**Refresher Training and Continuing Education Opportunities for WV OEB Certified Blasters**

Approved Conferences and Technical Training for Refresher Training Hours

Updated January 20, 2015

This list includes major conferences/courses offered in West Virginia and nearby states, as well as the annual ISEE conference that is routinely attended by a number of West Virginia certified blasters. It is not intended to be an all-inclusive list. If you plan to attend a different conference/course, you should call WV Office of Explosives and Blasting at 304-926-0499 for Jim Ratcliff ext. 1524 or Roberta Vanness ext. 1498, to determine its eligibility for meeting your continuing education requirements. It is the blasters responsibility to maintain refresher training for renewal of his certification. Failure to obtain the required training will prevent or delay renewal of your certification. Training hours can be cumulative by attending multiple conferences to obtain the required 12 hours, within the three year certification period. The MSHA Blasting Conference is held annually in January and the WV Office of Explosives and Blasting Conference is held annually in April. Both of these provide the required hours and training to renew your certification. These two conferences alone provide six separate opportunities within West Virginia for a blaster to obtain the required refresher training for renewal of their blasters certification.

April 3 - 4, 2012, April 2 - 3, 2013, April 8 - 9, 2014 (up to 12 CE hours); Charleston, WV

**WV Blasting Conference** (WVDEP’s Office of Explosives and Blasting)

(304) 926-0464 (Contact Roberta Vanness or Jim Ratcliff)

January 18 - 19, 2012, January 23-24, 2013, January 22-23, 2014, January 21-22, 2015 (up to 12 CE hours); Beckley, WV

**Mine Blasting Safety & Application Seminar**

(304) 256-3252 [www.msha.gov](http://www.msha.gov) (Doug Lawson or Kevin Malay)

October 25 – 27, 2011, November 15 – 17, 2011, March 5 – 7, 2013 (12 CE hours for completion of either course);

1. **Rock Blasting & Overbreak Control , or 2. Safety for Blasting & Explosives Use**

Academy for Blasting & Explosives Technology, Montville, OH

(440) 474-6700 email: [infor@idc-pbs.com](mailto:infor@idc-pbs.com)

November 3 - 4, 2011, November 14 - 15, 2013 November 12-13, 2015 (up to 12 CE hours); Penn State, State College, PA

**Pennsylvania Drilling & Blasting Conference**

(814) 863-5100 [www.outreach.psu.edu/cnf/Blasting](http://www.outreach.psu.edu/cnf/Blasting)

December 1 - 2, 2011, November 28 - 30, 2012, (up to 8 CE hours); Lexington, KY

**Kentucky Blasting Conference**

(859) 312-0625 www.kyblasting conference.com (Larry Schneider)

December 5, 2011 (up to 5 CE hours); Jasper, IN

**Blasters’ Workshop** (Indiana Soc. of Mining and Reclamation)

(812) 665-2207 e-mail: [phart@dnr.in.gov](mailto:phart@dnr.in.gov) (Phyllis Hart)

March 28, 2013, March 26, 2015 (up to 8 CE hours); Columbus, OH

# **Ohio Drilling & Blasting Conference**

(440) 349-4400 e-mail: [mangol@isee.org](mailto:mangol@isee.org) (Lynn Mangol)

February 11 - 15, 2012 Nashville, TN; February 9 - 13, 2013 Fort Worth, Texas ; January 31-February 4, 2015 New Orleans, LA (up to 12 CE hours)

**ISEE’s Conference on Explosives & Blasting Technique**

**NOTE:** A certificate will be issued for the Saturday workshop, but attendance at the technical sessions on Monday through Wednesday must be verified with documentation by the appropriate session leaders or an ISEE conference official. (440) 349-4400 [www.isee.org](http://www.isee.org) (Lynn Mangol)