Applying Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Technology in the Cement and Mining Industries

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While the first use of an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) was recorded in 1849 [], recent technological advances have made them commonplace in today’s society. With that, UAVs have provided companies with a unique tool to modernize their workforce by creating safer, more efficient workplaces. With the amount of data being obtained from UAVs, companies have benefitted by drastically reducing time and expenses associated with obtaining data on their various operations, while increasing the usability and quality of that data. This paper provides insight into one company’s journey from starting a UAV program in 2016 to where it stands today, including practical applications in the cement industry, navigating regulations, company expenses, quality of data, drone technology, fleet management, and field experiences.