

# Safety Alert

26 July 2024

Let's work together to keep ourselves and our workers safe.

## Blocks fall hitting workers

An area under fixed plant at a quarry was being excavated in order to pour a concrete footing. While excavating, a number of concrete blocks were discovered that had been used as retaining walls.

Some blocks, believed to be stacked three high were left in situ.

Heavy rainfall occurred before two workers began working in the area. Sand had washed away from under two blocks. The blocks fell to the side and rolled forward, hitting both workers.

Both workers sustained minor injuries.

[MinEx statistics](#) on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the past 6 years show 16% of incidents (1,007 incidents) involve falls of which 231 result from fall of ground.



### You need to ensure that:

1. If using concrete blocks on site, they are interlocked and stable or placed in a single layer only.
2. Potential fall hazards are identified in work areas and appropriate exclusion zones are established to protect workers from such hazards.
3. Following severe weather events, work areas are assessed to identify hazards created by such weather before work commences.

**Know of an incident or near miss? Please share the learnings with us.**