



# Health and Safety in Quarries - The Northern Ireland Situation

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# Northern Ireland Situation

- 160 quarries in Northern Ireland
- 1,900 employed by the industry
- High % quarries with less than 20 employees
- 60% workforce over 40 years old



## Differences between quarrying in N.I and GB

- Greater number of smaller quarries
- Greater number of family owned quarries



# Northern Ireland Situation

- 1,900 employed in quarry sector
- 14 fatalities 1989 – 2005 (inclusive)
- FAIR – 45 per 100,000 employees



# Main Health and Safety Issues

- Training and Competence
- Safe work at height
- Workplace transport
  - Traffic routes
  - All round visibility
  - Vehicle maintenance
- Machinery guarding
- Safety of maintenance workers



# Main Issues facing the Industry

- Lack of new workers entering the industry
- Poor perception of the industry
- High Insurance premiums
- Difficulty obtaining Planning permission





# The Future

- Closer liaison with the industry – Quarry Products Association, N.I, Institute of Quarrying etc.

Work together to raise standards across the industry.