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# Primed Charge Out of Hole

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CAGC SAFETY ALERT

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## Safety Alert

06-00

### ***Explanation***

On June 3rd 2000, an incident occurred with a shooter hooking up a hand drilled, pattern shot. The 4th charge ¼ kg came out of the hole as the shooter pulled on the cap wire to connect it to the blaster. The shooter connected the out of hole charge and the remaining shots and detonated the above ground charge in conjunction with the other shots. The shooter treated this as an above ground blast, extended the line with leg wire and had his helper stand off at a farther distance. The shooter behaved within the scope of his training.

### ***Conclusions***

- Up to this time neither the CAGC nor does Arcis have a recommended procedure for this type of occurrence;
- P.I.T.S. Blasters course instructs drillers, that if a primed explosive charge is unable to be loaded the charge is to be set aside, another hole drilled and the previous primed charge is to be loaded into the new hole. After discussion with Al Schroeder, a P.I.T.S. blasting instructor advised that as long as the shooter uses his judgement, regarding any deterioration of the charge and the existing condition of the hole, the shooter may safely reset the charge into the existing hole as long as there is no force required to set the charge. The shooter must ensure that the shunt is in place prior to any handling of this charge. This would be an on site judgmental call on the part of the shooter.

### ***Recommendations***

- Arcis' procedure to handle this type of occurrence will be as follows. The shooter advises the recorder of a charge coming out of hole. The observer will decide to either hook up the surface charge with the existing hooked up charges and detonate or disconnect the in ground charges, connect the surface charge and detonate the single charge. The decision will be made on the grounds of eliminating the dangerous surface charge as soon as possible;
- The project manager, to ensure that proper tamping procedures will be used on all holes loaded, contacted the drill contractor;
- A safety meeting is to be held to discuss this incident and ensure all incidents are reported regardless of how minor you may believe it to be.