Stone block falls whilst being sawed

WHAT HAPPENED

A large block of stone was being cut in half on a saw when half of the cut block toppled off the slave pallet onto floor (see video below). Fortunately, no personnel were nearby or involved. However, this incident had a high potential for a far more serious outcome.

The investigation revealed that the slave pallet used only had steel posts on the opposite side. Whilst it is not normally a problem if cutting large block in half, in this incident, it was shown to be insufficient.

View a video of incident

LEARNING POINTS / ACTIONS TAKEN

Preventative Actions:

- In future, all slave pallets will be fitted with multiple posts to prevent a similar event.
- Work force will be briefed on incident and the new procedure.
- Reinforces adage of 'do not turn your back on block'.

Risk-changers:

- A recently installed guard fence prevented access to area where the block toppled. The guard fence is electronically linked to the saw. The saw operation will stop in the event anyone opens guard fencing.
- The recent installation of CCTV around the site has picked up several H&S incidents. This has allowed action to be taken to prevent further occurrences. It has proved a valuable tool in capturing H&S incidents and highlight the importance of near miss reporting.

LOCATION:	**DIMENSION STONE PLANT**	**ALERT STATUS:**	**Normal**
ACTIVITY:	**PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING**	**DATE ISSUED:**	**27/02/2020 23:17:43**
SUB ACTIVITY:	**DIMENSION STONE**	**INCIDENT No:**	**02550**