

Relevance of Geoscience in Quarrying

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The relevance of geoscience in quarrying seems pretty obvious as quarrying is the extraction of rock resource from the ground. What is less obvious is that geoscience knowledge can assist in improving productivity, health, safety, environmental and value creation in quarrying. Good drilling and blasting is the frontline of productivity in quarrying operations and geoscience assists in evaluation of drillability, blastability and crushability of rocks. The

structure and nature of rock being quarried affect face stability and types of dust produced. Good geoscience knowledge of the quarry grounds enables better control of environmental impacts of quarrying operations and reduces potential anomalous environmental impacts. Detail geological evaluation of rock deposits assist in selective quarrying, producing higher valued industrial products rather than cheap rock materials. Quarry management should realise the importance of geoscience knowledge of their site and use it to improve their quarrying operations and profitability.
