

COCA WCB Update #390 February 14, 2008

**Council of Construction Associations**

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

Construction Injuries

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Injury Type : Electric shock

Core Activity : Highrise construction

Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2008158880024

Date of Accident : 2008-Jan

Young worker (ages 15-24)

More than 2 years' experience at this task

A tower crane was being used to dump a garbage box into a bin. The crane contacted a 7.5-kV transformer. A young worker who was in the bin rigging the load sustained an electric shock.

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Injury Type : Electric shock, minor burn

Core Activity : Electrical work

Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2008122700009

Date of Accident : 2008-Jan

Young worker (ages 15-24)

More than 2 years' experience at this task

A young worker inadvertently contacted a live 277-volt junction box that had faulty wiring.

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Injury Type : Fractured vertebrae

Core Activity : Commercial construction

Location : Vancouver Island

ID Number : 2008138190022

Date of Accident : 2008-Jan

A worker stepping from scaffolding to a ladder fell approximately 16 feet to the ground below.

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Injury Type : Close call

Core Activity : Utilities installation

Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2008157560005

Date of Accident : 2008-Jan

During excavation, a backhoe contacted and pulled an underground conductor containing a high-voltage power line. The line inside the conductor was subsequently pulled out of its connection lugs inside the nearby kiosk. The utilities had not been located by hand before

backhoe operations began.

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Injury Type : Deep cut to leg  
Core Activity : Steel frame erection  
Location : Lower Mainland  
ID Number : 2008158880016

Date of Accident : 2008-Jan

A worker was using an unguarded 5-inch grinder with a zip-cut blade to cut a metal sag rod on a storefront canopy. The grinder kicked back, cutting the worker's leg.

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Injury Type : Fractured hip, ribs; punctured lung  
Core Activity : Window caulking  
Location : Lower Mainland  
ID Number : 2008113830005

Date of Accident : 2008-Jan

A worker fell from a third-storey window and landed on the pavement approximately 20 feet below.

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Injury Type : Close call  
Core Activity : Power pole removal

Location : Vancouver Island  
ID Number : 2008154960006

Date of Accident : 2008-Jan

A digger derrick was extracting the butt of a power pole from the ground. During the hoisting operation, the base of the boom fractured, causing the complete collapse of the boom.

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Injury Type : Close call

Core Activity : Site preparation for event tent

Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2008137102354

Date of Accident : 2008-Jan

Workers were driving 36-inch steel spikes into an asphalt parking lot to secure plates for a large event tent. On 20 separate occasions during the day, spikes punctured a 25-kV electrical conduit, without any effect. Shortly after the workers left for the day, power was lost. One spike had punctured the conduit so close to the primary that the line arced, causing a massive power outage that affected an airport as well as homes and businesses.

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Injury Type : Soft-tissue injuries

Core Activity : Concrete formwork

Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2008122700005

Date of Accident : 2008-Jan

A worker was trying to pry a gang-form panel free when he lost his balance. He fell approximately 3 feet, until his fall protection

system prevented him from falling another 50 feet.

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Injury Type : Back injury  
Core Activity : Framing  
Location : Lower Mainland  
ID Number : 2008114550003

Date of Accident : 2008-Jan

Three workers were on a temporary work platform when it collapsed. The workers fell 18-20 feet. One was injured.

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Injury Type : Back contusion  
Core Activity : Installing roof panels  
Location : Lower Mainland  
ID Number : 2007115132021

Date of Accident : 2007-Dec

A worker on a roof was carrying a piece of lumber when he slipped and slid approximately 50 feet down the roof. He was prevented from falling off the roof by the guardrails. The lumber he had been carrying struck his back.

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Injury Type : Electric shock  
Core Activity : Electrical work

Location : Central Interior  
ID Number : 2008034450017

Date of Accident : 2007-Dec

As a worker was installing electrical equipment, he contacted an energized 220-volt wire.

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Injury Type : Broken leg, fractured foot bone

Core Activity : Concrete forming

Location : Central Interior

ID Number : 2008156160004

Date of Accident : 2007-Nov

A bracket on a temporary wood-frame scaffold/platform broke. The worker on the platform fell 8 feet to ground level.

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Injury Type : Swelling and pain in arm

Core Activity : Viaduct construction

Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2008157560018

Date of Accident : 2007-Nov

A zoom-boom-type forklift was travelling along a crowned haul road with a 30-degree side slope. It was carrying a 1,600-pound bundle of rebar hung from a sling on the elevated boom. As the forklift travelled, the bundle was swinging. The forklift tipped and rolled over.

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Injury Type : Penetrating eye injury

Core Activity : Wood-frame construction

Location : Central Interior

ID Number : 2007112850216

Date of Accident : 2007-Nov

Young worker (ages 15-24)

More than 2 years' experience at this task

A young worker was operating a pneumatic nail gun when a nail discharged into his eye. See a WorkSafe bulletin on preventing nail gun injuries: <http://www2.worksafebc.com/fwd/g643.htm>