

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

Volume 26 Number 3

Summer 2019

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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Clay Shoot & BBQ

Thursday, October 24, 2019 11:30am - 5:30pm Lehigh Valley Sporting Clays 2750 Limestone St., Coplay, PA

Prizes
Awarded!
Gun Raffle!

Sign up individually or register your team of 4 today!

The event is FREE for Members or \$35 for Non-Members



astern PA Cha

Letter from The President

Dear Members,

I want to welcome our newest Board Members who were recently

The the Fastern Pennsylvania Chapter leadership. Those

The Fighler. Additionally, thank you to those already involved members who took on additional leadership roles. The Board of Directors is still in need of a Treasurer. If you or someone from your company would be interested in assuming that role for the Chapter, please contact me so I can provide some additional details about the position.

As summer draws to an end we are gearing up for two exciting events. First is the Clay Shoot & BBQ scheduled for Thursday, October 24th. This event is free for members and \$35 for non-members. So rally up your co-workers or friends and join us for some friendly competition at the Lehigh Valley Sporting Clays. The registration form is located on page 4.

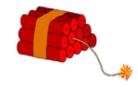
And I know I will see many, if not all of you, at the Pennsylvania Drilling and Blasting Conference set for November 14 & 15 in State College. The planning committee has a great line up of speakers and break-out sessions.

Best regards,

Scott

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Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter Clay Shoot & BBQ

On Thursday, October 24th the Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter will host it's third annual Clay Shoot and BBQ. Join us at 11:30am for a BBQ lunch followed by a mandatory 12:30pm safety class and 1pm start at the Lehigh Valley Sporting Clays course in Coplay, PA.

The event is FREE for members. Non-members will be charged \$35 for a 2020 Chapter Membership. Registration includes a BBQ lunch, 8 station course with 50 rounds, and friendly competition. Ear protection is provided. You are encouraged to bring eye protection or purchase glasses for \$10.00. Prizes will be awarded for the top three shooters as well as Lewis class shooter placements. And we will again have a raffle for a Weatherby Shot Gun.

Clay Shoot & BBQ

October 24th

Lehigh Valley Sporting Clays

2750 Limestone St., Coplay, PA

If you are interested in registering, please complete the attached form on page 4. We also have station sponsorship opportunities available.

SAVE THE DATE!

2020 Clay Shoot & BBQ May 22, 2020 Lehigh Valley Sporting Clays



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Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter Clay Shoot & BBQ



Thursday, October 24, 2019
FREE for Members
\$35 for Non-Members
11:30am - 5:30pm
Lehigh Valley Sporting Clays
2750 Limestone St., Coplay, PA

Name	
Company	
Address	
Phone	_ Fax
Email	

Deadline to register is Thursday, October 17, 2019

Your registration includes a BBQ lunch, 8 station course with 50 rounds and a golf cart per team of 4. Ear protection is provided. You are encouraged to bring eye protection or purchase glasses for \$10.00.

You can bring your own gun and ammo (7.5-9 lead shot only).

Prizes will be awarded!

The event is FREE for Members.

Non-Members will be charged \$35 for a 2020 Chapter Membership. Non-members - please complete the membership form on page 19 and this registration form to sign-up.

Send to: Eastern PA Chapter I.S.E.E.

Ethan Huff

c/o Vibra-Tech Engineers, Inc.

109 East First Street, Hazleton, PA 18201

ethanh@vibratechinc.com

Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter Clay Shoot & BBQ



Sponsorship Commitment Form

	Clay Shoot Station Sponsor for \$250 Your company logo will appear on station sign
Contact Person	
Company	
Address	
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-	and email/fax it to Ethan Huff echinc.com Fax: 570-455-0626
Payment can be made by credit card or	check. Please select your payment option.
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Check - Please make checks payable Send to: Ethan Huff, c/o Vibra-Te	-
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MSHA: U.S. Department of Labor Announces Upgraded Data System to Assist Mine Operators in Ensuring Compliance with Mine Safety and Health Regulations

News Release Posted [June 12, 2019] WASHINGTON, DC – The U.S. Department of Labor's Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) has completed a major upgrade to its primary data system – the Mine Data Retrieval System (MDRS) – bringing increased functionality and more intuitive navigation to this widely used feature. The MDRS offers a variety of tools to help operators monitor their compliance with MSHA regulations. The system provides access to



comprehensive mine location, status, ownership, employment, production, accident/inspection/violations

Continued page 14



Register Today!

The Nineteenth Pennsylvania Drilling and Blasting Conference

November 14-15, 2019

The Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel State College, Pennsylvania



Conference Themes

The conference is for underground and surface drillers and blasters, engineers, safety personnel, construction professionals, suppliers, and regulatory personnel. Two years ago, 350 practitioners and 58 exhibitors came together to discover new approaches related to the industry, 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.

Continuing Education Hours Available

Everyone seeking continuing education hours must fill out and turn in a Session Attendance Verification Form. This form is available at the on-site conference check-in desk. Codes for the form will be announced during sessions. In order to receive CEU hours, participants must write the session code on the form and turn in the completed form at the conference registration desk prior to departing the conference on the last day of attendance. Following the conference, CEU Certificates will be sent via email to attendants based on the number of sessions attended – as verified by the codes on the respective session verification form.

For more information or to register, please visit the conference website at https://blasting.outreach.psu.edu/.





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ISEE Speaker Reimbursement Program

Did you know that ISEE has a reimbursement program that can award up to \$1,000 in travel expenses to a representative who submits and presents a paper at the next annual conference? ISEE will waive the Conference registration fee for this presenter. The purpose of the expense reimbursement is to increase both the number of field blasters who participate in the conference and the number of practical papers presented.

The 46th Annual Conference on Explosives and Blasting Technique will be held at the Hyatt Regency Denver in Denver, Colorado, Jan. 26 - 29, 2020.

The following criteria must be met to be considered:

- 1. The author must be a field blaster, preferably someone who could not otherwise attend the conference. Student chapter members who are enrolled in an explosives related field, such as mining, construction, forestry, and others will qualify.
- 2. The abstract must be submitted online at www.isee.org with the recommendation from a Chapter officer (on Chapter letterhead) sent to lang@isee.org by the May 15, 2019 abstract deadline. The Student Chapter abstract deadline is September 30.
- 3. The abstract must be accepted by the Program Committee.
- 4. Only one abstract per chapter should be submitted. Only one author per chapter can be reimbursed for expenses.
- 5. The presenter must not have received reimbursement in the past.

If you have any questions, please contact our Chapter Program Committee Chair, Danny Ray Leach.

ISEE Incentive Scholarship

The ISEE also encourages Chapter members to attend the ISEE Annual Conference, by offering an ISEE Incentive Scholarship to one Chapter member each year. If you are interested in attending the conference this year on behalf of the Eastern PA Chapter, please contact our Chapter Program Committee Chair, Danny Ray Leach.



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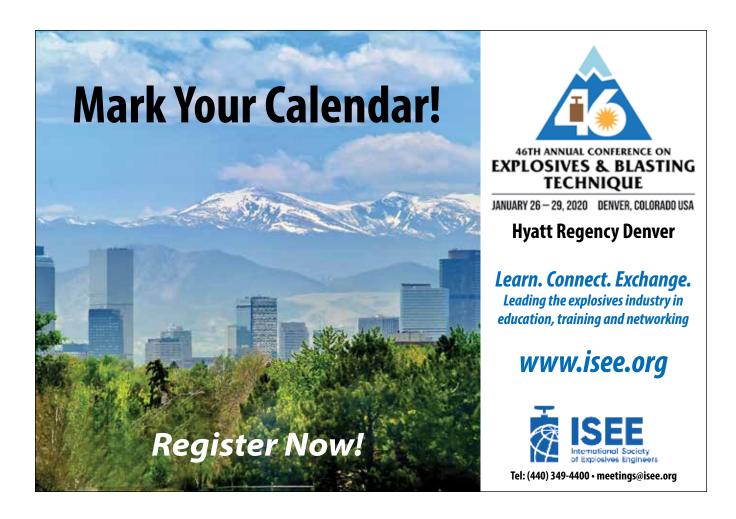


Preventing Thefts of Explosives

The Institute of Makers of Explosives (IME) is a valuable resource for our industry. Recently IME President, Deb Satkowiak provided ISEE with some tips to prevent thefts of explosives. Those tips included:

- * Limit public knowledge of your operations
- * Maintain proper magazine construction
- * Conduct frequent inspections
- * Keep magazines locked when not in use
- * Use Key Control
- * If delivering to a customer, confirm proper storage
- * Conduct double counts upon receipt & shipment
- * Keep excellent records
- * When in Doubt, Point it Out!!!

The IME's Safety Library Publications are available for free download from https://www.ime.org.





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Letter from The Chief

Dear Eastern PA ISEE Newsletter readers,

When someone is seeking a DEP blasting activity permit and the permitted activity has the potential to cause a nuisance (a violation of the regulations-i.e. flyrock, gas violation, ground vibration, airblast over the limit, or damage to property), DEP must determine the likelihood of a violation of the regulations occurring, and if need be, take steps to require that the applicant prevent or minimize the risk of a violation occurring. This is largely done through the permitting process. An application describing the activity is submitted to DEP and the application is reviewed. If the information in the application indicates that the activities proposed can be conducted in compliance with regulations, a permit can be issued.

In most cases blasting that is currently being conducted is in compliance with the blasting regulations. Since blasting is usually being conducted in compliance with the regulations the information in Blasting Activity Permit (BAP) applications needs to describe what the applicant is actually planning to do. The information provided by some BAP applications currently being submitted includes unnecessarily broad loading plan parameters and lacks specific information that describes how blasting will be actually be conducted. These applications do not provide DEP with sufficient information to demonstrate that there is a reasonable expectation the proposed blasting will be conducted in compliance with the regulations.

It is not unusual for the public to be concerned about nearby proposed blasting operations. On occasion other government agencies or municipal authorities express concern over proposed blasting operations. In those cases, a permit application that describes blasting that can realistically be conducted in compliance with the blasting regulations is essential. Better BAPs are beneficial to both DEP and the explosives industry.

Please be safe!

Rick



Regulatory Update Continued

history, and health sampling data. Additionally, MSHA's compliance assistance calculators – Pattern of Violations (POV), Significant and Substantial Rate, and Violations per Inspection Day – can be accessed here. The MDRS gateway is the most visited page on the agency's website, www.msha.gov. All the standard reports previously provided are still available, but now MSHA-wide statistical reports providing real-time data are also tied to the MDRS. Furthermore, the new system provides advanced search capabilities where users can select entire industries, multiple mines, and ownership groups. The platform also allows users to export datasets into either Excel or PDF for further analysis. "The new Mine Data Retrieval System will simplify the process for operators and others to obtain key data points and compare the safety of their mines with industry standards," said MSHA Assistant Secretary David G. Zatezalo. The upgrade has been in the works for more than a year and was guided in part by input from stakeholders, including mine operators and associations, who participated via three webinars. A beta version was run side-by-side with the original platform on the agency homepage as MSHA gathered feedback and refined the system. The new MDRS is now the exclusive gateway to this real-time data, posted prominently on www.msha.gov and available through this link. MSHA will continue to seek feedback and improve the MDRS to assist all stakeholders and the general public in monitoring the safety and health of the nation's miners. The Office of Compliance Initiatives (OCI) is part of the Department of Labor's Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy, and fosters a compliance assistance culture within the Department designed to complement its ongoing enforcement efforts. This



office focuses on helping enforcement agencies more effectively use online resources to deliver information and compliance assistance to help the American people.

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Spring Chapter Meeting Held

The Eastern Pa Chapter ISEE held their Spring meeting on May 9, 2019 in Allentown Pa with 18 members in attendance. The guest speaker was Sandy Tavelli, Senior Technical Manager Electronic Detonators, Dyno Nobel. Sandy's presentation titled, "Electronic Detonator Accuracy with NONEL Simplicity" highlighted the new product line "EZShot" detonators. The general meeting highlighted the upcoming events in 2019, including the Clay Bird shoot October 24, 2019 and the Penn State Drilling & Blasting Conference on

November 14 & 15, 2019. Kristin Klemish gave her report on the ISEE Conference and Chapter Workshop she attended by being a recipient of the Chapter Incentive Program. Danny Ray Leach highlighted the March joint Chapter meeting with the Mid Atlantic Chapter and the Penn State Student Chapter. Plans are to hold this joint meeting every year at Penn State. The Chapter's recently launched online merchandise store was discussed and members were encouraged to check out the site and order their Chapter logoed items. Elections were held for the BOD and Execute committee.



Pictured left to right are Scott Mueller, Chapter President; Danny Ray Leach, Chapter Program Committee Chair; and Sandy Tavelli, quest speaker from Dyno Nobel.





Having an ISEE Membership Benefits our Chapter

The Eastern Pennsylvania Chapter was recently awarded a check from the ISEE in the amount of \$165. Since 33 Chapter members are also ISEE members, our Chapter gets rewarded for that through a dues rebate program.

Joining the ISEE is simple, just go online and complete the membership application to take advantage of the benefits of an ISEE membership! As an ISEE member, you will join others around the globe who share a passion for our industry as we pursue our mission to advance the science and art of explosives

engineering. Your ISEE Membership includes benefits like networking, online tools, member discounts including special pricing for the Annual Conference on Explosives and Blasting, as well as section memberships.



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Regulatory Update Continued

In August 2018, OCI launched Worker.gov and Employer.gov to provide information about workers' rights and the responsibilities of job creators toward their workers.

PADEP:

Noncoal Mining Clarifications and Corrections (#7-554)

Noncoal Surface Mining Conservation and Reclamation Act, Clean Streams Law 25 Pa. Code Chapter 77 This rulemaking proposes to clarify and correct existing regulatory requirements for noncoal mining. The rulemaking also proposes to update the blasting section to be consistent with the recently revised Chapter 211 and to reflect current technology.

CONTACT: Bill Allen, 717-783-9580, wallen@pa.gov

CURRENT STATUS: Draft Proposed

Draft proposed Annex A discussed with Regulatory, Legislative, and Technical Committee of the Aggregate Advisory Board on April 24, 2019.

COMPLETED REGULATIONS (2019)

Title of Regulation / Statutory Authority	Summary of Regulation & Contact	Status
Noncoal Mining Program Fee Amendments (#7-523) Noncoal Surface Mining and Conservation and Reclamation Act, Clean Streams Law 25 Pa. Code Chapter 77	This rulemaking increases fees in order to provide the funding for the Noncoal Mining Program, which implements the Noncoal Surface Mining and Conservation and Reclamation Act (NSMCRA). The rulemaking provides additional revenue in order to implement the NSMCRA, which requires operators to apply for and maintain active permits and licenses to mine noncoal minerals in Pennsylvania. In administering the noncoal mining program, DEP reviews and issues permits and conducts inspections to assure compliance with the permits and performance standards. CONTACT: Bill Allen, 717-783-9580, wallen@pa.gov	Published as final in the Pennsylvania Bulletin on May 18, 2019. The new fee schedule will go into effect January 1, 2020. Background: IRRC approved final rulemaking, as amended, on March 21, 2019. Amended rulemaking adopted by the EQB at its December 18, 2018 meeting. Planned for IRRC consideration on October 18, 2018. Withdrawn from IRRC agenda on October 17, 2018. Submitted to IRRC on September 14, 2018. EQB adopted as final on August 21, 2018. Draft Annex A presented to and discussed with the Aggregate Advisory Board on May 9, 2018. IRRC comments received on April 4, 2018 Proposed rulemaking published in the Pa. Bulletin on February 3, 2018, opening a 30-day public comment period. Public comment period closed on March 5, 2018. To view and submit public comments, access eComment. EQB adopted proposed rule on October 17, 2017.

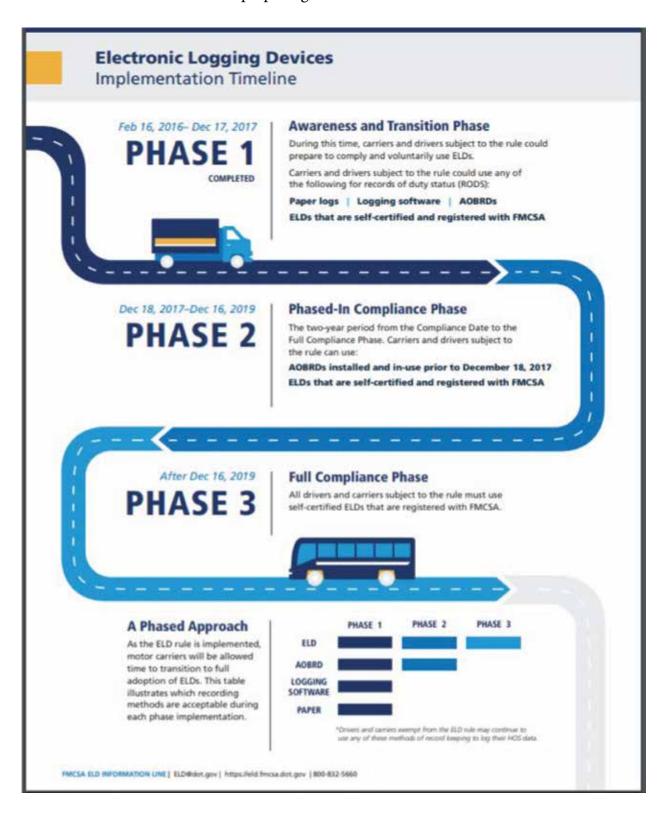
Continued page 18





Regulatory Update Continued

DOT: ELD Reminder: You should be preparing for Phase 3 of ELD Mandate, see below:







2019 NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR MEMBER RENEWAL FORM

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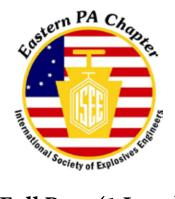
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