

COCA WCB Update #412 September 20, 2008

**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 : Close call  
Core Activity : Blasting in an urban area  
Location : Lower Mainland  
ID Number : 2008163270023  
Date of Accident : 2008-Aug

During blasting, fly rock flew about 250 feet. The fly rock broke a window pane, roof tiles, and a vehicle's windshield. It also damaged the hood of another parked vehicle.

See a slide show about a blasting incident in which fly rock damaged several vehicles:

<http://www2.worksafebc.com/fwd/g753.htm>

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Injury Type : Fractured bones in legs  
Core Activity : Residential construction  
Location : Central Interior  
ID Number : 2008107970337  
Date of Accident : 2008-Aug

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

A young worker was 15 feet up an unsecured extension ladder. When the base of the ladder shifted on the tiled floor, the worker rode the ladder partway down, then jumped to the floor.

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Injury Type : Heat stress and exposure to carbon monoxide (2 workers)  
Core Activity : Concrete placing and finishing

Location : Lower Mainland  
ID Number : 2008111770087  
Date of Accident : 2008-Aug

Workers were finishing a large indoor area of newly poured concrete flooring. They were exposed to carbon monoxide from gasoline-powered trowels. Some workers also had symptoms of heat stress. Two workers were affected more than the others.

Read an article on the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning:

<http://www2.worksafefbc.com/fwd/g754.htm>

See a booklet on preventing heat stress at work:

<http://www2.worksafefbc.com/fwd/g755.htm>

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Injury Type : Broken bones, head laceration  
Core Activity : Framing  
Location : Lower Mainland  
ID Number : 2008157410203  
Date of Accident : 2008-Aug

A worker was standing on the top plate installing joists on the first level of a wood-frame townhouse. The worker fell 9 feet and struck his head on the concrete floor below.

Watch a video about falls from top plate:

<http://www2.worksafefbc.com/fwd/g756.htm>

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Injury Type : Close call  
Core Activity : Concrete pumping  
Location : Lower Mainland  
ID Number : 2008158880353  
Date of Accident : 2008-Jul

A 52-metre concrete pump truck extended its boom, parallel with the ground, over its front outrigger. It was being used as a line pump in this configuration when the ground under the outrigger pad failed and the pump truck tipped, coming to rest on its boom tip.

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Injury Type : Neck injury  
Core Activity : Exterior painting  
Location : Central Interior  
ID Number : 2008090580338  
Date of Accident : 2008-Jul

A worker was standing on a flat-roofed carport, spraying stain onto an exterior wall of a residential complex. The worker fell off the roof and landed on the ground. The carport was located on a slope, so the distance from the roof to the ground varied from just under 10 feet to just over 11 feet. No fall protection system was in place.

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Injury Type : Close call  
Core Activity : Land clearing, excavation, or site surface preparation  
Location : Central Interior  
ID Number : 2008156160231  
Date of Accident : 2008-Jul

During landscaping activities at a business, a propane line was severed. Utilities had not been located before excavating began.

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Injury Type : Multiple broken bones  
Core Activity : Re-roofing 5:12 roof  
Location : Lower Mainland  
ID Number : 2008155730188  
Date of Accident : 2008-Jul

During re-roofing, a worker on a 5:12 residential roof fell to the ground (about 20 feet). No guardrails or fall protection system or equipment were in place.

Read an investigation report into the death of a young construction worker who died after falling from a similar height:

<http://www2.worksafefbc.com/fwd/g757.htm>

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Injury Type : Severed artery  
Core Activity : Construction  
Location : Central Interior  
ID Number : 2008107970327  
Date of Accident : 2008-Jul

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

A young worker was trying to cut a zap strap with a knife. The knife cut the strap, then slipped and severed an artery. The worker survived due to the quick action of the first aid attendant.

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Injury Type : Sore neck, back  
Core Activity : Wood frame construction  
Location : Vancouver Island  
ID Number : 2008110750257  
Date of Accident : 2008-Jul

A worker was on a stepladder, using a reciprocating saw. When the saw jammed, the worker lost his balance and fell 4-5 feet.

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Injury Type : Fatal  
Core Activity : General construction  
Location : Central Interior  
ID Number : 2008160530209  
Date of Accident : 2008-Jul

On a paved highway, a 1-ton pickup truck was pulling a goose-neck trailer filled with building supplies. The brakes on the trailer were not working, so the truck's brakes were being overworked. While descending a long hill, the truck's brakes failed. The driver steered onto and up a runaway lane, but the trailer jackknifed, causing the truck to roll down an embankment. The driver, who was not wearing a seatbelt, was ejected and fatally injured.

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Injury Type : Injuries to back, leg  
Core Activity : Residential framing  
Location : Central Interior  
ID Number : 2008034450271  
Date of Accident : 2008-Jul

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

A young worker was lowering tools from a third-level sundeck by slowly feeding a line attached to the tools. As he leaned over a temporary railing, it gave away and he fell 22 feet to the ground.

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Injury Type : Neck and back injuries  
Core Activity : House construction  
Location : Lower Mainland  
ID Number : 2008157560224  
Date of Accident : 2008-Jul

A worker was badly injured in a fall of 10 feet from an unguarded scaffold to the concrete slab below.

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Injury Type : Fractured knee  
Core Activity : Painting  
Location : Lower Mainland  
ID Number : 2008114550151  
Date of Accident : 2008-Jul

A worker fell about 8 feet from an extension ladder.

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Injury Type : Penetration wound to leg  
Core Activity : Framing  
Location : Central Interior  
ID Number : 2008107970340  
Date of Accident : 2008-Jul

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

A young worker was holding a nail gun with his finger on its trigger. As he climbed onto a sawhorse, a nail discharged into his leg. See a bulletin about preventing injuries from nail guns:  
<http://www2.worksafefbc.com/fwd/g758.htm>

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Injury Type : Close call  
Core Activity : Crane operation  
Location : Lower Mainland  
ID Number : 2008128230245  
Date of Accident : 2008-Jul

A truck-mounted crane tipped onto its side while moving a 600-pound hot tub. The crane's outriggers had not been deployed.