



Loading Explosives Safely

CAGC INFORMATION ALERT

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New Safe Work procedures which are being adopted by the CAGC and approved by OH&S when loading explosives at the shot point.

Heli Drills Only – Loading Procedures

- ALWAYS complete drilling and idle both rig and compressor down before priming the charge;
- ALWAYS ensure that radios are turned off and outside the 30' "Critical Work Site";
- ALWAYS ensure the detonators are laid out as per P.I.T.S. guidelines;
- ALWAYS lower charge hand over hand (as per P.I.T.S.) unless loading poles are required. NEVER drop-load a charge;
- ALL additional personnel, visitors to remain outside a 30' radius of the drill while loading procedures are taking place. They may only enter the 30' radius after the loading procedure is complete (caps shunted, hole filled);
- ALL cell phones are to be turned off at all times while drilling or loading is taking place. All people in possession of a cell phone are to remain outside the 30' radius until drilling and loading is complete. Even after loading is complete cell phones may NOT be within 10' of the hole unless turned off;
- ALWAYS ensure both locks are in place and locked on both powder and cap mags at all times except when adding and removing powder from magazines;
- ALWAYS remain a minimum distance of 10' from the hole when calling in the helicopter, even if caps are shunted;
- ALWAYS ensure that all rain gear is rubberized. Nylon may NOT be used as it may conduct static electricity.

Critical Work Site Area for Heli Drills

The new procedure for the use and position of the radios when the driller or helper are preparing and loading an explosive charge. Prior to opening the magazines, both radios are to be turned off, and placed up-line 30' away from the drill. This puts the radio 10' further away than I.M.E. guideline (20').

Other Seismic Drilling Rigs

Procedure is the same as it always has been. That is, radio can be on as long as it is in the front of the drill and driller can have a speaker mounted at the back of the drill. No one can broadcast on the radio while the hole is being loaded. If anyone walks into the shot point area while the hole is being drilled, or loaded the driller will stop the operation and ask the visitors if they have a cell phone, or radio. No one will be allowed within 30 feet of the shot point if they have a cell phone on, or are broadcasting on a radio.