

NZ Safety Alert

29 October 2021

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

Rockfall damages crusher

Over the course of a weekend, a rock dislodged from a quarry face, rolled down the face and hit a mobile crusher in the pit.

Heavy rain and a minor earthquake occurred over the weekend; however, the catch bund had been removed and scaling of the face had not been completed.

No-one was present at the site, and the crusher sustained minor damage.



MinEx data on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the 48 months to June 2021 show 16% of all incidents (644 incidents) result from falls, of which 148 involve fall of ground.

You need to ensure that:

1. You regularly inspect high risk faces with the potential for rockfalls and install adequate catch bunds or other controls to protect workers from potential rockfalls.
2. You install adequate bunding or trenching between mobile plant and the face while working near or at the face.
3. All workers are aware of the risks of rockfall and the controls necessary to protect them from exposure to rockfalls.

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