

# **SPECIALIZED BLEND AND DELIVERY EQUIPMENT OPTIMIZE EMULSION/ANFO APPLICATIONS**

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## **ABSTRACT**

In the past several years many coal operators and stone producers have reduced drilling and blasting cost by utilizing Bulk Emulsion/ANFO blends. For many operators the cost of equipment to handle blend products has been a major consideration in evaluating overall cost effectiveness of changing from packaged products or bulk ANFO to blends. This is especially true when the project length is short term or is uncertain.

An explosive consumer can substantially reduce capital outlays by utilizing specialized blending and delivery equipment.

Other advantages of using specialized blending and delivery equipment are control in consumption of more expensive emulsion products, flexibility over packaged products and straight Bulk ANFO, inventory reduction and any labor savings.

To implement this program requires evaluation of specific mine sites for economics and practicality afforded the operation. Water in coal reserve areas, equipment and storage facilities existing on site, the need to sleep holes for periods of time and drill availability percentage are all important factors of the analysis.

Although this specialized equipment allows many advantages in some operations it also could create problems. The Emulsion/ANFO percentages are limited because of handling characteristics of the finished product in the truck body. If an operation finds the majority of the needs at the mine are fulfilled by blends capable of use, this scenario is workable.

This paper will detail product application, testing and results of specialized blending and delivery equipment.