SAFETY TALKS

Safety around Quarry Pits and Tailings Ponds

Purpose: To raise awareness of the hazards associated with quarry pits and tailings ponds and to reinforce safe working practices to prevent injuries, drowning, falls, equipment incidents, and environmental damage.

Key Hazards Around Quarry Pits and Tailings Ponds

- Unstable ground and collapsing edges.
- Slips, trips, and falls near steep embankments.
- Drowning hazards in water-filled pits and dams.
- Vehicles or machinery sliding into pits or over embankments.
- Poor visibility during rain, fog, or night work.
- Unauthorized access by workers or visitors.
- Tailings pond wall failures or erosion.
- Exposure to contaminated water or mud.

Safe Work Practices

1. Always obey warning signs, barricades, and exclusion zones.
2. Maintain safe distances from pit edges and tailings ponds walls.
3. Conduct pre-work inspections of roads, berms, and working areas.
4. Never work alone near water or unstable ground.
5. Use designated access roads and pedestrian walkways only.
6 Ensure berms and edge protections are maintained and visible.
7. Wear the correct PPE including reflective clothing, safety boots, and **life jackets** where required.
8. Report cracks, erosion, seepage, or unusual movement immediately.
9. Keep vehicles and machinery at safe operating speeds.
10. Ensure emergency rescue equipment is available and accessible. (lifebuoy and rope, life jackets)

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Emergency Response

- Stop work immediately if unsafe conditions are identified.
- Notify supervisors and emergency personnel without delay.
- Do not attempt rescues without proper training and equipment.
- Follow site emergency evacuation procedures.
- Ensure emergency contact numbers are clearly displayed.

Discussion Points

- Do all employees understand exclusion zones around pits and dams?
- Are berms and barricades inspected regularly?
- Is emergency rescue equipment available and inspected?
- Have recent weather conditions affected ground stability?

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