



Blast Area Security

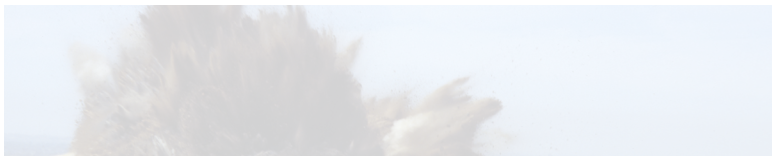
DVD Video Module

Discussion Topics for blasters and general audiences

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Objective of this training module is to improve blast safety by providing information about blast area security to those working around blast sites.

Target audience for this safety module includes employees, blast crew members, trainees, subcontractors, vendors, and visitors to the worksite.

As you present this blasting safety module, you can supply details and examples to address the issues at each specific site. Encourage trainees to offer their own thoughts and examples, based on their experience at this or other blast sites where they have worked or visited.

Questions that address particular blasting safety issues for both general audiences, blast crews, and blasters are included on the other card. Use these, or others you may have, to expand on the teaching points made in the video.

Questions for general discussion:

1. What are the borders of the blast area at this site? How are they determined?
2. Do you know when blasting will occur at this site? What time of day is blasting typically done at this site?
3. During the blast, where should you be located?
4. Have you ever been in an unsafe location when a blast occurred at this or another worksite?
5. What is used for a warning signal?
 - a. Is it a car horn, an air horn, or is some other type of device used?
 - b. Do you know what it sounds like?
 - c. Can the warning signal be heard clearly around the site?
 - d. Are there regulations defining blast warning signals in this jurisdiction? Check for any state, county and/or municipal requirements, and use the strictist guidance.
6. What noise patterns are the blast signals used here?
 - a. What is the early warning signal? How many minutes before the blast is the signal sounded?
 - b. What is the final warning signal? Is it 1 minute before the blast?
 - c. What is the all-clear signal?
7. What should you do if you are in the blast area when the warning signal is given?

Questions to review with the blaster, blast crew, and other site employees to evaluate a blast and its blast area security:

1. About our preblast meetings:
 - a. Are preblast meetings held here? If not, why not?
Does this state require preblast meetings?
 - b. Do we cover all points about the blast adequately?
 - c. Do you understand the role you play when a blast is planned and executed?
 - d. Who is ultimately responsible for holding these meetings?
2. When do we start clearing the blast area?
Ex.: “We clear the pit in front of the face when we start to load the front row.” or “We clear the blast area when we start tying the holes together.”
3. Think about the last three blasts at this site. Was any debris found near the borders of the blast areas?
4. Should those blast areas have been larger?
5. Were there any near-misses during these blasts?
If so, what caused them and how could they have been prevented?
6. Do we use a blast shelter? Is it adequate? Could the initiation occur outside the blast area where one is not required?
7. Are more guards needed?
8. Could the shot have been made safer?
9. When we blast at this site, do we communicate well with workers and coordinate the blasts with traffic?
10. How can we improve communications at this site before blasting?
11. What can we do to make blasting safer for everyone in and around this worksite?