

SAFETY ALERT



CORONER'S INQUEST - DEATH AT QUARRY

INCIDENT

A quarry worker died from multiple injuries when he was struck by a front-end loader.

CIRCUMSTANCES

The person driving the loader started off. After about 50 metres he stopped to adjust his seat. When he started again he looked over his shoulder and saw the other person lying on the ground behind the loader. The person appeared to have been run over by the loader.

CORONER'S REPORT

The Coroner reported that drugs had contributed to the mine worker's death.

CORONER'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Mines should put in place procedures to prevent employees and other people from using drugs and alcohol on mine sites.

Mines should put in place procedures to prevent employees and other people from going on mine sites under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Mines should provide information and training on:

- the symptoms of using drugs and alcohol,
- the effects of commonly used drugs,
- the effects of using a mixture of drugs and/or alcohol,
- the further effects of drugs and alcohol on a person who is stressed, tired, injured or on prescription medication.

Mines should have random tests for drugs and alcohol and enforce the site's drugs and alcohol policy.

Mine Managers and Mine General Managers must comply with the legislation dealing with risks to health or safety due to drugs and alcohol.

These Coroner's recommendations are for your information.

R. Regan
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR SAFETY OPERATIONS