

COCA WCB Update #403 June 25, 2008

Council of Construction Associations

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

CONSTRUCTION

Injury Type : Fractured arm, dislocated elbow, bruising

Core Activity : Commercial construction

Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2008122700080

Date of Accident : 2008-May

A worker stepped onto an unsecured floor opening cover and fell 10 feet to the Q-deck below.

See a hazard alert about a similar accident in which a young worker was seriously injured:

<http://www2.worksafebc.com/fwd/g715.htm>

Injury Type : Concussion, abrasions, lacerations

Core Activity : Traffic control

Location : Central Interior

ID Number : 2008143950155

Date of Accident : 2008-May

Young worker (ages 15-24)

Less than 6 months' experience at this task

A traffic control person (a young worker) was struck by a motor vehicle. The vehicle had already obeyed the order to stop when it was struck from behind by a vehicle that had not noticed the road construction signs.

Injury Type : Close call

Core Activity : Excavating

Location : Central Interior

ID Number : 2008107970181

Date of Accident : 2008-May

An excavator severed a 2-inch gas line from the main gas line.

Although the contractor had the correct locates, the gas company had sent a map for a different site.

Injury Type : Close call

Core Activity : Building demolition

Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2008137102469

Date of Accident : 2008-May

As an excavator demolished the upper floor of a building, it ruptured a natural gas line. The demolition contractor understood that the natural gas line to the building had been disconnected and blocked, but the line was still active.

Injury Type : Asbestos exposure

Core Activity : Building demolition

Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2008137102472

Date of Accident : 2008-May

A building was being demolished before construction of a new commercial building. An assessment had identified numerous materials and locations containing asbestos, which were required to be safely dealt with before demolition began. The report was ignored, so the demolition exposed workers and the public to the extreme hazards of asbestos.

Injury Type : Fractured ankle

Core Activity : Painting

Location : Vancouver Island

ID Number : 2008118870340

Date of Accident : 2008-May

Young worker (ages 15-24)

Worker's experience at this task is unknown

A young worker was on an unsecured ladder, painting. When the ladder inadvertently shifted, the worker fell to grade (about 15 feet).

Injury Type : Facial laceration

Core Activity : Framing

Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2008161770235

Date of Accident : 2008-May

A worker was nailing floor joist cross-bracing with a pneumatic nail gun. A nail discharged from the gun deflected back and struck the worker's face.

See a bulletin from WorkSafeBC on preventing injuries from nail guns:

<http://www2.worksafebc.com/fwd/g716.htm>