NEWS THIS MONTH

YOUR SOURCE FOR ALL THINGS ROCK-BREAKING

THE FINAL 2025 NXBURST TRAINING SESSION

October 15th 2025 marks the last of the Nxburst training sessions available for this year. Taking place in Huntsville, Ontario this one day course consists of both theoretical and practical components. Covering government explosive regulations, blasting theory and more, this course gives you the tools and knowledge to safely break rock with Nxburst cartridges. The theoretical portion covers the storage requirements in great detail to ensure trainees adhere to their legal obligations. Blasting is also a very complex operation and no two projects are the same. We spend a lot of time covering rock-breaking concepts, the methodology behind breaking rock, drill patterns and most importantly the environmental and safety impacts that need to be controlled.

Practical hands-on teaching is mandatory for achieving your Nxburst Certification. Actually loading cartridges in boreholes and implementing the procedures that were discussed in the theoretical module bring life to classroom discussions. Blast area control procedures, warning procedures and most importantly igniting a circuit of loaded holes become real. This provides a better understanding of the different aspects and complexities that need to be understood to be properly implemented.

If you are interested in attending the last Nxburst course this year, register your intention by filling out our form at https://coogarsales.com/nxburst-training/ or by emailing us at training@coogarsales.com

BLASTING WITHOUT TESTING IS LIKE DRIVING BLINDFOLDED

Low explosive cartridges like Nxburst™ have always been easy to use and treated differently to high explosives, and with good reason. The transportation classification and storage regulations have considerable advantages to their 1.1 counterparts. Historically the use of these explosives has also been made easy with the use of a continuity tester, a simple circuit test that will alert the user to an open or closed circuit. We have sold starter kits for years with the BlasterOne Buzz-Mo CT-4 tester, it can be worn around the neck and provides feedback even with winter or work gloves. Our customers and trainers have had years of success using these testers and thousands of blasts have been safely and successfully carried out using them. At Coogar Sales and Services we always strive to do things better and safer, if there is an improvement to make we leave no stone unturned. Many of our competitors are in a constant state of catch-up trying to keep pace with our innovations and protocols. We have always taught our blasters the pitfalls of using continuity testing exclusively and how a blaster's ohmmeter can give the blaster an accurate test of the cartridge, the circuit and the wire condition. We take great pride that the Canadian regulators at the Ministry of Natural Resources, Explosive Regulatory Division consider us to be the benchmark.

Our Coogar Sales Starter Kit includes a Blaster's Ohmmeter, giving the blaster a confident and accurate method to ensure that every cartridge that gets put into a bore-hole is ready, every circuit is properly wired and no wire is compromised. There are many reasons why testing is paramount in an electric blasting circuit, it ensures that all wiring is done correctly, that a faulty cartridge is not put into a bore-hole causing a dangerous misfire condition. It also provides feedback to the blaster that all the cartridges in the blast design are accounted for, a live cartridge that has been missed in a circuit not only creates a misfire condition, but it creates additional burden for the surrounding cartridges potentially creating fly-rock. Our blasting logs have unused columns to record the resistance measurement of each bore-hole, we all know the value of detail within our blasting logs to ensure that upon inspection, due diligence was followed. If you have had to deal with a misfire in the past you will also appreciate the small amount of time testing takes, the value of avoiding re-drilling, re-blasting and cartridge recovery. In an industry where mistakes and accidents happen in an instant and have potentially fatal consequences, can you really afford to take a shortcut?