

BLASTING FACTORS INFLUENCING THE CHOICE OF BLASTHOLE SIZE FOR QUARRYING

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ABSTRACT

Hole size affects many factors which directly influence fragmentation in the muckpile and hence, the cost effectiveness of the entire operation. These factors include production capability, explosives and accessories efficiency and usage and drilling accuracy. In addition, hole size should be chosen to suit the geological conditions.

The paper concludes that the optimum hole size is generally the largest that can be used commensurate with production and environmental considerations.