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COCA Update on WorkSafeBC Activities #459 December 23, 2009

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

CONSTRUCTION -----

Injury Type : Close call Core Activity : Water and sewer installation
Location : Central Interior ID Number : 2009156160337 Date of Accident :
2009-Nov

As an excavator was moving to a separate work area, it struck overhead communications and electrical infrastructure. It broke one utility pole and collapsed the system.

Injury Type : Concussion, soft-tissue injuries Core Activity : Traffic control
Location : Lower Mainland ID Number : 2009158880452 Date of Accident :
2009-Nov

A reversing vehicle struck a traffic control person. See a hazard alert about the risks of working in traffic control zones:
<http://www2.worksafebc.com/fwd/g1002.htm>

Injury Type : Fractured wrist, ankle, foot; back injury Core Activity :
Roofing Location : Central Interior ID Number : 2009112850250 Date of
Accident : 2009-Nov

A worker on a second-storey balcony lost his balance and fell about 20 feet.

Injury Type : Multiple fractures, internal injuries Core Activity : Rock scaling Location : Central Interior ID Number : 2009156240327 Date of Accident : 2009-Oct

A rock scaler had finished work on an outcropping and unhooked his lifeline. He was traversing an adjacent slope to leave the area when the ground under him collapsed. The worker and the dislodged rock and soil slid down the slope, under a metal mesh structure, and stopped about 120 feet downslope at the highway ditch. The worker was partially buried in the rock and soil.

Injury Type : Multiple fractures, punctured lung Core Activity : Residential framing Location : Lower Mainland ID Number : 2009122700258 Date of Accident : 2009-Oct

A worker fell one level through an opening in the floor. See a hazard alert about a worker who fell through an opening in a roof:
<http://www2.worksafebc.com/fwd/g1003.htm>

Injury Type : Amputated finger Core Activity : Carpentry Location : Central Interior ID Number : 2009156240323 Date of Accident : 2009-Oct

A worker was cross-cutting a piece of lumber with a portable circular saw. The saw blade pinched, causing the saw to kick back and contact the worker's hand. See a video segment about kickback from circular saws (part of a series on power tool safety):
□ <http://www2.worksafebc.com/fwd/g1004.htm>

Injury Type : Bruising Core Activity : Drilling and blasting Location : Central Interior ID Number : 2009155980330 Date of Accident : 2009-Oct

A traffic control person (TCP) was directing traffic about 147 feet from a

blast site. When the blast was detonated, fly rock struck the TCP. See a slide show about another blasting incident in which fly rock struck a worker: <http://www2.worksafebc.com/fwd/g1005.htm>

Injury Type : Close call Core Activity : Excavation Location : Northern BC ID Number : 2009136970203 Date of Accident : 2009-Oct

During work to install a water line, an excavator severed a 2-inch natural gas line.

Injury Type : Burns to upper body (2 workers) Core Activity : Power line service Location : Lower Mainland ID Number : 2009122700237 Date of Accident : 2009-Oct

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

Two workers (one of them a young worker) were injured by an arc flash in a manhole containing 25-kV power lines.

Injury Type : Back and neck strain Core Activity : Excavation for blasting Location : Central Interior ID Number : 2009113920132 Date of Accident : 2009-Sep

As an excavator lifted blasting mats into place, it became unstable and rolled onto its boom side. The operator was wearing the provided seat belt and sustained only minor injuries.