

COCA WCB Update #415 October 9, 2008

Council of Construction Associations

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

CONSTRUCTION

Injury Type : Headache, nausea, abrasion, soft-tissue injuries
Core Activity : Bridge construction
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2008157560264
Date of Accident : 2008-Aug

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

The boom of a manlift had been extended into the danger zone of some rigging when a ground-level, horizontal-to-vertical pulley attachment failed. The 2.5-ton load caused a tensioned winch cable to straighten and hook the underside of the manlift. A young worker in the lift was thrown out. The worker's fall protection equipment saved him from a 25-foot fall to the concrete below.

Injury Type : Injury to vertebrae
Core Activity : Framing
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2008155400257
Date of Accident : 2008-Aug

A worker slipped on a piece of plastic while descending a stairway. The stairway was outfitted with a handrail.

Injury Type : Temporary loss of consciousness; soft-tissue injuries; possible concussion
Core Activity : Structural concrete forming

Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2008161950249
Date of Accident : 2008-Aug

A worker was verifying elevations of a scaffold system that supported a suspended formwork deck. Another worker, positioned higher, inadvertently dropped a 4x8 sheet of 3/4-inch plywood. The sheet of plywood struck the lower worker on the back of the neck.

Injury Type : Head laceration
Core Activity : Power washing
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2008145130299
Date of Accident : 2008-Aug

Young worker (ages 15-24)
Less than 1.5 years' experience at this task

A young worker fell 9.5 feet off a deck he was power washing.

Injury Type : Undetermined injury to hand
Core Activity : Wood frame construction
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2008161770400
Date of Accident : 2008-Aug

A worker was nailing a wooden wall frame using a pneumatic nail gun when a nail discharged into his hand.

See a bulletin about preventing injuries from nail guns:

<http://www2.worksafefbc.com/fwd/g762.htm>

Injury Type : Electric shock
Core Activity : Construction
Location : Central Interior
ID Number : 2008112850192
Date of Accident : 2008-Aug

As a tower crane was landing a load of construction materials during a thunderstorm, a lightning flash produced an induced electrical current. When the rigger grabbed the load chain, he sustained an electric shock.

Injury Type : Close call
Core Activity : Land clearing
Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2008155730220
Date of Accident : 2008-Aug

A bulldozer was pushing earth forward to create a road to the lower load-away area. The vertically excavated road shoulder collapsed, causing the bulldozer to roll over and down to the lower load-away area (about 9 feet below).

Injury Type : Close call
Core Activity : Excavating
Location : Central Interior
ID Number : 2008155980214
Date of Accident : 2008-Aug

A small excavator ruptured a 3/4-inch natural gas line.

Injury Type : Broken wrist, bruising
Core Activity : Construction
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2008137102563
Date of Accident : 2008-Aug

A worker was on the top step of a 4-foot stepladder, on a balcony 8.5 feet above the ground. He was near the edge of the balcony, nailing a 2x8, when the ladder tipped, causing the worker to fall to the ground (about 12.5 feet).

Injury Type : Abdominal injuries
Core Activity : Siding installation
Location : Vancouver Island
ID Number : 2008138190193
Date of Accident : 2008-Aug

Young worker (ages 15-24)
1 month's experience at this task

A worker was struck by a nail from a pneumatic nail gun.
See a bulletin about preventing injuries from nail guns:
<http://www2.worksafefbc.com/fwd/g763.htm>

Injury Type : Close call
Core Activity : Transit rail installation
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2008115132276
Date of Accident : 2008-Aug

A worker was doing maintenance on a machine used to lift and move rail sections into place when the machine rolled 40 metres down a tunnel. It knocked down 25-foot-high scaffolding, which three workers had vacated only 15 minutes earlier.

Injury Type : Eye injury
Core Activity : Digging a trench with high-pressure water
Location : Northern BC
ID Number : 2008124120190
Date of Accident : 2008-Aug

A worker was digging a trench for an electrical conductor using high-pressure water (1500 psi) and a vacuum truck to remove debris. Some of the agitated dirt splashed onto his face, getting in under his safety glasses and into one eye. No face shield was being used.

Injury Type : Fracture and laceration to lower arm
Core Activity : Concrete reinforcing
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2008161950254
Date of Accident : 2008-Aug

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

Workers were preparing a third-floor suspended slab to receive concrete. As they removed excess steel reinforcing bars, two of the bars (10.5 metres long, 15 mm diameter) were thrown down towards the ground level. One struck and injured a worker.

Injury Type : Injury to knee
Core Activity : Steep-slope roofing
Location : Central Interior
ID Number : 2008112850174
Date of Accident : 2008-Aug

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

A young worker was 6 feet up a ladder, having just passed a bundle of asphalt shingles to a worker on the roof. The worker on the roof lost control of the bundle, which then slid down the roof and struck the ladder. The worker on the ladder was knocked off and landed on the deck below.

Injury Type : Close call
Core Activity : Blasting
Location : Central Interior
ID Number : 2008155980208
Date of Accident : 2008-Jul

Fly rock struck two private vehicles inside the danger area.
See a slide show about a similar blasting incident:
<http://www2.worksafefbc.com/fwd/g764.htm>

Injury Type : Fractured wrist
Core Activity : Steep-slope roofing
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2008155070215
Date of Accident : 2008-Jul

A roofer fell about 15 feet from a ladder to grade.