

COCA WCB Update #375 October 3, 2007

**Council of Construction Associations**

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

CONSTRUCTION

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Injury Type : Shortness of breath, increased heart rate, disorientation (2 workers)

Core Activity : Plumbing installation

Location : Vancouver Island

ID Number : 2007129920256

Date of Accident : 2007-Jul

Two plumbers had drained a 4-inch, yet-to-be-commissioned potable water distribution line. They noticed an odour like rotten eggs or stagnant water and experienced symptoms of exposure to a potentially hazardous substance.

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Injury Type : Concussion, soft-tissue injuries

Core Activity : Industrial heavy equipment service and repair

Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2007156680152

Date of Accident : 2007-Jul

A heavy equipment moving company was installing a large milling machine at a manufacturing plant. To retrieve wooden dunnage from on top of the boom truck, a worker climbed a 10-foot stepladder. The ladder tipped over and the worker fell 8-9 feet.

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Injury Type : Fractured pelvis

Core Activity : Highrise construction

Location : Central Interior

ID Number : 2007066160077

Date of Accident : 2007-Jul

A worker was stripping forms while standing on a scaffold. He lost his balance and fell backwards to the ground 8 feet below.

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Injury Type : Laceration to head  
Core Activity : Steep-slope roofing  
Location : Lower Mainland  
ID Number : 2007157520267  
Date of Accident : 2007-Jul

A worker was applying roof flashing materials on a 14/12 pitch, lower-level roof. He fell to the ground (approximately 13 feet).

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Injury Type : Concussion  
Core Activity : Roofing  
Location : Lower Mainland  
ID Number : 2007157270191  
Date of Accident : 2007-Jul

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

A young worker was retrieving a piece of roofing material when he tripped and fell 10 feet, 8 inches from a balcony without guarding. Sections 3.22 to 3.25 of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation deal with training and orientation of young or new workers. These sections of the Regulation came into effect on July 26, 2007. A guideline to help implement them is available at:  
<http://www2.worksafebc.com/Publications/OHSRegulation/GuidelinePart3.asp#SectionNumber:G3.23>

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Injury Type : Bruises  
Core Activity : Paving services  
Location : Lower Mainland  
ID Number : 2007156580245  
Date of Accident : 2007-Jul

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

A young worker was flushing trenches in a crouched position when he was struck by a pickup truck backing up out of its parking stall. The worker yelled out and the driver immediately stopped the vehicle, then drove forward, away from the worker.

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Injury Type : Crushing injuries to upper body

Core Activity : Concrete pumping  
Location : Vancouver Island  
ID Number : 2007159110032  
Date of Accident : 2007-Jul

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

The operator of a concrete pumper truck was cleaning up the unit after a pour. As the driver-side front outrigger was retracted, the operator (a young worker) became pinned between the extendable portion of the outrigger and the truck's chassis.

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Injury Type : Fractured vertebra and pelvis  
Core Activity : Wood framing  
Location : Lower Mainland  
ID Number : 2007155070183  
Date of Accident : 2007-Jul

While working on a new single-family dwelling, a framer fell approximately 29 feet from the bottom chord of a roof truss. The worker passed through two vertically aligned uncovered staircase openings and landed on a concrete slab at basement level.

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Injury Type : Exposure to asbestos-containing materials (8 workers)  
Core Activity : Fire alarm upgrade  
Location : Central Interior  
ID Number : 2007130680113  
Date of Accident : 2007-Jun

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

During electrical work for a fire alarm upgrade, holes were cut into a textured ceiling that contained friable asbestos. No precautions were taken to prevent workers being exposed to asbestos. Five workers with the alarm company (including one young worker) and three school district employees were exposed. See a list of resources about asbestos:  
<http://www2.worksafebc.com/Portals/Construction/HazardousMaterials.asp?ReportID=34092>