

# LIVING NEAR A QUARRY

## TRANSPORT MANAGEMENT

### WHAT DOES A QUARRY PRODUCE?

The most common materials produced by a quarry are construction aggregates such as crushed rock, sand or gravel. These materials are used to make concrete, asphalt, road base, rail ballast and a range of other construction products.

You may not realise that the average home needs the equivalent of about four truckloads of quarry materials to build the concrete floor slab, driveways, drainage materials, slab preparations and landscaping or that one kilometre of freeway requires about **14,000 tonnes** (or 400 truckloads) of construction aggregate.

### WHY ARE TRUCKS USED TO CARRY QUARRY PRODUCTS?

Trucks are essential for transporting these materials efficiently and safely to where they are needed such as building and construction sites, landscape yards and other facilities that use quarry materials.

While some very large quarries have facilities to transport products by rail to depots for further distribution to their final destination, all quarry products are transported by road for at least part of their journey.

Quarries play an important role in our day-to-day lives. They provide the stone, sand and gravel that's used to build our roads, hospitals, schools and our homes.

To ensure this important infrastructure remains affordable, it's important these natural materials are sourced locally – close to where they are used. That's why you find quarries operating in and around the communities that use their products. For the most part, you wouldn't know they are there.

The quarrying industry operates to strict conditions and is committed to minimising the impact of its operations on local communities and environments. If you live around a quarry you may notice vehicles used to transport quarry products.

The following will provide more information about transporting quarry products, and what quarry managers and government regulators do to minimise any impacts on those living nearby.



### ARE QUARRY TRUCKS REGULATED?

Quarry trucks, like all heavy vehicles have the potential to impact on roads and other road users. The quarrying industry works with government regulators to ensure that those impacts are minimised through careful planning and management.

Quarry trucks are only permitted to travel on specific roads that have been designated by government regulators. Quarry trucks operate under strict guidelines on vehicle size and weight and these are verified by weigh bridges before leaving the quarry site. You may not realise that many quarry managers make significant financial contributions to the cost of building and maintaining local roads as part of the development approvals granted by State and local governments.



### ARE THEY SAFE?

The operation of quarry trucks is very safe. Quarry companies are subject to chain-of-responsibility regulation which means that they must maintain vehicles to a safe standard and ensure that their drivers are fit and have adequate rest breaks to avoid fatigue. Quarry truck drivers are professional drivers and hold special licences to operate their vehicles.

Quarry managers take road safety seriously and follow up on all complaints and concerns raised by the community.

## AREN'T QUARRY TRUCKS NOISY AND DIRTY?

Quarry managers have a responsibility to minimise the impact of their transport fleets on local communities. To achieve this they implement strategies that include:

- › Regularly maintained truck fleets to ensure they are safe and clean
- › Fleet renewal to ensure that new vehicle technologies are continually incorporated into vehicles, increasing safety and reducing noise and emissions
- › Managing and regulating operating hours of quarries to ensure that noise impacts are minimised, quarries usually don't operate at night or on Sundays
- › Maintaining Transport Codes of Conduct which clearly set out the company's expectations of anyone transporting materials
- › Wheel wash facilities to minimise dust carried onto roadways
- › Fully covering all loads before leaving the site

### IS THERE SOMEONE I CAN TALK TO IF I HAVE FURTHER CONCERNS?

Your local quarry will have community engagement strategies that include consultation with local residents. This provides a mechanism to air any concerns you may have, and at the same time allow the quarry operator to explain the operation in detail and provide assurances that its potential impacts are safe and proper. You can find out more about this process by contacting your local quarry.



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