

Safety Alert

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

6 September 2024

Rockslide hits digger

An operator was digging out the toe from the base of a face when rock fell, partially engulfing the digger.

The material rolled down a slippery back structure from the face sliding into and around the digger.

The worker was not injured in the incident.



[MinEx statistics](#) on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the past 6 years show 16% of incidents (1,022 incidents) involve falls of which 240 involve fall of ground.

You need to ensure that:

1. You conduct a site assessment of geology and potential geotechnical issues to identify potential slope instability issues.
2. Regular site inspections for ground instability are conducted, particularly after significant rainfall.
3. A catch bench is established between the excavator and face when working at the face.
4. When operating an excavator at a face, ensure that the cab of the excavator is on the free side of the shot i.e. not facing the bench.

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