

COCA WCB Update #438 May 13, 2009

**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 : Construction site surface preparation

Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2009161770128

Date of Accident : 2009-Apr

A mini-excavator trying to remove a tree stump ruptured a 2-inch buried gas line, resulting in the discharge of gas.

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Injury Type : Close call

Core Activity : Scaffold erection

Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2009158880146

Date of Accident : 2009-Apr

As final height adjustments were being made to a section of scaffolding 40 feet long by 24 feet high, the scaffolding toppled over, contacting a low-voltage line.

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Injury Type : Temporary loss of consciousness; bruising  
Core Activity : Fireproofing and insulation work  
Location : Vancouver Island  
ID Number : 2009111110160  
Date of Accident : 2009-Apr

A worker on scaffolding 25 feet above grade fell about 8 feet to the scaffold work platform below the one he was on.

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Injury Type : Close call  
Core Activity : Forklift operation  
Location : Lower Mainland  
ID Number : 2009117080138  
Date of Accident : 2009-Apr

The carriage of a telescopic forklift contacted an energized low-voltage overhead power line.

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Injury Type : Singed arm  
Core Activity : Rock drilling  
Location : Vancouver Island  
ID Number : 2009117640239  
Date of Accident : 2009-Apr

A rock drilling company drilled into an underground concrete-encased 14.4-kV electric conductor.

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Injury Type : Fractured ribs  
Core Activity : Scaffold rentals and installations  
Location : Lower Mainland  
ID Number : 2009157450044  
Date of Accident : 2009-Apr

In a storage yard, a forklift operator was moving a bundle of scaffoldmetal braces and putt logs. The bundle rolled forward off the forks and onto a worker.

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Injury Type : Burns  
Core Activity : Electrical work  
Location : Vancouver Island  
ID Number : 2009111110159  
Date of Accident : 2009-Apr

A worker had completed installing a new breaker kit in a 600-volt panel that had to remain energized for specialized equipment (MRI, lab equipment). As the worker exited the breaker installation area, the tool he was holding contacted a live bus, causing an arc flash.

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Injury Type : Bruising from harness  
Core Activity : Concrete finishing  
Location : Lower Mainland  
ID Number : 2009163710102  
Date of Accident : 2009-Apr

Two concrete finishers were moving a swing stage platform when the down button on one of the cable motors became stuck due to a

buildup of concrete grout. The other side of the swing stage continued downward, leaving one worker hanging in his harness and the other worker holding onto the swing stage.

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Injury Type : Broken ankle  
Core Activity : Mobile rock crusher operation  
Location : Lower Mainland  
ID Number : 2009157410084  
Date of Accident : 2009-Apr

A worker entered the discharge conveyor section of a mobile rock crusher to clear material. The conveyor inadvertently started with the worker in the area.

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Injury Type : Fractured vertebrae, concussion, abrasions  
Core Activity : House construction  
Location : Vancouver Island  
ID Number : 2009117640209  
Date of Accident : 2009-Apr

A worker was installing hip roof trusses while standing on the bottom chord of a pre-manufactured 26-foot-span wooden truss when the pressed fastener sheared. He fell 9 feet 4 inches to the concrete floor below.

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Injury Type : Close call  
Core Activity : Irrigation line installation  
Location : Central Interior  
ID Number : 2009165880003

Date of Accident : 2009-Apr

A backhoe struck a 2-inch natural gas line while digging to install a new water line in a vineyard. After contacting the gas line the backhoe operator left the area.

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Injury Type : Strains, bruises  
Core Activity : Roofing  
Location : Central Interior  
ID Number : 2009131490132  
Date of Accident : 2009-Mar

Young worker (ages 15-24)  
Less than 6 months' experience at this task

A young worker was wearing a personal fall arrest system while removing snow from a sloped metal roof. The worker slipped and fell off the roof. His fall arrest system stopped his fall about 7-8 feet below the roof's edge.

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Injury Type : Fractured pelvis, arm  
Core Activity : Wood frame construction  
Location : Lower Mainland  
ID Number : 2009157410075  
Date of Accident : 2009-Mar

A worker on the second level of a scaffold fell 15 feet to grade when a guardrail failed to support his weight.

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Injury Type : Smoke inhalation

Core Activity : Damp-proofing concrete foundation wall

Location : Lower Mainland

ID Number : 2009155270050

Date of Accident : 2009-Mar

During construction of a 4-storey wood-frame building, a worker was using a propane torch to dry a concrete foundation wall. He unintentionally ignited the exterior wall building paper. The 5-pound fire extinguisher the worker had with him was under-charged and malfunctioned. The flames had reached the second storey by the time another worker retrieved a similar charged extinguisher, while a third worker retrieved a bucket of water. The three workers were able to extinguish the fire from above and below; the worker fighting the fire from above suffered smoke inhalation.