

METAL / NONMETAL

Close Call

Surface Crushed, Broken Limestone - An excavator slipped into a lake while excavating sand. The driver walked away without any injuries.



BEST PRACTICES

- Examine working places, identify hazards, and assess and control risks. Be alert to changing ground conditions such as cracking, bulging, sloughing, undercutting, and erosion. Maintain a safe distance from the edge of excavations and slopes.
- Ensure all miners are trained to recognize workplace hazards, evaluate the stability of the ground prior to operating equipment near any drop off or edge.
- When operating equipment on soft or unconsolidated material, what may appear to be a good operating surface can quickly liquefy and create an unstable condition.
- Discuss safe work procedures before beginning work. Identify and control all hazards associated with the work to be performed and the methods to properly protect miners.



Protecting Miners' Safety and Health Since 1978