



# ORICA Charleville

A two-kilometre exclusion zone was declared near Charleville after a Kenworth truck carrying the potentially lethal load of more than 50 tonnes of ammonium nitrate had driven off a bridge and rolled into a creek. The nitrate was being transported to South Australia for the mining company, Orica.

The explosion, fuelled by the ammonium nitrate was described by Ryan Brogden, principal inspector of explosives in the Natural Resources Department, as the most powerful in Australian transporting history.

Eight people, including the truck driver, police and fire fighters were injured in the blast which has left the highway unusable. The truck driver, two fire officers, and two passers-by went to hospital with serious injuries, while three other rescue workers were able to recover at home.

In a statement, Orica said its team would work alongside emergency services and regulators to understand both the cause of the accident and its aftermath and also provide advice regarding the management of the site and clean up activities.

**Eight people injured.**

**The safe transportation of ammonium nitrate is regulated under the Australian dangerous goods code and in Queensland under the Explosives Act, which is overseen by the Department of Natural Resources and Mines and Inspector of Explosives.**

**Detours and restrictions on Highway in place until all repairs are made.**

## **COR Australia**

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