Fatal 5 - Operator seriously injured by falling slab - HSE Report and video

WHAT HAPPENED

HSE Report

A man has been unable to work for over two years after he was struck and injured by slabs of stone.

Steven Constable sustained multiple bone fractures following the incident at Bespoke Stone Ltd's workshop in June 2022. Three slabs fell from a stillage onto Mr Constable, 54, and his colleague Struan Dunsmore, who sustained bruising to his body.

The pair had been preparing to move one of the slabs onto a saw bed when all three slabs fell.

This disturbing video from the CCTV shows the incident. View video

A HSE investigation found Bespoke Stone Ltd's handling and storage of slabs was unsafe in that the material was not secure. The restraint system provided did not fit around larger sizes of material.

Please follow this link for more information from the HSE report on this incident. Follow Link to HSE.

LEARNING POINTS / ACTIONS TAKEN

HSE guidance states slabs should always remain restrained during loading/unloading operations, whether from vehicles or from storage when any person could be in the hazard zone into which a slab might fall from its racked position or fail during lifting.

Further guidance can be found at: Handling and storage of large sheet stone slabs – HSE

LOCATION:	**DIMENSION STONE PLANT**	**ALERT STATUS:**	**Normal**
ACTIVITY:	**MANUAL HANDLING AND STORAGE**	**DATE ISSUED:**	**28/01/2025 10:43:30**
SUB ACTIVITY:	**DIMENSION STONE**	**INCIDENT No:**	**04856**