



# What's New

## Blasting will never be cookie-cutter



What we love about the blasting industry beyond all other things is the inability to quantify everything. Like most industries, a never-ending pursuit of efficiency has brought a great deal of control and predictability to every aspect of an operation. Drill and Blast is no different, with a better understanding of which explosive will match a certain material, burden, spacing and sub drill calculations that can take all the guess work out of a pattern, not to mention the optimization software and electronics that is revolutionizing the industry. It may seem on the surface that there is no more guess work.

Any blaster worth his or her boots however will tell you a different story. In our own blasting experience, we have seen the spacing in a pattern be expanded by 25% in as little as 300 feet while still achieving the same results. A project could become a monotonous and predictable operation until the very end and a blast doesn't go as planned simply because the veining decided to change direction. If you have ever talked to a blaster who has years of experience in a quarry, they can describe the rock to you as if they were there when it was formed, understanding the layering, weaknesses and best methods to release it from the earth. With Nxburst™ this type of understanding is even more crucial. With no shockwave and



detonation, there needs to be a greater understanding of exactly how much work each cartridge is going to be required to do. With an understanding of the rock to be blasted, its graining, layers and weaknesses, Nxburst™ can be used with great precision to exploit the natural faults and weak areas to get the desired fragmentation. We encourage our users to film blasts, with some quick review and analysis of the results of the blast, you are able to understand how the rock may be changing as you move through the quarry. Watching the excavators work also offers crucial feedback allowing the blaster to have a greater understanding of how to improve results. Blasting logs, pictures, and video will greatly improve your blasting results if you choose to pay attention to the signs. Formulas and math will always be a great place to start in designing a blast, but your gut is invaluable. We take great pride in our value-added service at Coogar Sales, and make a point to be available to our customers 24 hours



a day and 7 days a week to ensure that we can be of help. Making a site visit to help with a blast and offer our 40+ collective years of experience to ensure our customers are getting the most out of their blasting operation is not only good business, it's our passion. Give us a call, we'd love to come see you!





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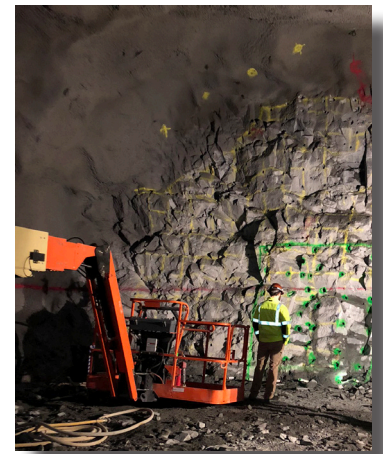
## Pre-Blast Rock Analysis

Planning a blast is important regardless of what type of explosive is used, this planning is crucial when using Nxburst™. It is important to know the characteristics of the rock that is going to be blasted. Determining the size and number of charges needed, as well as the risk mitigation that will be required can change based on rock characteristics. This includes the natural fractures that may already exist and the depth of borehole to ensure the maximum efficiency of each loaded cartridge.

The type of rock is an important factor when considering a blast, a hard rock like granite will break very differently to a soft sandstone or limestone. While granite and harder rock in general will require a smaller powder factor and will break with increased fragmentation due to their brittleness, they also are more prone to flyrock. A softer rock will have more elastic properties and can absorb more of the pressure of the Nxburst™ requiring larger cartridges or a greater number of holes and cartridges than their harder counterparts. Concrete is also a very different animal when it comes to planning. First and foremost, the ability to drill your holes in and around the rebar cages can be tricky and very frustrating. The Nxburst™ cartridges however are very effective and breaking up reinforced concrete as the gases created separate the rebar from the concrete allowing easier removal and separation.

Our training manual includes a physical properties chart to help determine size and number of Nxburst™ cartridges that will be required. The size of the fragmentation that is desired is also a factor in the layout of the boreholes. There are numerous videos on our social channels that show very fine fragmentation as well as surgical-like splitting. This is all achieved through the size and number of cartridges used.

As always, Coogar Sales is available to assist in whatever planning that you require. As a blaster you are not just as good as the experience you have, but also the experience of others you can draw from.



Coogar Sales & Services is the proud distributor of Nxburst™ and the Fragmentor™ throughout Canada, US and Mexico and has the stock to meet your demands. With our staff having a practical drill and blast experience we can guide you through even the most delicate of jobs safely and effectively helping you and your bottom line.

Give us a call at (866) 762-5835 or visit [www.coogarsales.com](http://www.coogarsales.com)

