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(54) Title: CARTRIDGE AND CHARGING SYSTEM INCORPORATING SAME

(57) Abstract

Cartridge (10) includes first compartment (12) for holding a volume of energy absorbing stemming material (14) and adjacent second compartment (16) for holding a volume of energetic explosive or propellant material (18). Initiator (28) is disposed in compartment (16). Dividing wall (22) separates compartments (12, 16) and may be conical in shape so as to deform and seal the borehole upon detonation of material (18). Cartridge (10) may be integrally formed or assembled from two separate containers coupled together. Compartment (12) can be made from thin-walled material including one or more slits or lines of weakness to facilitate deformation or bursting. Cartridge (10) can be secured to a stemming bar for placement in the borehole. Charging systems and methods of charging a hole formed in hard material are also described and claimed.

