



Sean Scovell's parents get apology over Moranbah Quarry death as pair plead guilty to work safety failure

By Melissa Maddison

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Two men have pleaded guilty in the Industrial Magistrates Court to charges arising from the death of a young worker at a quarry in Queensland's Central Highlands in 2012.

MAP: Moranbah 4744



Sean Scovell, 21, from Biggenden in southern Queensland's North Burnett region, died after becoming entangled in a conveyor belt at the Moranbah Quarry.

Stuart Mitchell Weiland and James Andrew Kinross, and their company Global Crushers and Spares, were charged with failing to discharge a workplace health and safety obligation.

The court was told the company manufactured a part for the conveyor but did not ensure there were guards in place.

Sean's father, Brett Scovell, said it was nice to finally hear an apology.

"I feel it was a little late in coming but still always a pleasure to hear that someone is actually sorry that my son died in a tragic accident," he said.

"I'm glad that finally someone is admitting some degree of guilt.

"Today is just a bad day for the family but at least there's a little bit of closure.

"There's a lot more to come."

He said his son's death had taken a terrible toll on his family.

"It's horrendous. Nobody should have to bury their child," he said.

"To be able to laugh again is a luxury. Every day there's reminders, there's little triggers and I don't think that will ever stop.

"It's hard seeing your loved ones, I see my wife and I see the way it's affected brothers and sisters and it just rips your heart apart."

A sentence for the two men is due to be handed down next month.

Mr Scovell's employer, MCG Quarries, and four of its directors are expected to face trial at a later date.

Topics: courts-and-trials, workplace, moranbah-4744, mackay-4740, biggenden-4621, rockhampton-4700