

COCA WCB Update #378 October 16, 2007

Council of Construction Associations

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

CONSTRUCTION

Injury Type : Close call
Core Activity : Residential wood frame construction
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2007122700213
Date of Accident : 2007-Aug

An excavator bucket contacted a building's primary electrical feed (from a 25-kV switch gear vault).

Injury Type : Close call
Core Activity : Re-shore removal
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2007115131857
Date of Accident : 2007-Aug

A steel re-shore, weighing approximately 50 pounds, fell from a 10th-floor balcony to the roof of the display suite at grade.

Injury Type : Compression fracture of spine; pain in back, head
Core Activity : Exterior painting
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2007115131858
Date of Accident : 2007-Aug

Young worker (ages 15-24)
2 years' experience at this task

A young worker fell from the second and third steps of a wooden 6-foot stepladder to the ground.

Injury Type : Puncture wound and abrasion to leg, lacerations to arm
Core Activity : Demolition
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2007114550192
Date of Accident : 2007-Aug

A worker was reportedly throwing lumber down from the flat portion of a partially demolished garage. A nail caught his shirt and he was pulled off the building. He fell approximately 16 feet and landed on the dunnage pile.

Injury Type : Fractured skull and arm, shoulder injury
Core Activity : Crane operation
Location : Northwest BC
ID Number : 2007113820207
Date of Accident : 2007-Aug

A conventional crane was placing an extracted pile on the deck of a barge. The load cell unit affixed to the jib of the crane broke away from the boom. The load cell unit fell 75 feet, striking a worker who was placing dunnage for the extracted pile. Components used to mount the load cell on the crane were job-built, not supplied by the manufacturer.

Injury Type : Fractured collarbone, ribs; mild concussion; head laceration
Core Activity : Concrete reinforcing
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2007115131837
Date of Accident : 2007-Aug

As a worker attempted to bend a piece of reinforcing steel over a metal beam, the reinforcing steel slipped. The worker lost his balance and fell to the concrete floor (just under 14 feet). No form of fall protection was being used.

Injury Type : Fractured vertebrae, ribs, leg, arm; injuries to head
Core Activity : Concrete pumping
Location : Central Interior
ID Number : 2007034450277
Date of Accident : 2007-Aug

A concrete pumper was descending a road with a 10 percent grade when the truck lost a portion of its braking system. The truck left the road 100 feet uphill from a 90-degree hairpin curve. The driver was found 50 feet back from the truck.

Injury Type : Deep gash to arm
Core Activity : Site services
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2007122700201
Date of Accident : 2007-Aug

A worker either stepped backwards or lost his balance and fell into an excavation. He landed on top of another worker, who was operating a cutoff saw with a 12-inch diamond blade. The arm of the worker who fell contacted the rotating saw blade.

Injury Type : Fractured ribs, internal injuries
Core Activity : Painting
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2007122700196
Date of Accident : 2007-Aug

As a tractor-trailer pulled out of a warehouse loading dock, it hit a scissor-lift with a worker on it and knocked the lift onto its side.

Injury Type : Electric shock
Core Activity : Electrical work
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2007122700197
Date of Accident : 2007-Aug

Young worker (ages 15-24)
Less than 1 year's experience at this task

A young worker was injured while connecting a mislabelled live 110/208 electrical feed to an electrical panel.

Injury Type : Fractured vertebrae, ribs
Core Activity : Plumbing
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2007122700200
Date of Accident : 2007-Aug

As a worker was installing pipe hangers, he fell from a stepladder to the concrete floor 7 feet below.

Injury Type : Back and neck strain

Core Activity : Pipeline replacement
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2007152480215
Date of Accident : 2007-Jul

A side-boom tractor was working on a 24 percent slope. As it attempted to lift a section of pipeline, it flipped over backwards.

Injury Type : Compound fracture of leg
Core Activity : Exterior painting of highrise building
Location : BC
ID Number : 2007155400268
Date of Accident : 2007-Jul

A 7-metre swing stage was being lowered to the ground with 3 workers inside. Two workers on the ground were helping to pull the swing stage away from the building as it descended. The worker in the centre of the swing stage tied part of his safety rope to the top handrail bar of the swing stage while the free end was pulled by a worker on the ground. The two workers at each end of the swing stage continued to drive it down. However, the rope on the handrail prevented the swing stage from lowering evenly, so the swing stage became suspended at an angle, with the left end much lower than the right end. The handrail that had the safety rope attached to it then broke, causing the right end to drop suddenly. There was enough slack line to allow the right end to quickly descend approximately 20 feet, stopping just above the ground. The worker on the right end was not connected to his safety rope and was injured by the safety device when the swing stage came to an abrupt stop. The other two workers were suspended by their safety ropes at heights exceeding 12 feet.