

ISEE Conference 2018

Discussion Forum

**Challenge the status quo of
shottfiring in our industry**

Question 1

- Do we as industry/employers, provide our Shotfirers with everything they need to safely and competently complete their duties?

Question 2

- How do we determine if our Shotfirers are competent?

Question 3

- How do we generally respond when there's a blasting incident?

Question 4

- Do you believe an organisation like ISEE with the support of industry and Shotfirers can improve how we currently support and train shotfirers?

Discussion Points

- Shotfirer Autonomy
- Training support
- RTO's Issuing RII's
- Regulators Issuing Licenses
- Licensing Levels
- Industry Support
- Mental Health Support
- Influential Staff

Shotfirer Autonomy

A high level of responsibility and statutory obligation is imposed on the Shotfirer.

- Does the Shotfirer have the autonomy to make decisions that will influence the outcome of a blast?

Autonomy of the Shotfirer

- Can they change:
 - loading designs?
 - timing designs?
- Do they have the:
 - knowledge?
 - Experience?
 - Confidence? and
 - Support to question or change designs?

Training support

- Is the training currently being delivered just to meet the minimum licensing requirement?
- Are online shotfirer courses effective? Or just convenient?

Educational and Training support

- Are there any industry bench marks or best practices we should adopt as the industry standard?
- Does your company provide ongoing training and support?

RTO's Issuing RII's

- Are the correct skill sets being developed by the current modules of the RII's?
- Are there variations in the standard of RII's issued by various RTO's?
- Are leadership and supervisory skills given the importance they deserve in the training and assessment programs?
- Is problem solving developed in the current training environment?

Regulators Issuing Licenses

- Are the persons being issued Shotfirer licenses, competent and capable?
- What is the statutory review process for the issuance of a Shotfirers licence?
- Do the Statutory Authorities validate the content and competence of the RTO's issuing the RII's that are the basis of their issuing a licence?

Licensing Levels

- Do we consider different levels of shotfirers?
- Similar to a drivers licence
- The first 12 months or a determined number of shots they hold a “**P**” licence which requires close supervision by a senior shotfirer.

Licensing Levels

- The second 12 months or a determined number of shots they hold a “**P**” licence which requires minimal supervision by a senior shotfirer.
- The commencement of the third year they finalise their training portfolio and are challenge tested with a theory and practical assessment. To be issued their open shotfirers licence.

Industry Support

- Are Shotfirers being pressured by unrealistic productivity demands?
- Do Shotfirers require additional company support to meet the productivity demands?
- Do our companies provide that support?

Mental Health Statistics

- 45% of us will experience a mental health illness during our lives
- 20% of adults are affected by mental illness every year
- The three most common mental illnesses for persons aged between 16-85
 - Depression
 - Anxiety
 - Substance use disorder

Mental Health Statistics

- 54% of people with mental illness do not access any treatment
- 6 people die from suicide every day in Australia
- 30 people attempt suicide every day in Australia
- Suicide is the leading cause of death in Australians between the ages of 25-44
- Australians are more likely to die from suicide than skin cancer

Mental Health Support

- What access do Shotfirers have to Mental Health Support?
- Are Shotfirers reluctant to seek assistance due to concern their livelihood may be impacted?
- What data, is available to demonstrate the rate of Mental Health issues amongst Shotfirers?

Mental Health Support

- Are instances of Mental Health issues with Shotfirers comparable to the community?
- There is evidence confirming the shift work and long absences from home impact the Mental Health of general mine workers.
- Do the pressures associated with shotfiring increase the likelihood of a Shotfirer suffering from Mental Health issues?

Influential Staff

- Should Drill and Blast Engineers have the same statutory obligations as Shotfirers?
- Do Drill and Blast Engineers have the knowledge and experience to design blasts with safe outcomes?
- Should Drill and Blast Engineers undergo Shotfirer training as part of their skill development?

THANK YOU
QUESTIONS