



Shooter/Blaster Injury

CAGC SAFETY ALERT

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Canadian Association of Geophysical Contractors

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Safety Alert

08-07

Incident Date

March 11, 2007

Incident Location

Northeast BC

Description of The Incident

While detonating suspected “inert shot holes” (i.e. cap only shots), and while operating inside the industry recommended 30 meter safety distance, a worker sustained injury to the right side of his ribcage.

Outcomes

The worker has recovered from his injuries, but has been suspended from blasting by his employer for the remainder of 2007.

Recommendations

- All shooters must pullout the minimum 30 meter firing line;
- All observers must hold tailgate safety meeting on a daily basis to reinforce the safe work procedures;
- Prior to hooking up to the shot hole leads, shooters must inspect the cap wires and look for any evidence of ‘extra cap wire’ on the surface indicating a shallow hole;
- All drill log information must be passed on to the shooter who will be igniting the shot hole;
- Drill pushes must ensure all holes are drilled to proper depth, or ensure drill logs are correctly completed to show where shallow holes are and to what depth they have been drilled;
- Drillers must not hide excess cap wire down the hole; all excess cap wire must be left visible on the surface;
- It is the employers’ responsibility to check the validity of blaster tickets when hiring workers.

For more information, please contact the CAGC