

A Breed Apart



**Maine Drilling
& Blasting**

Contact:

Bill Purington, President & CEO

(207) 582-2338 x 1902

For Immediate Release

New England Bomb Squad Technicians take advantage of Maine Drilling & Blasting's Expertise

Auburn, NH (8 April 2009) – On February 18, 2009, Maine Drilling & Blasting held a training class in their Auburn, NH classroom facility for Explosive Ordinance Device Technicians (Bomb Squads) and other support personnel. The subject was Electronic Detonator Systems. The ATF, FBI, US ARMY, US NAVY, US AIR FORCE, Department of Homeland Security, Transportation Security Administration, Boston Police Bomb Squad, New Hampshire State Police Bomb Squad, Massachusetts State Police Bomb Squad, Nashua Police Department Hazardous Devices Unit, MSHA, and Auburn, NH, and Dracut, MA Fire Departments were among those who were in attendance. In all, there were 48 Law Enforcement Personnel participating in this unprecedented event.

Agent Kevin Crowley, Bomb Tech and Dog Handler for MSA, Inc., retired policeman and one of the founders of the Nashua Police Bomb Squad, comments: "The electronic detonator training Maine Drilling & Blasting put on was, in a word, fantastic: extremely informative. We were surprised by the technology. It's wonderful to see the private sector help out law enforcement in understanding a product we could see and have to deal with in the future. From the law enforcement aspect of it, it's greatly appreciated."

It had become apparent to Maine Drilling personnel that there was little information available to Bomb Squads about Electronic Detonators, and even less "hands on" experience. Since Maine Drilling & Blasting has committed to using a much greater volume of these detonators in the coming years, in keeping with its reputation of pioneering industry technology, the Company stepped up to take the lead in the education process.

Maine Drilling & Blasting's internal technical resources developed a training program for this technology geared toward the EOD community. The MD&B team, working in conjunction with the top manufacturers of these systems, assembled a split day of classroom and "hands on" field training, which included actual live firing, and the ability to work with each system. In addition, there were Bomb Dog detection exercises, X-Ray demonstrations, and Boston Police Bomb Squad brought their Electronic Countermeasures truck to round out a very full day.

"In our business, much like the EOD world, Second Place is the First Loser. We have no room for error, no do-overs, no second chances to undo a mistake. We do our jobs right the first time, or people get hurt," says Todd Larain, Lead Quarry Blasting Supervisor and Lead Coordinator for this EOD training initiative. "This Electronic Detonator Technology is a very big step in that direction. When used properly, these Detonators provide a level of accuracy far greater than anything we have used up until now. At Maine Drilling & Blasting, it is our firm belief that with great strength comes great responsibility. We are committed to leading the industry in our standards of Safety, Accountability, and a Total Commitment to having the most highly skilled and best-trained workforce in the business."

Maine Drilling & Blasting, recognized as a leader in the industry and a long-term contributor to the local community, offers drilling and blasting services to the construction and quarry markets, along with a variety of specialty services throughout the Northeastern United States, including rock bolting, hoe ramming, engineering, public relations, preblast surveys and packaged and bulk distribution. In addition to the corporate office in Gardiner, Maine, Maine Drilling & Blasting has offices in New Hampshire, Vermont, New York, Massachusetts and Connecticut.

###