

COCA WCB Update #386 December 21, 2007

Council of Construction Associations

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Please post or distribute this important information on injuries/incidents.

CONSTRUCTION

Injury Type : Fractured pelvis, leg
Core Activity : Excavating
Location : Vancouver Island
ID Number : 2007137290329
Date of Accident : 2007-Nov

An excavator was positioning a large concrete lock block (1920 kg) when the block struck a worker.

Injury Type : Broken leg
Core Activity : Masonry
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2007114550293
Date of Accident : 2007-Nov

A worker fell approximately 6 feet from a scaffold deck. His leg struck a concrete curb.

Injury Type : Contusions to abdomen, lower back
Core Activity : Commercial building construction
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2007105910286
Date of Accident : 2007-Nov

Two workers were in an elevated scissor lift. One worker was operating the controls while the second worker was welding open webbed joists in place. To adjust position for the welder, the operator slowly moved the lift forward. As he moved the throttle, the brake disengaged and the scissor lift lunged backwards. The worker at the controls was pinned between the railing of the scissor lift and the bottom edge of

a joist.

Injury Type : Lacerated leg
Core Activity : Pile driving
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2007157560491
Date of Accident : 2007-Nov

Young worker (ages 15-24)
Worker's experience at this task is unknown

A young worker was using a chainsaw to cut the top off a timber pile that had been driven into the ground. The chainsaw contacted a nearby 6x6-inch piece of dunnage and kicked back, striking the worker's leg. He was not wearing leg protection chaps at the time.

Injury Type : Close call
Core Activity : Excavating
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2007115131980
Date of Accident : 2007-Nov

An engineered bulk excavation developed a 12-inch crack approximately 40 feet up from the bottom of the 80-foot excavation. The excavation face was backfilled to stabilize it.

Injury Type : Close call
Core Activity : Concrete pumping
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2007158880529
Date of Accident : 2007-Nov

A concrete pumper truck was setting up for a concrete pour when the site's self-erecting tower crane swung into the area to perform a lift. The boom of the crane and the boom of the pumper truck collided.

Injury Type : Close call
Core Activity : Preparing lot for residential foundation
Location : Central Interior
ID Number : 2007156240235
Date of Accident : 2007-Nov

An excavator was removing soil to prepare a site for building. Its bucket hooked an underground electrical conductor casing, causing the primary conductor to break contact with the pad-mounted transformer

approximately 60 metres away. The location of underground utility services had not been accurately determined before excavating began.

Injury Type : Serious leg injuries
Core Activity : Road construction
Location : BC
ID Number : 2007144250289
Date of Accident : 2007-Oct

A backhoe was unloading concrete barrier blocks (each weighing 2200 pounds) from a tractor-trailer. Lifting chains were wrapped around a block but when the backhoe lifted the block, the load was not level. The backhoe operator got out of his machine to inform the truck driver that the block needed to be rehooked. As the operator re-entered the backhoe, his coveralls caught the safety lockout lever, releasing it. He then inadvertently contacted a joystick that caused the boom and load to swing. The concrete block struck and injured the truck driver.

Injury Type : Fatal
Core Activity : Roof preparation
Location : Central Interior
ID Number : 2007155700271
Date of Accident : 2007-Oct

As workers were preparing steel z-bar for installation on a roof, one 10-foot-long piece started to slide. Attempting to prevent it from sliding off the roof, a worker also slid off the roof.

Injury Type : Smoke inhalation
Core Activity : Application of deck membrane
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2007157560444
Date of Accident : 2007-Oct

A worker was using a propane torch to dry the surface of a membrane applied to a sundeck when materials ignited. In the ensuing fire, the worker suffered smoke inhalation. A fire extinguisher was not immediately available, and three suites, as well as the roof of the 4-storey apartment building, were damaged.

Injury Type : Close call
Core Activity : Tower crane dismantling
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2007157560442
Date of Accident : 2007-Oct

The jib of a tower crane was allowed to partially slew (swing/rotate) during the jacking stage of the crane's disassembly. This is of concern because while the tower is jacked (to remove a section of mast), the centre of gravity shifts from the centre of the tower to the centre of the jack, nearer to the edge of the tower. Rotation of the jib during this manoeuvre upsets the balance and could cause the jib to fall from the tower.