



# 13th WORLD CONFERENCE ON EXPLOSIVES AND BLASTING

## Call for Papers

## EFEE KRAKÓW, POLAND

### 20th - 23rd September 2025 | ICE Kraków Congress Centre

#### President's Foreword

On behalf of the European Federation of Explosives Engineers – EFEE, I am delighted to announce and to invite you all to our 13th World Conference on Explosives and Blasting taking place in Kraków, Poland from 20th – 23rd September 2025.

The EFEE World Conference on Explosives and Blasting is one of the most important international blasting events in the industry and continues to grow in both size and reputation.

The conference is organised in cooperation with the Association of Polish Blasting Engineers (SPIS) to whom we are hugely grateful for their support and for welcoming us to this superb destination.

The city of Kraków is the second-largest and one of the oldest cities in Poland, dating back to the seventh century. The city is the leading centre of Polish academic, economic, cultural, and artistic life. Cited as one of the most beautiful cities in Europe, it became a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1978.

The 13th World Conference on Explosives and Blasting will take place at ICE Conference Centre. ICE offers cutting edge conference space, providing an ideal home for the exhibition, technical presentation rooms, networking and catering.

Following the success of our Dublin conference, we will be repeating the Emerging Professionals reception, aimed toward

providing an opportunity for professional networking and socializing the evening before the conference officially kicks off. The reception will take place from 7pm until 11pm on Saturday, 20th September. We hope as many of you as possible will support this function.

The conference formally starts on Sunday 21st September with registration, technical excursion and welcome reception and will continue on Monday 22nd September and Tuesday 23rd September with technical sessions and the exhibition.

Our extensive exhibition draws top organisations from the explosives and blasting industry. It plays a crucial role in the conference, enabling the showcase of cutting-edge technologies and fostering global connections with suppliers. Numerous exhibitors and sponsors have already pledged their support.

The conference will be supported by explosives end-users, manufacturers, drill and blast operators, consultants and contractors. We anticipate over 450 professionals from over 50 different countries, creating an engaging and unique forum for meetings and discussions between professionals from tunnelling, construction, demolition, quarrying as well as the mining industry. The conference is an excellent opportunity to share industry experiences, and to learn about new technologies, products and techniques.

I'm really looking forward to welcoming you all to Krakow for our 13th World Conference, place the date in your diaries 20th – 23rd September 2025. We welcome your abstract submissions and will be in contact with authors and exhibitors in the coming weeks.

Registration will launch in April 2025.



**Mathias Jern**  
President,  
European Federation of Explosives  
Engineers

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[www.efeeconference.com](http://www.efeeconference.com)

## About the Conference

The EFEE World Conference has become a premier international forum for the explosives industry. Our 2023 conference in Dublin attracted over 450 delegates from 46 countries and featured a large exhibition and demonstration stage with some of the industry's biggest names.

The conference offers technical presentations, pre and post conference technical excursions, a welcome drinks reception, a unique local conference Gala Dinner, and a variety of activities. It attracts explosives users, manufacturers, drilling equipment suppliers, researchers, consultants, trainers and professionals from the construction and mining sectors.

## Our Objectives

To bring together explosives and blasting professionals to share knowledge, network and develop the industry. The conference provides you with an excellent forum to share the latest developments and technical practices combined with a fantastic opportunity to network and connect with peers and exhibitors from across the globe.

## Technical Programme

Technical sessions will be divided into key themes. Authors will present their papers in English to an audience in a lecture style format with some time for questions from the audience.

Each presentation will run for 20-25 minutes and is chaired by an industry professional or member of the Technical Committee. Those papers of high quality that cannot be presented due to the time constraints of the conference may be shown in a specific poster session adjacent to the exhibition area. The conference will focus on practical papers on the following themes:

- Blast Vibration and Seismology
- Blasting Work Experiences
- Construction, Mining & Quarrying (Blasting)
- Demolition Blasting
- Drill and Blast Design Methods and Modelling
- EU Directives & Harmonisation Work
- Explosive Detection for Security
- Health & Safety in Drilling and Blasting
- Innovation and Technical Development
- New Applications and Training
- Sustainability and Environmental Topics in Drilling and Blasting

Members and non-members of EFEE are  
invited to submit abstracts online by 14th  
February 2025:

[www.efeeworldconference.com](http://www.efeeworldconference.com)

## Call for papers

Members and non-members of EFEE are invited to submit abstracts for papers to be presented at the conference. Authors **must** be prepared to present their papers and answer questions in person and in English.

Authors and speakers approved to present at the conference are expected to pay the registration fee.

Papers **must not** be of a commercial or advertising nature.

## Abstracts

Authors are invited to submit an abstract in English. The full paper **must be submitted, presented and questions answered in English**. An abstract condenses a proposed paper by summarising and highlighting its major points into 200 - 400 words. The abstract should be a written summary of work done on the project, what conclusions have been drawn and recommendations made as a result of the project. The proposed paper should **not** be of a commercial or advertising nature.

Author's paper formatting and presentation guidelines as well as our online submission form are available on the conference website: [www.efeeworldconference.com](http://www.efeeworldconference.com)

**Submit your abstract online:**

[www.efeeworldconference.com](http://www.efeeworldconference.com)

## Official Languages

The official language of the conference is **English**.  
A translation service will not be provided.

## Publication Policy

All accepted papers received by the deadline and presented at the conference will be published in the conference proceedings. Proceedings will be distributed to all registered delegates at the conference.

### Deadlines

#### Abstracts & Papers

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 14 February 2025 | Abstract Deadline                                      |
| 14 March 2025    | Abstract Notification                                  |
| 14 April 2025    | Distribution of 2nd Circular and Preliminary Programme |
| 14 May 2025      | Submission of Final Papers                             |
| 4 July 2025      | Paper Notification                                     |

#### Registration

|                               |                         |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| From April until July 2025    | Early Bird Registration |
| From August to September 2025 | Standard Registration   |



## Emerging Professionals Reception: Aquarius, Restaurant - Vistula River

The EFEE Emerging Professionals invite all conference attendees to join us for this popular networking reception. The purpose of the reception is to provide an opportunity for professional networking and socialising during the evening before the conference officially kicks off.

This sponsored function, hosted by EFEE will take place on Saturday, 20th September from 7pm until 11pm with a river tour, drinks, snacks, networking and local entertainment. Attendance is limited to 200, and will be available to book in April 2025. Those looking to be involved in EFEE should reach out to the Emerging Professionals at [info@efee.eu](mailto:info@efee.eu) as involvement in this group is a great route to becoming involved in the society as a whole.



## Pre Conference Technical Workshop: Use of explosives in demolition works

A unique opportunity to exchange opinions and experiences with specialists from around the world! On 21 September, we will pay special attention to shaped charges. There are numerous demolition methods and demolition conditions are diverse, so together let's broaden horizons and raise standards - for greater safety and better efficiency! And all this in the company of international speakers and experienced professionals - discussions, quizzes and practical demonstrations. You can expect all this during this event!

The workshop is supported by AGH

Case study:

Explosive cutting of mining machines - excavator, demolition of chimneys, show at the training place in Regulice (test blasting area)



Programme:

- 8.00-10.00 Presentations and discussion
- 10.00 - 15:30 Departure to the training place in Regulice  
Performing blasting and assessment
- 16.30 Return to Kraków

Tickets include lunch, transfers and attendance at this special technical workshop and visit.

Further details will be available when booking launches in April 2025. The programme is for reference and subject to change.

## Post Conference Technical Excursion: GIG Experimental Mine, BARBARA and NITROERG

During this trip we will have a unique opportunity to visit two important places for the explosives and mining industry in Poland located around 100 km from Kraków.

The first visit is to Notified Body GIG's Experimental Mine, BARBARA, where they test and approve explosives for civil application. The visit includes a presentation of coal dust and methane explosion.

NITROERG company, is the largest manufacturer of detonators and explosives in Poland and one the most important in Europe having almost 155 years tradition and experience. Here we will take a tour explaining the manufacturing process on state-of the art production lines.

Programme:

- 07.00 Depart Krakow
- 08.30 GIG KD Barbara – Notified Body  
Presentation of GIG's activities as a notified body in the scope of the Directive 2014/28/EU
- 09.00-11.00 Visit to GIG's laboratories and practical demonstrations of explosives tests
- 11.00-11.30 Transfer to NITROERG
- 11.30-12.30 Lunch
- 12.30-15.30 NITROERG - Bieruń  
NITROERG's Factory tours in groups:
  - Production of detonators
  - Production of emulsion explosives
- 15.30 Return to Krakow
- 17.00 Arrival in Kraków

Tickets include lunch, transfers and attendance at this special technical workshop and visit. Places are subject to approval.

Further details will be available when booking launches in early 2025. The programme is for reference and subject to change.



## Venue Information

The 13<sup>th</sup> World Conference on Explosives and Blasting will take place at ICE Kraków Congress Centre.

This impressive, modern venue, located on the Vistula River, opened in 2015 with the aim to boost the local economy. The cutting edge facility with modern facilities and technology plays host to large exhibitions, concerts and events.

## Exhibition

A large industry exhibition will run alongside the technical presentations. This exhibition offers an excellent opportunity for explosives users, consultants, suppliers, and manufacturers to showcase their latest advancements to a broad segment of the industry.

If you are interested in exhibiting at the conference, please contact [exhibition@efeeworldconference.com](mailto:exhibition@efeeworldconference.com)

## Sponsorship

There are a variety of sponsorship and advertising opportunities available which will raise your company profile at this large international event. For further information on sponsorship please email [sponsorship@efeeworldconference.com](mailto:sponsorship@efeeworldconference.com)

## Stara Zajezdnia Kraków Gala Dinner

The Gala Dinner has been planned for Monday 22nd September at Stara Zajezdnia Kraków and Microbrewery. The evening will encompass local cuisine, entertainment, and local Polish ales.

Further information will be available on our website in the coming weeks: [efeeworldconference.com](http://efeeworldconference.com)

## Sightseeing

Kraków is a vibrant city, attracting millions of tourists each year who come to explore its museums, galleries, and lively atmosphere. Renowned for its stunning architecture, the historic Wawel Castle and the Main Market Square, which is one of the largest medieval town squares in Europe. In 1978, Kraków's Old Town was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. There are superb local attractions, including Oskar Schindler's Factory, Krakus Mound, Wieliczka Salt Mine, and many more. Further information is available at [visitkrakow.com](http://visitkrakow.com).



## Accommodation

Conference accommodation will be available at the neighbouring Park Inn by Radisson, Kraków.

Booking information will be available through the conference website when registration launches in early 2025.



## Location

To view the conference location, please visit the Google map link: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/EHsWXbysYxWQjXc37>

## Registration Fee

Registration fees will be available when registration launches in April 2025.

EFEE Corporate, Individual and National Members will receive discounted registration.

Attendees and speakers are required to pay the registration fee.

## Participation

If you would like to participate in the conference, please register your interest at [www.efeeworldconference.com](http://www.efeeworldconference.com)

## Conference Committee

- Jari Honkanen (Chairman), Finland
- Elżbieta Błotny, Poland
- Alan Dolan, Ireland
- Johan Finsteen Gjødvaad, Denmark
- José Carlos Góis, Portugal
- Donald Jonson, Sweden
- Krzysztof Pietkiewicz, Poland
- James Tyler, UK
- Marilena Cardu, Italy
- Roger Holmberg, Sweden
- Igor Kopál, Slovakia





## Technical Committee



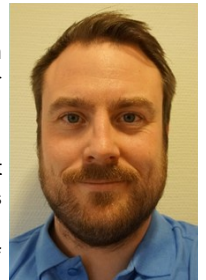
### Jari Honkanen (Chairman), Finland

Jari holds a MSc degree in Rock Engineering from Helsinki Univ. of Technology. He has held a shotfirer license since 1993 and the highest shotfirer license in Finland for both surface and underground blasting since 2002. Jari holds also the highest aa-class vibration expert classification.

Since 2021 Jari has run an independent blasting consultancy EXcontrol Oy, focusing on environmental safety in explosives and excavation works. He has worked over 35 years in the field of rock excavation. 5 years in surface construction blasting, 10 years in international drilling, bolting and loading equipment business and the last 20 years in vibration and blasting consultation and training. He led Forcit Consulting, the leading vibration and blasting consulting group in Northern Europe, for 17 years. Jari has held over 100 privately held courses on blasting technique and taught blasting technique on all levels including Universities. Jari has also been a member of the Committee for shotfirer training appointed by Ministry of Social affairs and Health in Finland since 2018 and he has been issued the right to hold examinations aiming for Finnish shotfirer certificates in 2016. Within EFEE Jari has been the Finnish national Council member since 2010. He is currently the chairman of Conference committee and is active also in Environmental, Shotfirer and Membership & Marketing Committees. He has been a member of EFEE board since 2017 and served as EFEE President during 2018-2020. Jari was responsible for the 10th EFEE Conference held in Helsinki, Finland in 2019.

### Espen Hugaas, Norway

Espen Hugaas (MSc / CE) holds a Civil Engineering degree in technical geology and mineral production from the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU, 2008). Since graduation, Espen has been working for Orica Norway AS in different technical roles. In the period 2012-2018 he was the operator responsible for the Nitro Consult business (daughter company) working with environmental monitoring, risk assessments and blast consulting. From 2014 he held a dual role as the lead for Orica's Technical Services in Norway. All through this time, he has worked with different aspects of blasting technique and especially implementation of electronic blasting systems (EBS) in the Norwegian market including training of shotfirers, blast planning and blast optimization for both surface and underground operations. He is currently responsible for sales of explosives to the Norwegian tunnel and underground market. Since 2015 he has also been involved in the work with the Norwegian standard for vibrations related to blast works (NS8141). Espen have been the delegate to EFEE Council since 2016 on behalf of the Norwegian Tunnelling Association (NFF) and was elected as vice president of EFEE in 2024.

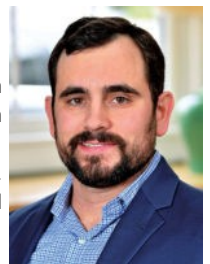


### Jörg Rennert, Germany

Jörg Rennert (Dipl. -Ing. -Päd) is a German Citizen from Roßlau, Germany. His educational achievements include a high-school graduate in steel working for metallurgical engineering and a diploma: Dipl.-Ing.-Päd. from the Technical University of Dresden. Jörg's professional career includes being a steelworker for metallurgical engineering in the steelwork in 1985. A scientific employee of the Technical University of Dresden in 1991. Assistant professor at Sprengschule Dresden GmbH from 1992 to 1998. Jörg progressed to managing director of The Dresdner Sprengschule GmbH and leader of business fields Blasting Technology and Pyrotechnics in 1998. In 2001 Jörg became president of the German Blasting Association (Deutscher Sprengverband e.V.). In 2010 he was elected as vice president of EFEE and was the president of EFEE between 2012 and 2014. Since 2008 Jörg is the Chairman of the EU-Directives and since 2020 also the treasurer of EFEE.

### Nathan Rouse, Ireland

Dr. Nathan Rouse has a BS in Mining Engineering, MS in Explosives Engineering, and PhD in Mining and Explosives Engineering, all from the University of Missouri-Rolla. He is also a registered professional engineer and licensed blaster. Nathan has over 15 years of experience in underground and surface mining and construction. He spent the first 12 years of his career in Kentucky and moved a couple years ago to Ireland; however, his work has taken him all over the world. Nathan is currently the president of Thoroughbred Drill and Blast Consultants, a drill and blast engineering consulting group he founded in early 2023. His projects include various initiatives for major mining clients around the world. Nathan focuses on training, instrumentation and root cause analysis, and blasting optimization.



### Mateusz Pytlik, Poland

After graduation 2014, he started working for a Polish Notified Body – Central Mining Institute – National Research Institute (GIG -PIB). During his professional career, he was a member and a head of teams conducting work related to certification of explosives for civilian use under Directive 2014/28/EU, testing of blasting equipment, development of technical expertise for open pit and underground mines. He currently holds the position of head of the explosives team and the explosives testing laboratory. Mateusz is the chairman of the organizing committee of the periodic scientific and technical conference "Blasting Safety". His research work has particularly focused on measurement methods for evaluating explosives. Mateusz is author and co-author of almost 40 publications. He is responsible for developing research methods and performing blasting tests at the Experimental Mine "Barbara" and on the testing ground, as part of the realization of research projects and cooperation with industry.

### Kristen Kolden, US

Kristen Kolden was born and currently resides in Alaska where she is part owner and General Manager of a drilling, blasting, and civil construction company. She earned a Masters of Science Degree studying the effects of underwater blasting on fisheries. Since her studies she has participated in research including underwater blast overpressures, blasting ground vibration, structure response and close-in blasting techniques. Her work experience includes construction blasting consulting and working as a blaster-in-charge on highway and remote construction projects in Alaska. Kristen has served on the ISEE Board of Directors since 2017 and is currently the Vice President of the ISEE.





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