Visitors can also go directly to the ARblast webpage at <http://www.osmre.gov/resources/blasting.shtm>.

Don't forget to change the link in your favorites section of your browser and forward this message to any interested blasters.



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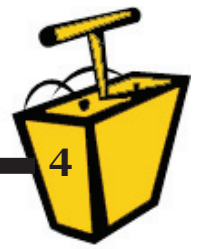
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Mark Your Calendar!



Photo by Richard Nowitz



Featured Speaker Profile

Rick Lamkie

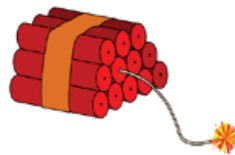
At the November chapter meeting, guest presenter Rick Lamkie, Chief of Explosives & Safety Section, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Bureau of Mining Programs will give a regulatory update. During his presentation, Rick will talk about new regulations and discuss the Blaster's License Suspension and Revocation Procedure.



Rick has been with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection for 27 years. He has served as Chief of Explosives & Safety Section for 14 years. Rick has worked in the mining industry and has prior experience in the oil and gas industry. He was a mine operator for 6 years.

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POTOMAC CHAPTER

Save the Date

The Potomac Chapter will host the
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November 13 & 14, 2014
Hollywood Casino in Charlestown, WV

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All Star Crowd Attends August Chapter Meeting



Check out more photos from the Annual Baseball Game Meeting on page 12 & 13!



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Gunfire and explosions at LaFarge stone quarry

By Brian Ethridge | Published on October 1, 2014 in Aggregates Manager

Residents of Lockport, New York, have been warned that they are likely to hear gunfire and explosions at a local LaFarge rock quarry. Don't worry, though. The Niagara County Sheriff's Office says there is absolutely nothing to be alarmed about.

"There is a strong possibility of military vehicles, simulated gunfire and small explosions during this time," the sheriff's office advised. "All special effects will be conducted by using props by trained professionals and, therefore, there will be no danger to anyone in the surrounding area."

The quarry will be the set for several scenes in an upcoming military-themed movie. Although details about the movies or its actors/actresses are not being released, the movie shoot will only take a few hours. Any gunfire or explosions heard by the public will just be special effects conducted with props and by trained professionals.



Courtesy <http://www.aggman.com>



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Save the Date!

The Seventeenth Pennsylvania Drilling and Blasting Conference

November 12 and 13, 2015

The Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel
State College, Pennsylvania



Call for abstracts!

The planning committee is currently accepting presentation proposals for the conference. If you have a proposal for a relevant presentation, particularly a case study, please submit a title and abstract (Word document or PDF format via e-mail attachment) to Rachel Altemus at RLA7@psu.edu by **February 20, 2015**. The final program will be determined during Spring 2015.

Conference Themes:

The conference is for underground and surface blasters, engineers, suppliers, and other professionals associated with drilling, blasting, and explosives. The conference will cover new products and equipment, recent developments in blasting practice, safety, improved fragmentation, vibration control, and changes in regulations.

For more information, please visit the conference website at <http://www.outreach.psu.edu/blasting/>.



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Letter from The Chief

In 2014 there were three flyrock incidents reported in Pennsylvania. Of these, two were the result of holes that were loaded and detonated without the blaster knowing the extent of the rock surrounding the boreholes.

In the limestone valleys of the eastern and central portions of the state the limestone can be very hard but also very inconsistent. The character of the rock is often described as “limestone pinnacles” as there may be peaks of limestone in a field of clay. The extent of the rock is not apparent on the surface. Often, when a pattern of holes is drilled in this type of geology, there will be holes that are almost entirely in rock with adjacent holes which are mostly in clay or dirt.

Even when the holes are drilled on a tight pattern (e.g. 3 feet by 3 feet), without additional information, there is no way of knowing if the hole drilled in rock is surrounded by 3 feet of rock or significantly less, say 6 inches of rock. This presents a big problem for the blaster who has no idea how much burden, or spacing there actually is in rock.

One way to manage this problem is to drill additional holes in order to find the edge of the rock. The additional holes should be drilled deep enough to locate the rock. This allows the blaster to reasonably determine the extent of the rock surrounding a bore hole. With this information, an informed decision can be made whether to load the hole, and if so, how to load the hole. The additional holes which are drilled to determine the extent of the rock must be stemmed so they will not provide a conduit for energy from the blast to the surface.

Another way to manage this problem is to not load the holes which are adjacent to the dirt holes. If the holes in rock next to the dirt holes are not loaded it is important to remember that all unloaded holes near loaded holes must be stemmed.

Please be safe!

Rick



Note From the Editor

Next year the Eastern PA Chapter will celebrate its 20th Anniversary! Please email photos, both past and present, to include in our celebration issue to Kristin Klemish at kristink@vibratechinc.com.



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Pennsylvania Drilling and Blasting Committee Meets



Members of the Pennsylvania Drilling and Blasting Committee held their first planning meeting to discuss the the November 2015 conference.

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If accepted for membership, I agree to comply with the Constitution, By-Laws and Regulations of the Chapter.

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