Kentucky Explosives and Blasting Branch

Suggested Blaster Training Topics

2014

1. **Shots without relief**
   1. No relief to the any side means the only relief is upward
   2. Only upward relief means a highly elevated risk of vertical flyrock
   3. Modification of blast designs “standard for that area” are required
2. **Wet conditions**
   1. Increased risk of flyrock during and after long periods of extremely wet weather
   2. Effects of water in a blast hole
   3. Effects of water on stemming material
   4. Effects of water on earthen material near a blast hole
3. **Decoupled explosives**
   1. Distribute energy differently than do coupled explosives loads.
   2. Hydraulic effects of water in bore holes are increased by decoupled explosives
   3. Pre-split parameters magnify these problems
4. **Unique Geology**
   1. Especially some Limestone formations and conditions
   2. God did not make “bad” geology, however he did make some geology very unique – always proceed with caution
   3. The blasting expert is challenged to figure out how to safely and effectively blast unique geology (Blaster=licensed professional)
5. **Blasting mats**
   1. Highly encouraged when blasting near homes and/or protected structures
   2. Critical when any of the above conditions are present