

Emergency Management Scenario

Bench failure

Incident summary

Event: Late afternoon, just before shift ends, a large section of the quarry face fails, causing four benches to collapse to the quarry floor.

Witness: A worker cleaning near the plant, approximately 100 metres away, observes the failure.



Immediate response actions

- Initiate emergency alert and evacuate all personnel.
- Conduct a full headcount using sign-in sheets, digital tracking, or muster points.
- Confirm all workers are accounted for.
- Lock down the pit area and prevent entry until a geotechnical survey confirms stability.
- Do not remove any material from the toe of the slip.

Scenario checklist

Confirm all personnel are safe and accounted for

Who is doing what? Assign clear roles and ensure critical tasks are allocated

Restrict entry to the pit and anticipate further movement

Preserve the scene and avoid disturbing the failure site

How was communication managed on site? Radios, alarms, mobile phones, or PA systems?

Was there a clear chain of command and timely communication?

How did you ensure everyone was accounted for? Manual headcount, digital check-in, or supervisor confirmation?

Discussion for training or review

What signs (if any) were present before the failure?

How quickly was the incident reported and escalated?

Were emergency protocols followed correctly?

What improvements can be made to site monitoring and geotechnical inspections?

Internal incident reporting and documentation discussion