



# Quarrying Operations

PDLA01

Between August 2010 and December 2015, the DIG IG team operated four Quarries in Sierra Leone, on behalf of African Minerals, in Rofayne, Mapathe, Markarie and Wendugu. The Tonkolili quarry produced 1.6 million tonnes of material for use as sub-base material in roads, railway ballast and aggregates for the production of concrete.

Ballast and aggregate production was processed using our own state-of-the-art crushing and screening plants comprising 6 jaws, 5 cone crushers and 7 multi split screens with 4 drill rigs providing our drill and blast capacity. At peak operation, the DIG IG team operated 5 crushing trains in Sierra Leone, supported by a team of plant fitters, quarry excavators, dump trucks, front end loading shovels and a fleet of 8 wheeled road tippers for stone distribution. In total, the DIG IG team have processed railway ballast, sub base, 6 no. single-size filter media, concrete aggregates, dust and clean stone for Gabions and stone pitching.

The geology of the rock was the most challenging aspect to deal with. The drilling and blasting team altered the blast design to suit the nature of the rock in each quarry and using GPS surveying were able to achieve free draining quarry floors where possible.

All stone produced was tested to British and International Standards in the laboratories that were set up at each area of work. Through our experienced team of professional and dedicated expatriate and local staff, we were able to rise to the challenges to ensure our client was provided with high quality ballast and aggregate product on time. We are very proud that we incurred no lost time injuries amongst our team of 13 expats and 50 nationals, the latter of whom we have trained from inception.

In total the quarries crushed and produced 2.8 million tonnes of iron ore at Tonkolili. We also purchased £1.8 million worth of new crushing equipment to expand further in Western Africa.

**Client:** African Minerals

**Value:** \$35,000,000

**Duration:** 4 years