

# GLOBAL SAFETY ALERT

## CONTRACTOR FATALLY INJURED IN QUARRY

### INCIDENT DETAILS

A contractor, who was a supervisor, was carrying out an unauthorized activity in a quarry when an explosion occurred as he used our company's oxygen and acetylene equipment without permission. He suffered severe injuries during the incident and without reporting the event to the gate security officer, his colleagues took him in their SUV to the local hospital, where he then passed away.

Rod fragments enter the drum and opposite side exit point



Contractor was sitting on this drum, which had oil inside

Evidence of smoking at the scene



### KEY FINDINGS

- The contractors had been given permission to be on site on a Sunday to carry out quarry face drilling operations. With no supervision from our company that day, they had moved away from the face to the workshop and were using our oxygen and acetylene without permission to cut old drilling rods for scrap.
- The contractor (supervisor), who was using the equipment, did not follow safety protocols and was inexperienced in how to safely use oxygen and acetylene, and a build up of gases in the hollow drill rods caused an explosion.
- The oxygen and acetylene was accessible, without any security restrictions.
- Other evidence identified the contractors had also moved from their place of work on previous occasions and taken property that did not belong to them.

### MANAGERS – KEY POINTS TO CHECK

- Appropriate levels of supervision are in place when contractors are on site.
- Our HSMS Contractor Management requirements are fully implemented.
- Unauthorized access to equipment is prevented with suitable securing devices.
- Only personnel, who have been trained, approved and authorized uses oxygen and acetylene equipment.

### ALL PERSONNEL – ACTION TO TAKE

- **Never** use equipment if you have not been trained and authorized.
- **Always** follow the Safe Systems of Work and protocols to ensure the safety of yourself and those around you.
- **Always** stop and think before a task to double check everything is safe to proceed – **Take 5!**
- **Always** step in if you see someone, including any contractor, taking a risk. **Take 5 Together!**



Look after yourself  
and each other



Tools and  
Equipment



Safe  
Systems