

IGWA Bulletin



Today is the Tomorrow We Worried About Yesterday!

What is the status, really? The new Well Construction Rules went into effect on July 1st. Have you read them? Do you know what changes you have to make to your mind set, to your bidding process, and to your construction procedures? Do you have a plan? Will this plan set you apart from the rest of the pack? Will you be a better businessman because of it? Will this plan help you communicate better with your clients? Will there be better quality workmanship as a result of the new plan? Will there be a new image of you and your business in the minds of your clients as you implement this plan? Will you look forward to the help from IGWA and the inspector from IDWR? Have you asked for help from anyone? Has life after July 1st been a good experience for your world, or have you just brooded over the issue and spent too much time thinking, moaning, groaning, belly aching, griping, etc. about the new Rules and everyone connected with them?

Albert Einstein, one of the great minds of the last century said, "For every difficulty, there is an opportunity." What opportunities do you see? Are you prepared to take advantage of those opportunities? During the last 40 years that I have been in business, I've seen several major changes come about. The world seems to exist in plateaus. We get to a point where we just glide along with some degree of comfort. Then something comes along which forces us to take a step up. Our comfort zone is disturbed, we make some changes and before long we get settled into another comfortable position. Those plateaus seem to come along more often than not. Our increased ability to adapt to such changes increases our ability to take advantage of more opportunities. If we can keep in mind that changes are opportunities for progress, we will be better off than the next guy and another step ahead.

So far this year has been different for everyone. The truth is every year is different. With a positive mind set as we get down the road a few more years, we can look back and say, "2009 was the turning point for the best years of my life." Let's meet the challenge and see just what we can make of our unique opportunities to make a better world for ourselves and everyone we touch. It will be very interesting to watch the future unfold as we think positively, plan well, work the plan and see success.

You are a great people and it is an honor to be a part of the Ground Water Industry. Thank you for the contribution you make to the good of the people of your communities, this state and the nation.

Henry Baker
IGWA President



District Judge Denies Stay of Well Closures

The state of Idaho seems set to continue enforcing large-scale well closures in the Magic Valley for at least another week and a half after a district judge on Wednesday, August 12 denied an attempt by groundwater pumpers to end them.

Gary Spackman, Interim Director of the Idaho Department of Water Resources, has currently ordered users of about 150 groundwater rights in four counties to stop using those rights, after concluding last month that the districts failed to carry out part of a plan to provide water to a fish farm run by Clear Springs Foods of Buhl.

The widespread closure, which includes water that irrigates about 4,150 acres of land, is known as curtailment and had never been officially carried out by IDWR before.

In a sizeable filing Tuesday afternoon, attorneys for the North Snake and Magic Valley groundwater districts had asked 5th District Judge John Melanson to temporarily put the closures on hold, as well as to review the curtailment orders and hold a hearing on a permanent stay of them. Melanson replied Wednesday afternoon, declining to halt the process for now but scheduling a hearing on a full stay for 10 a.m. Aug. 21 at the Snake River Basin Adjudication courtroom in Twin Falls.

Melanson wrote that his decision was influenced by several factors:

- The districts assumed that a previous court decision of his led Spackman to invalidate the agreement that was broken, which the judge wrote does not appear to be entirely the case.
- The districts admitted that they have not complied with the agreement, which was based on one of their own proposed plans.
- A temporary stay may cause irreparable harm to Clear Springs.

No comment was immediately available Wednesday afternoon from the districts and their representatives, some of whom had not seen the decision. But Randy MacMillan, the fish company's vice president for research and environmental affairs, said his company was disappointed and surprised that the districts weren't able to agree to an offer made last week Clear Springs viewed as "reasonable."

Clear Springs continues to work on long-term solutions to the decline of the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer, he said.

The denied stay means IDWR's enforcement - so far limited to cursory inspections and phone calls - will progress to the next stage. Speaking in his office early Wednesday evening, Spackman said area Watermaster Cindy Yenter will begin visiting water users today who don't appear to be complying with the closures, ideally working out ways to reach compliance but possibly opening the door to physically limit their wells.

It's a step Spackman said he was hoping wouldn't have to be carried out. But state law and his orders give him no choice, he said.

Some water users who may have only one well or have other limited options are certain to be harmed by the closures. But by and large, the users affected so far appear to be looking to work with IDWR, Spackman said.

"People have been remarkably civil, have responded, and I've been impressed by the responses of the groundwater users," he said.

By Nate Poppino
Times-News writer



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Rockmore Announces Launch of New Website

Rockmore International, a global manufacturer of rock drilling tools, has enhanced its online presence with the launch of a new, content-rich website promoting its many products and applications. The new website can be seen at <http://www.rockmore-intl.com>.

“With manufacturing centers in two hemispheres and distribution centers on nearly every continent, it became imperative to have comprehensive product information rapidly available online,” said Rockmore’s Executive Vice President, Pejman Eghdami. “There is a growing interest in Rockmore among drilling operators and contractors around the world, and this new site is part of our commitment to rapid communication and service.”

The new website features an expanded history of the company, and extensive information on a wide range of drilling products, including threaded and tapered drill bits, DTH bits and hammers, extension and tunneling rods, integral and tapered rods, shank adapters and other drill tool accessories. A photo gallery shows Rockmore’s manufacturing facilities in Wilsonville, Oregon and Judenburg, Austria, as well as images of Rockmore tools in use on drilling sites all over the world.

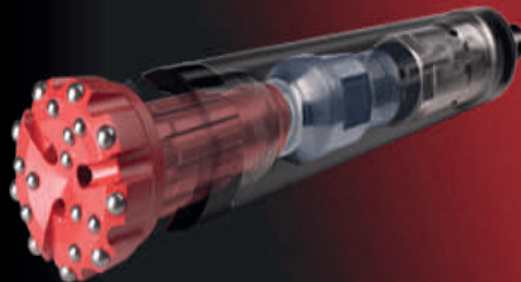
A Technology section features a 3D animation of a Rockmore DTH drilling hammer, and descriptions of Rockmore’s technical innovations, including the new MultiPoint carbide insert design, the innovative XR32 thread design, and SonicFlow technology to increase hammer performance.

Rockmore’s new product catalog is available on the website for download, as well as the DTH Hammer Operations Guide, the DTH Hammer Performance Summary, and Technical Data Sheets for all of Rockmore’s ROK Series DTH Hammers.

An interactive online survey provides continuous input as to the needs and requirements of operators and contractors working in the field.

Rockmore International is a global manufacturer of rock-drilling tools, serving the mining, construction, and water-well sectors for more than 60 years.

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ROCKMORE INTERNATIONAL

is a leading global manufacturer of premium quality percussive rock drilling tools. Our high-performance products include threaded and tapered drill bits, DTH bits and hammers, extension and tunneling rods, integral and tapered rods, shank adapters and other drill tool accessories. With manufacturing centers in two hemispheres and distribution centers on nearly every continent, Rockmore International provides a wide range of quality tools to mining, construction, tunneling, quarrying, and water well projects all over the world.

Photo Gallery

IN THE NEWS

Technology

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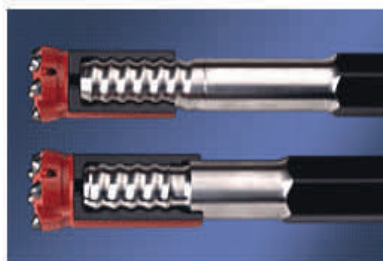


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Introducing the New XR32 Thread Design for Drifting and Tunneling Operations



Rockmore International has announced a revolutionary new thread design, XR32, to improve precision and efficiency in drifting and tunneling operations, and to extend thread life.

This new thread design is the product of Rockmore's in-house R & D and manufacturing facility, in response to demand from underground drillers for a stronger and more powerful drill string. Extensive lab and field testing has demonstrated the effectiveness of the

XR32 thread system in providing more efficient energy transfer, higher bit penetration rates, and longer thread life for both bit and rod. The new XR32 thread is employed at the bit connection end for hex drifting and tunneling rods, and is used for both male and female components - both tunneling bit and rod. The other end of the rod, connected to the coupling or shank adapter has a standard thread such as R38 or T38. That means smooth integration into your existing drill string. [More](#)

MultiPoint - The Next Generation of Carbide Inserts for Button Bits

Rockmore International, a global manufacturer of rock drilling tools, has developed a revolutionary new carbide insert design for their button bits, the MultiPoint.

In percussive drilling, penetration rates depend on efficient crack propagation. With a conventional hemispherical insert,

there is a single tangent point striking the rock, resulting in the rapid development of wear flats. Rockmore's exclusive new carbide insert design provides multiple strike points for more efficient rock fracture and longer insert life.

Extensive rock-drilling trials showed that Rockmore's button bits with MultiPoint inserts last up to 20% longer than the standard hemispherical design, and increased penetration rates by 10%. Wear flats appeared slower and later in the insert life than with hemispherical inserts. Testing also revealed that the MultiPoint inserts provided smoother bit rotation and advancement. [More](#)



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