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Craw, Isle of Arran

The problem.

Winter rains caused a large rock fall from the steep slope above the A841 at Craw on the Island of Arran, Scotland. Worried about the risk to the public, the local council were forced to close the road until the slope could be made safe. Because this is the principal periphery road on the island a rapid response was required.

The Solution

Vertical Technology arrived on site within 2 days, despite the distance and immediately set to work in rain, wind and snow clearing loose rocks from the slope to enable one lane of the road to reopen. Following this, our engineers undertook a geotechnical investigation of the slope to investigate longer-term stability and determine a remedial design. Vertical Technology quickly stabilised the slope using rock bolts, rock netting and a gabion basket retaining wall in this remote location.



Other areas not involved in the original failure were identified as vulnerable to rock falls and surface slips. These were protected by rock netting reinforced by cable strapping where required.



The base of the slope was supported by a gabion wall which also acts as a rock trap

