

Coal miner killed by exploding tyre in central Queensland

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Operations at the Dawson mine were suspended after the worker's death. (ABC News: Marlina Whop)

A coal mine worker has been killed and another person has been badly injured in a mining accident this morning in central Queensland.

Queensland Police said a tyre had exploded at Dawson mine near Moura, 180km south-west of Rockhampton.

The site's owner, mining giant Anglo American, said the man who died was a contractor.

"Our thoughts and deepest sympathies are with the family, friends and colleagues of the two people involved," the company said in a statement.

The Queensland Ambulance Service said one person was taken to the Theodore Hospital with shoulder and collarbone fractures before being flown to a Brisbane hospital.

Operations at the mine have been suspended and staff have been offered counselling as mine safety authorities investigate the incident.

Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union (CFMEU) spokesman Steve Smyth, who oversees the union's mining and energy division in Queensland, said mining companies should have learnt lessons from previous accidents involving tyre explosions.

In 2010, a man was killed at the Foxleigh mine, also in the Bowen Basin, while changing a tyre.

"You'd like to think these corporations are actually taking notice of any of the recommendations and the outcomes of any incident and implement measures at mines so incidents like these and other ones don't occur," Mr Smyth said.

Mr Smyth said CFMEU representatives would attend the mine and participate in the investigation.