## **302 – Blast and Drill A Single Value Chain Process**

Bill Hissem & Larry Mirabelli



Improving Processes. Instilling Expertise.





# The lowest cost crushing is ????

# Where did this approach come from?

- Since 2003 Dyno Nobel and Sandvik have been working in a cooperative alliance.
- The alliance has provided both companies with a better understanding of the effect that activities and costs from individual unit operations in the quarry process, particularly those that each of us participates in, have up and down the total process stream.
- Joint case studies have begun to identify opportunities where aggregate producers further minimize cost and maximize profits.





# Drill and Blast is so much more than a necessary Evil!

- Most economical method to take rock apart.
- Significant contributor to <u>reducing costs</u> down stream in the aggregate production value chain.
  - ✓ Doing things right today and better tomorrow.
  - Use as a chemical crusher to feed the mechanical crush, shape, size process.



## **Size Reduction In the Quarry Process**

At the end of the day, the quarry process has to crush the rock to a final end product specification.

- Where and how is this best done? (Value Transformation)
- What offers the greatest operational flexibility? (Capitol Investment Intensity)
- In the plant, is there any benefit in allowing a prior crusher stage to achieve less than it's <u>size reduction ratio capacity</u> before passing it's output to the next stage of crushing and screening?

(Lean/Waste Reduction)





# As Chemical Crusher, Drill and Blast targets expand one step further.

#### • Normal Drill and Blast

- Zero Harm
- ✓ Full Regulatory Compliance
- Controlled boundaries of blast / excavation
- ✓ Uniform Breakage
- Easy to dig, load, haul, dump and feed.
- Chemical Crusher
  - ✓ Control / Influence particle size distribution.



# **Basic Drill and Blast Principles Still Apply**

- When explosives are detonated they release the chemical energy stored within them.
- All that energy will go somewhere:

✓ into breaking and fragmenting the rock

- into moving and heaving the rock
- ✓ into ground vibration
- ✓ into air overpressure and heat



# **Basic Drill and Blast Principles Still Apply.**

- Without the drill hole, explosives would not be a practical tool for the quarry industry.
- In a correctly designed blast, an accurately placed drill hole puts the right quantity of explosive energy in the right place!
- In a correctly designed blast, an accurate and precise explosive initiation system applies the right quantity of explosive energy at the right time!



#### **Blast Dynamics** Action – Reaction Energy Release





#### **Blast Dynamics** Stress / Pressure Dissipation

H<sub>d</sub> = Hole Diameter

UCS = Unconfined compressive Strength of rock





# **Chemical Crusher**



- Capable of crushing in excess of 1,100 tons/hr of rock reserves.
- Portable and is built at the rock bench.
- Disposable and fully consumed on use.
- Could be assembled in 15.5 hrs or less. Daily if necessary.
- Except for the diesel and/or electricity to build it, it is internally powered.
- Has design flexibility to meet changing rock conditions and to produce different rock size gradations.
- Major drawback is: that, without proper controls, it can have noise, dust and vibration issues.























## **Chemical Crusher - Key Design Factors**





# **Explosive Type**

#### A controllable factor in building the Chemical Crusher

Select the best explosive or explosives for the rock.

- ✓ Density (g/cc)
- Velocity of Detonation (ft/sec)
- Energy (kcal/lb)
- ✓ Water Resistance
- Critical Diameter
- Physical Form
  - ✓ Package
  - 🗸 Bulk
    - Dry Blend / Free Flowing
    - Wet Blend / Augerable
    - Pumpable Blend





# **Blast Confinement**

#### A controllable factor in building the Chemical Crusher

- Design to confine the explosive energy so that it can do effective work.
  - Amount of material surrounding the explosive in the drill hole
    - ✓ Material between the drill hole and any static or dynamic free space.
  - ✓ Distance of the drill hole from an open face.
    - ✓ Face burden
  - ✓ Distance of drill holes relative to one another.
    - Burden
    - ✓ Spacing
  - Y Type and amount of stemming / non explosive decking
  - Initiation sequence and time between and within individual holes.



# **Energy Distribution**

#### A controllable factor in building the Chemical Crusher

- How the explosive energy is distributed throughout the rock mass – vertically and horizontally to do work.
  - Diameter of the drill hole.
    - ✓ Limits the diameter of explosive.
  - ✓ Diameter of the explosive.
    - ✓ Package explosive can limit the effective diameter of the blast hole.
  - Depth of the drill hole.
    - Amount loaded with explosive.
    - Explosive deck(s) and their location throughout the rock mass
  - Orientation of drill holes
    - Relative to one another staggered, in-line



As hole size increases, the area of influence around each hole <u>and</u> the geometry of the fragmentation changes.





Wall Effect:









Bench top





#### **Building the Chemical Crusher** Static view of explosive distribution





#### **Larger Diameter Holes**

#### **Building the Chemical Crusher** Static view of explosive distribution

\*NOTE: True burden and spacing may be different than the apparent burden and spacing due to delay pattern. APPARENT BURDEN\* APPARENT SPACING\* . HOLE-TO-CREST HOLE DIAMETER BACK BREAK NEW CREST (AFTER MUCKING) ST 1.HEIG BENCH HEIGHT CRE SIDE BREAK HOLE EXPLOSIVE DEPTH COLUMN TOP-HOLE BURDEN NCH F HEIGHT F FLOOR OR FINAL GRADE BOTTOM-HOLE. **BANK ANGLE** BURDEN SUBGRADE (SUBDRILLING) TOE



#### **Smaller Diameter Holes**

## **Target Work Zone for Chemical Crusher**





## Larger diameter holes in Target Work Zone





# Larger diameter holes allow for smaller overall percentage of crushed rock





# Small diameter holes in Target Work Zone





# **Smaller diameter holes allow for higher overall percentage of crushed rock**









#### **Operations Process Improvement** Leveraging Drill & Blast

#### "Blast to -1 inch Product" \*



\* From Drill to Pre-wash Product.



#### **Operations Process Improvement** Project Outcomes

- Impressive cost savings and increases in plant tonnage throughput within the "Blast to 1 inch minus" process of the Holt Summit Value Map were realized over the validation phase of the project.
- Drilling and Blasting cost increased by 28%.
- Waste was reduced by 19%.



#### **Operations Process Improvement** Project Outcomes

- The standard cost model for the "Blast to 1 inch minus" process of the Holt Summit value map showed that over the total process:
  - ✓ There was a 10% to 27% increase in crusher plant capacity
    - From baseline of 373 TPH to an average of 475 TPH = +102 TPH shift in capacity.
  - There was a 7% to 31% reduction in net total cost per ton with scalping
  - Even when scalping was not utilized an 8.8% reduction in the net cost per ton was achieved.



# Summary

- Drill and Blast can be used to produce fragmentation that will enable the mechanical crush/screen process to be more efficient and cost effective.
- The optimized distribution of explosive energy as a function of drill hole diameter, accurate location, explosive product, and timing is the key to leveraging the chemical crushing result.
- Case work to date indicates that implementation of drill and blast programs that leverage chemical crushing of stone, yield process stream cost savings that are better measured in dollars per ton than in cents per ton.



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