

## APS Blasting 2

# NEW DEVELOPMENT ON ENGINEERING BLASTING

Editor in Chief Prof. WANG Xuguang



METALLURGICAL INDUSTRY PRESS



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Editor in Chief Prof.WANG Xuguang

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CUI Mingying ZHU Mingxiu

### **PREFACE**

The Asian-Pacific region and Russia are the most active regions globally in the field of blasting engineering. There is no exaggeration to say that the development of blasting technology in the Asian-Pacific region and Russia is of far-reaching influence over the world.

In order to further promote the development of blasting industry in the Asian-Pacific region, China Society of Engineering Blasting successfully held the first Asian-Pacific Symposium on Blasting Technology on May 8-12<sup>th</sup>, 2007 in Kunming, China. The organizing committee unanimously acknowledged the success of the symposium and approved the motion of making the "Asian-Pacific Symposium on Engineering Blasting" into serial conferences. The Symposium will be held every two years and the second Asian-Pacific Symposium will still be held in China. The International Conference on Physical Problems of Rock Destruction was successfully held five times in Russia. I, together with other Chinese experts, was warmly invited to attend the Conference for several times. It has been decided that the Sixth International Conference on Physical Problems of Rock Destruction will be hosted by China Society of Engineering Blasting in the city of Dalian, China.

The Asian-Pacific Symposium on Engineering Blasting and the International Conference on Physical Problems of Rock Destruction are intended to strengthen the academic exchange and technological cooperation among various countries in the Asian-Pacific region and Russia, to enhance interdisciplinary penetration, to explore the opportunities, challenges and counter-measures faced by blasting technology and physical problems of rock destruction in the new century and to forecast the application prospects of blasting technology in various fields in a bid to jointly promote the development of blasting technology and physical problems of rock destruction in the world. The two conferences will offer valuable opportunities for experts, professors and engineers from the Asian-Pacific region and Russia engaged in industrial explosives, engineering blasting, rock destruction and other relevant fields to enhance understanding and cooperation. I hope and believe these two series international conferences will go ahead smoothly and successfully.

These two conferences have attracted intensive and extensive attention and support from various countries in the Asian-Pacific region and Russia including Chinese engineering blasting industry. The organizing committee has received more than 150 papers and finally accepted 120 after review by experts from China Organizing Committee, of which 57 papers are from other countries than China. These accepted papers will be published as symposium proceedings, covering a wide range of subjects

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and presenting the leading technological innovations and achievements in industrial explosives, detonating facilities, rock fragmentation theory, physical problems of rock destruction, blasting vibration effect, blasting numerical simulation, blasting excavation, blasting demolition, blasting safety & management and others. At present, the deepening and spreading international financial crisis has an increasingly evident impact on global real economy. It has become a severe and imminent challenge for international community to promote and recover the world economy in the face of global financial crisis. Under such a circumstance, we believe these two conferences will further the development of industrial explosives and blasting technology not only in the Asian-Pacific region and Russia but also in the whole world, and also make new contribution towards a brighter future for human beings.

The two conferences are well prepared thanks to the great effort and effective work of the organizing committee composed of experts from various countries. Here I'd like to express my truly gratitude in particular to Dr. Liu Qian in Canada for his active support and assistance. Also I'd like to take this opportunity to convey my cordial appreciation to all the other experts both at home and abroad for their great effort and contribution.

#### Prof. Wang Xuguang

Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Asian-Pacific Symposium on Blasting Technology President of China Society of Engineering Blasting Academician, China Academy of Engineering

May 18, 2009

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## General Review



#### Blasting Technology Scenerio in the Next Decade

Sushil Bhandari<sup>1</sup>, Sourabh Sahay<sup>2</sup>

(1. Earth Resource Technology Consultants, Jodhpur, India; 2. Deepak Fertili sers and Petrochemicals Corporation Limited, Pune India)

**ABSTRACT:** There have been several developments in blasting technology during the recent past. Many of these are in beginning stages of experimentation and improvement, which would be applied in increasing number of operations during the next decade. Drills have been developed to obtain information about geotechnical and rock quality characterization and this information would be used in improving design of drilling pattern, charging with explosives and sequencing of blast holes would become more common. Increasing blast result assessment techniques would be applied and which would then lead to increasing mine to mill integration. There would be greater awareness of safety & environmental norms and increasing prediction and controlling tools would need to be applied. Security of explosives would become an important issue and responsibility on all those involved in storage and usage would increase.

**KEYWORDS:** blasting; drilling information; blast design; result analysis; security

#### 1 INTRODUCTION

The essential elements of hard rock mining technology have not changed much during the 20th century. Rock blasting is, and in the next decade it will still be, the principal method for breaking strong rock. However, blasting is an imprecise tool. Blasting makes it difficult to control the sizes of the rock fragments, it produces damage to the walls of the excavation, it causes difficulties in mining accurately to a given boundary, it imposes several environmental concerns (fumes, dust, noise, and vibration), and it is hazardous. Mines have also to ensure that they comply with strict regulatory regime and face increasing public outcry against damage to the environment. During the next decade it is expected that many of these problems would be overcome and there would be greater control on blasting operations and their results by better designs using computer simulations, improved executions of blasts, explosive placement, security and environmental controls. Blasting operations would be of bigger sizes and with emphasis on safety aspects. Increased integration with information technology will also improve blast optimization capabilities through in-field measurement, reporting of muck loading information and blast results such as particle size, heave, and distribution. Also there would be greater need for security of explosives—storage, transportation and usage.

#### 2 IMPROVED BLAST DESIGN

Several rock blasting models of exist today<sup>[1]</sup>. These models predict factors such as the rock fragmentation (i.e.

the size distribution of the broken rock), the throw of the broken rock (i.e. the shape of the muckpile), the extent of damage to the excavation walls, and the magnitude of ground vibrations.

However, blasting models find limited use in current mining operations for two reasons. One, because they need to be calibrated for specific sites and two, because, at best they provide only a rough guide to blast design and to the blasting outcomes. The problem is that the models need accurate information on the behavior of the explosive charges, the sequential timing of these charges, and the properties of the rock mass. Detailed information is available on the first two of these required input parameters. Unfortunately, the information on the rock properties is incredibly poor. This is a difficult problem because in mines often the rock mass properties change significantly not just between adjacent benches (or adjacent stopes) but between adjacent holes.

Clearly a solution to this problem will require the measurement of rock properties in each blasthole. It is believed that in the coming decade these measurements will be made as a routine part of the drilling process. Already today manufacturers are marketing drills that monitor data such as: drilling rate, torque, and thrust. Software is starting to be developed to interpret rock property information from these data. This is a significant step forward from the common position today where almost no information is gathered from blastholes (other than assaying of drill cuttings). This is extremely wasteful. Production drilling is an important and expensive operation in many mines. For a relatively small increase in cost the data gathered during