

COCA WCB Update #426 January 9, 2009

Council of Construction Associations

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

CONSTRUCTION

Injury Type : Facial injuries (1 worker); chest injury (1 worker); temporary loss of consciousness (1 worker)

Core Activity : Industrial/commercial construction

Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2008161480267

Date of Accident : 2008-Dec

Workers were building a 2x4 framed section of hoarding, which was covered with a tarp. A strong gust of wind picked up the tarped section, which struck one worker in the face. Then the wind picked up a sheet of half-inch plywood, which struck the back of a second worker's head. A third worker jumped out of the way of the plywood and was injured by landing on an interior parapet wall.

Injury Type : Multiple broken bones

Core Activity : Guiding trucks at construction site

Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2008158880538

Date of Accident : 2008-Dec

A traffic control person stopped a vehicle, then turned to make a visual check of another traffic control person. The stopped vehicle moved forward and struck the first traffic control person.

Injury Type : Close call

Core Activity : Road work

Location : Central Interior

ID Number : 2008034450395

Date of Accident : 2008-Dec

As a rock drill was being moved from one end of a highway project to the opposite end, its boom snagged a 25-kV overhead power line. The line was dragged 42 feet before it broke and fell to the ground. The worker in the cab of the rock drill stayed there until the power company attended the scene and made it safe for him to exit.

Injury Type : Amputation of fingertip
Core Activity : Waterproofing
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2008163640103
Date of Accident : 2008-Dec

A worker's finger contacted the blade of the cordless circular saw he was operating.

Injury Type : Fractured arm, abrasions, bruising
Core Activity : Wood frame construction
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2008122700238
Date of Accident : 2008-Dec

A worker was throwing debris off a 4th-floor balcony when he lost his balance and fell into the garbage bin below. No guardrails were in place.

Injury Type : Head injuries, multiple fractures
Core Activity : Residential construction
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2008152480288
Date of Accident : 2008-Nov

A worker was on an extension ladder installing soffits when he fell to the ground (about 15 feet).

Injury Type : Broken pelvis, cracked vertebra, sprain, laceration
Core Activity : Skylight installation
Location : Vancouver Island
ID Number : 2008110750596
Date of Accident : 2008-Nov

A worker was installing skylights on a frosty roof with a pitch of 6/12. He was 15 feet from the edge of the roof when he lost his footing, slid down the roof, and fell 20 feet to grade. The landing

area contained a concrete ledge, a pile of lumber, and scaffolding. The worker missed all those materials and landed on hard-packed dirt. No fall protection system was in place. See a hazard alert about a similar incident in which a worker fell off a frosty roof: <http://www2.worksafebc.com/fwd/g836.htm>

Injury Type : Leg abrasions
Core Activity : Structural formwork
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2008163640095
Date of Accident : 2008-Nov

Two workers were trying to free a flytable that had become stuck on reinforcing steel at the edge of a building. The table sprang free unexpectedly, striking one worker on the leg and dragging the other worker off the 28th floor. His fall was arrested by his personal fall protection system.

Injury Type : Serious injury to finger
Core Activity : Bricklaying
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2008157270383
Date of Accident : 2008-Nov

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

A young worker was steadying a wheelbarrow as a skid-steer front-end loader placed gravel in it. The wheelbarrow collapsed to the ground, crushing the worker's hand.

Injury Type : Close call
Core Activity : Water line installation
Location : Lower Mainland
ID Number : 2008157270402
Date of Accident : 2008-Nov

An excavator was digging a trench for a water line when it struck a 14.4-kV conductor about 3 feet below the surface. The location of underground utilities had not been accurately determined before digging began.

Injury Type : Close call
Core Activity : Electrical renovations
Location : Central Interior

ID Number : 2008156240309
Date of Accident : 2008-Nov

As a worker was removing feeder wires from a control panel, two energized 600-volt conductors made contact. An arc flash occurred and the circuit breakers tripped, but the worker was not injured. The worker had not confirmed lockout with a test meter before starting work on the circuit.

Injury Type : Abrasions, lacerations, fractures
Core Activity : Traffic control
Location : Central Interior
ID Number : 2008158180215
Date of Accident : 2008-Nov

A traffic control person was struck by a transport vehicle and dragged about 75 metres.