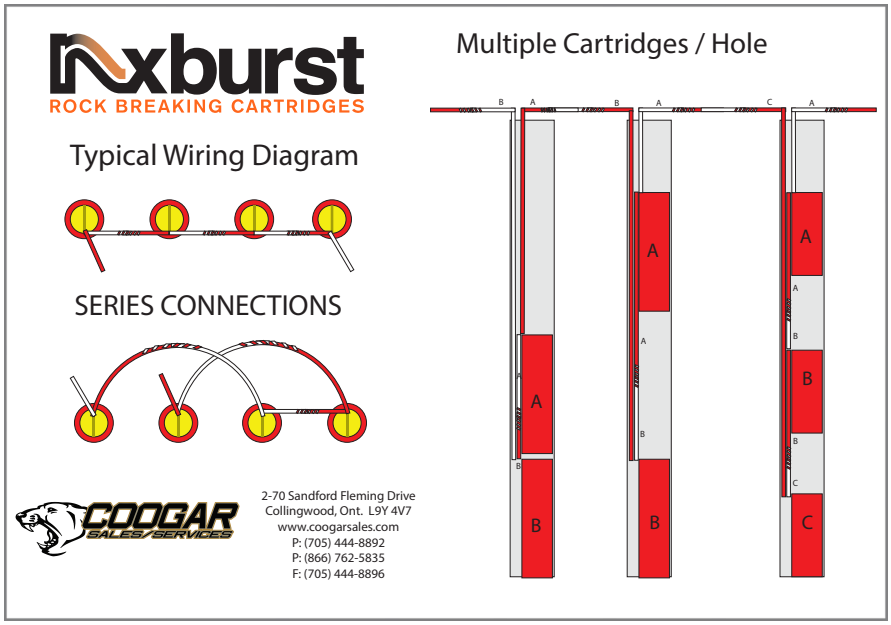
NEWS THIS MONTH

YOUR SOURCE FOR ALL THINGS ROCK-BREAKING

BACK TO THE BASICS - WIRING AND TESTING



Having held our first training sessions of the year and with the construction season knocking on the door, now is a good time to go back to some basic good practices when using Nxburst™ cartridges. As shown in the diagram, when using electrical Nxburst™ cartridges, single series circuits are a must. This type of circuit wiring can be easily described as in one end and out the other.

There are a few advantages to using a single series circuit.

- All cartridges receive the same current
- The actual wiring is simple to do and to trace if there is an issue.
- Resistance measurements are straight-forward and simple to test

The reason that this type of wiring is important is that there is no requirement for the user to manage the ohms per circuit to ensure an equal balance. Parallel blast circuits also require a higher current than in a series circuit. Due to the characteristics of the electric matches within the Nxburst™ cartridges, improperly wired parallel circuits can cause misfired cartridges and a whole lot of unintended problems with spent and partially spent cartridges in the ground.

A BLASTER'S BEST FRIEND

The actual act of wiring Nxburst™ cartridges is by far the most important operation a blaster undertakes. Stemming is crucial and if done incorrectly can lead to poor results but an incorrect circuit can lead to dangerous situations. It is important that when wiring Nxburst™ cartridges into a blast circuit that a resistance measurement is taken several times during the process. During our training course, both the classroom and in the field portion, this method of testing is taught, and put into practice. Our blasting log books also have a location for recording resistance measurements to ensure that any errors can be caught prior to firing. Becoming disciplined and creating a habit with this testing regime will eliminate problems almost the moment they happen.

Testing procedure using an explosive ohmmeter:

- Ensure cartridge has a proper resistance prior to loading
- Re-check resistance after stemming to ensure no damage to lead wires
- Check completed circuit prior to connecting lead wires

Check final connection prior to connecting to initiator

Although this test can seem excessive, problems will be discovered when they happen, eliminating a significant amount of time tracing a blast circuit to find mistakes or errors.

NXBURST TRAINING

The first training sessions of 2024 are now behind us. We'll be setting up additional training sessions early in the month of May. If you are interested in enrolling please contact us at training@coogarsales.com or on our website at:

http://coogarsales.com/nxburst-training/

We look forward to hearing from you.