

COCA WCB Update #434 April 2, 2009

Council of Construction Associations

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

CONSTRUCTION

Injury Type : Multiple fractures

Core Activity : Carpet installation

Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2009157410050

Date of Accident : 2009-Mar

As a rough-terrain forklift raised a job-built platform to a second-storey window, the platform became unstable. The worker on the platform fell to grade (about 11 feet) and was then struck by the falling platform.

Injury Type : Close call

Core Activity : Excavation work

Location : Central Interior

ID Number : 2009112850078

Date of Accident : 2009-Mar

An excavator was removing soil near an exposed 2-inch natural gas distribution line. The bucket inadvertently caught the line and severed it.

Injury Type : Head wound

Core Activity : Balcony railing installation

Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2009161480056
Date of Accident : 2009-Feb

A worker was installing railings around a second-storey balcony. The worker fell off the balcony and landed on the concrete driveway 10.5 feet below. There was no fall protection system in place.

Injury Type : Close call
Core Activity : Bridge construction
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2009157560086
Date of Accident : 2009-Feb

A 42-metre concrete pump truck tipped forward, raising the rear of the pump about 3 metres in the air. The outriggers had not been fully deployed before operating the pump.

Injury Type : Fractured and lacerated leg
Core Activity : Painting or wallpapering
Location : Vancouver Island
ID Number : 2009137290049
Date of Accident : 2009-Feb

A worker was on a ladder when the feet of the ladder slid out. The worker fell, struck a window sill, and landed on the ladder.

Injury Type : Close call
Core Activity : Front-end loader operation
Location : Central Interior
ID Number : 2009156240051
Date of Accident : 2009-Feb

As a front-end loader was removing overburden from a residential lot, it exposed a 2-inch metal natural gas line. The loader operator had been told it was a decommissioned service line. When the bucket lifted the end of the line, the line ruptured and gas was released.

Injury Type : Close call
Core Activity : Excavator operation
Location : Northern BC
ID Number : 2009154930070
Date of Accident : 2009-Feb

As an excavator cleared ice and snow, it contacted three 25-kV power lines, causing a power outage as well as damage to the machine.

Injury Type : Close call
Core Activity : Bridge construction
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2009157560075
Date of Accident : 2009-Feb

A heated enclosure at a bridge construction site caught fire. The enclosure contained a 45-gallon barrel of corrosion-inhibiting wax that was being heated overnight. The fire caused melted wax to spill onto the bridge deck.

Injury Type : Close call
Core Activity : Drilling and blasting
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2009137102733
Date of Accident : 2009-Feb

During blasting at a new residential development, fly rock struck homes. Numerous workers were in the area but none of them were injured.

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

<http://www2.worksafebc.com/Publications/Multimedia/SlideShows.asp?ReportID=34853>

Injury Type : Fractured vertebra, internal injuries (1 worker);
exposure to airborne asbestos (1 worker)

Core Activity : Asbestos remediation

Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2009137102721

Date of Accident : 2009-Feb

Two workers were in a ventilation shaft doing high-risk asbestos removal work. One of them tried to manipulate an access ladder in the shaft. He was standing at the edge of a floor, at a height of about 14 feet, when he fell to the bottom of the shaft. There were no guardrails and the worker was not wearing personal fall protection equipment. The second worker was exposed to high concentrations of asbestos fibres when he removed his powered air-purifying respirator to yell for help for the fallen worker.

Injury Type : Facial injuries, bruising

Core Activity : Wood frame construction

Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2009155270003

Date of Accident : 2009-Jan

A worker was descending an exterior scaffold ladder in rainy weather. He lost his hold and fell 13 feet to the ground.

Injury Type : Close call

Core Activity : Siding installation

Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2009114550027

Date of Accident : 2009-Jan

A worker was in a boom lift, about 20 feet above grade, when he was launched from the basket. He was found suspended from the basket in his fall protection equipment.