



Mechanical Crimper

Along with a lamp room for distributing carbide, safety lamps, or electric lamps, many mines had a powder house for the safe, controlled distribution of explosives, blasting caps, and fuses. The mechanical fuse or cap crimper shown here must have been mounted on a bench or table, and used to prepare blasting materials before they went underground.

What Kind of Rig is This?

Bruce Beck found this in Arizona. He doesn't quite know what it is or what it would have been used for. Well, neither do we! The bottom section is certainly derived from a safety lamp. The upper section is a separate chamber with a knurled filling cap on top. Stranger yet is the copper tubing coming from the upper chamber and directed around to aim at the wick.

Has he stumbled on a diamond in the sand or is this just another rig?

