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COCA Update on WorkSafeBC Activities #559 August 2, 2013

June 2013 Incident Reports from WorkSafeBC

These reports, which are summaries of workplace incidents, serve as a valuable reminder of the need for workplace health and safety.

The reports are useful for Toolbox Talks, Health & Safety Committee discussions, and especially for the orientation of new workers.

Please feel free to post the information on your Safety Bulletin Boards.

This Report covers incidents that occurred in the month of June 2013.

Injury: Broken vertebrae and ribs, internal injuries, bruising and abrasions
Industry: Construction
Core Activity: Stucco work
Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal B.C.
Date of Incident: 2013-Jun

A worker was trying to swing a 5-gallon bucket of stucco (2/3 full) onto a deck from a ladder. The unsecured ladder slid across the scaffold frame and the worker fell about 16 feet onto hard-packed rocky ground.

Posted: 2013-Jun-28 **ID:** 2013110750471

Injury: Close call
Industry: Construction, Trucking
Core Activity: Offloading barge operation
Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal B.C.
Date of Incident: 2013-Jun

A dump truck with a pony trailer was suspended between a ramp and a off-load barge. As the dump truck was backing down the ramp onto the barge, the ramp slipped off the barge. The ramp and dump truck dropped about 3 metres and the pony trailer (while still connected to the dump truck) was on the barge.

Posted: 2013-Jun-28 **ID:** 2013129920248

Injury: Head injury, broken bones, lacerations
Industry: Construction
Core Activity: House framing
Location: Interior B.C.
Date of Incident: 2013-Jun

A worker fell about 10 feet from the second floor to the first floor of a single-family residence that was under construction.

Posted: 2013-Jun-28 ID: 2013157270157

Injury: Possible bruising
Industry: Construction
Core Activity: Drywall installation
Location: Lower Mainland
Date of Incident: 2013-Jun

A worker fell about 5 feet from a baker-type rolling scaffold system.

Posted: 2013-Jul-26 ID: 2013114550182

Injury: Electrical burns, sore muscles, abrasions
Industry: Construction
Core Activity: Bridge demolition
Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal B.C.
Date of Incident: 2013-Jun

A crane was placing temporary bridge girders when it contacted a 25-kV overhead power line. One young worker received an electric shock.

Posted: 2013-Jun-28 ID: 2013157620139

Injury: Pain and stiffness in back and neck
Industry: Construction
Core Activity: Roadside mowing
Location: Northern B.C.
Date of Incident: 2013-Jun

A young worker was travelling in a pickup truck that was being used as a shadow vehicle behind a mower trimming grass along a public highway. The pickup was struck from behind by an empty lumber transport truck. The pickup sheared off a lamp post and rolled into a ditch on the side of the highway.

Posted: 2013-Jun-28 ID: 2013140710161

Injury: Soft-tissue injuries
Industry: Construction
Core Activity: Residential renovation
Location: Interior B.C.
Date of Incident: 2013-Jun

A worker conducting framing renovations on a house tripped and fell about 25 feet to grade from the eave of the 6:12 pitch roof. The injured worker and site supervisor stated that the worker had forgotten to re-connect his harness to the installed lifeline when he accessed the roof area of the structure after conducting other work at ground level.

Posted: 2013-Jul-12 ID: 2013160850150

Injury: Fatal
Industry: Construction
Core Activity: Loading roof materials
Location: Lower Mainland
Date of Incident: 2013-Jun

A worker fell about 21 feet while working on an 8:12 sloped roof of a newly framed house.

Posted: 2013-Jun-28 ID: 2013161920126

Injury: Close call
Industry: Construction
Core Activity: Excavator operation
Location: Lower Mainland
Date of Incident: 2013-Jun

As an excavator was digging a bulk excavation for a new home, a 9-foot high excavation wall collapsed into the excavation.

Posted: 2013-Jun-28 ID: 2013161950163

Injury: Broken arm
Industry: Construction
Core Activity: Applying sealant over nail holes on lower roof
Location: Lower Mainland
Date of Incident: 2013-Jun

While climbing through a framed window opening to descend via a job-built wood-frame scaffold, a worker fell 17 feet, 2 inches to grade below.

Posted: 2013-Jun-28 ID: 2013166920140

Injury: Suspected shoulder injury
Industry: Construction
Core Activity: Installation or repair of plumbing, heating, or residential air conditioning
Location: Lower Mainland
Date of Incident: 2013-Jun

A worker descending a ladder fell about 2-3 metres to the concrete surface below.

Posted: 2013-Jun-28 ID: 2013165410174

Injury: Close call
Industry: Construction
Core Activity: Concrete pour for stairwell footing
Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal B.C.
Date of Incident: 2013-Jun

A worker was standing next to and checking a commercial stairwell footing concrete pour when he heard the formwork crack. He immediately vacated the area before the form blew out laterally, covering the excavated area where he had been standing with about 2-3 cubic metres of wet concrete, fractured formwork, and bracing elements.

Posted: 2013-Jun-13 ID: 2013161290215

Injury: Fractured ribs, internal injuries (1 worker); concussion, fractured ribs, fractured wrist (1 worker)
Industry: Construction, Services (NES)
Core Activity: Transmission line installation
Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal B.C.
Date of Incident: 2013-Jun

Two workers were seriously injured when the boom-supported elevating work platform they were on toppled over backwards.

Posted: 2013-Jun-28 ID: 2013137290129

Injury: Abrasions and soft-tissue injuries to upper body
Industry: Construction
Core Activity: Drilling for water
Location: Lower Mainland
Date of Incident: 2013-Jun

A 20-foot length of drilling stem fell onto a worker while being set.

Posted: 2013-Jul-12 ID: 2013155400165

Injury: Fatal
Industry: Construction, Forestry
Core Activity: Operation of a front-end loader
Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal B.C.
Date of Incident: 2013-Jun

A worker was using a front-end loader to move a large fuel tank across a 24-percent sloped portion of the access road to a barge landing. The machine rolled onto its side, throwing the worker out the door and resulting in fatal crush injuries.

Posted: 2013-Jun-13 ID: 2013158920109

Injury: Close call
Industry: Construction
Core Activity: Tower crane operation
Location: Lower Mainland
Date of Incident: 2013-Jun

Repairs were being concluded on a self-erecting tower crane. A mechanical malfunction of the hoist drum allowed the hoist rope to spool off rapidly, dropping the hook block assembly about 75 feet to the ground.

Posted: 2013-Jun-13 ID: 2013115134035

Injury: Fractured ribs, internal injuries
Industry: Construction
Core Activity: Crew removing asbestos contaminated materials
Location: Lower Mainland
Date of Incident: 2013-Jun

During the demolition of a two-storey warehouse, a young worker fell through a ceiling and landed on objects and debris 10 feet, 4 inches (3.15 metres) below.

Posted: 2013-Jun-28 ID: 2013165410171

Injury: Electrical burns to hands and feet (entry and exit wounds)
Industry: Construction
Core Activity: Light standard installation
Location: Lower Mainland
Date of Incident: 2013-Jun

Three workers were installing a street light standard using a mobile crane. A high-voltage line (14.4 kV to ground) arced to the street light standard and the workers who were holding onto the pole were injured.

Posted: 2013-Jun-13 ID: 2013157530227

Injury: Lacerated arm, crush injury to leg
Industry: Construction, Public Sector
Core Activity: Installing uninterrupted power supply system
Location: Lower Mainland
Date of Incident: 2013-Jun

A 2,400-pound uninterrupted power supply battery bank was being wheeled down a site-constructed plywood ramp when it tipped over and struck a worker.

Posted: 2013-Jun-13 ID: 2013155010090

Injury: Close call
Industry: Construction
Core Activity: Drilling pipe piles
Location: Lower Mainland
Date of Incident: 2013-Jun

During the process of drilling for a pipe pile (part of the engineered excavation wall-shoring design), a 3-inch underground gas line was struck.

Posted: 2013-Jun-07 ID: 2013117080176

Injury: Minor bruising
Industry: Construction, Trucking
Core Activity: Construction of run-of-river hydro facility
Location: Interior B.C.
Date of Incident: 2013-Jun

As a rock truck was dumping a load of rock over an embankment, its cab became unstable and flopped onto its side. The truck then slid backwards about 150 feet over an embankment and came to rest in a trench. The operator, a young worker, sustained minor injuries.

Posted: 2013-Jun-28 ID: 2013166950142

Injury: Fracture and dislocation injuries to arm
Industry: Construction
Core Activity: Re-roofing a residential shed
Location: Interior B.C.
Date of Incident: 2013-Jun

While trying to retrieve a water bottle, a worker stepped onto a small lean-to type of frame covering a small wood pile. The end of the frame collapsed, causing the worker to fall 5-6 feet to ground level.

Posted: 2013-Jun-13 ID: 2013157270143

Injury: Close call
Industry: Construction, Trucking
Core Activity: Rooftop delivery of roofing materials
Location: Lower Mainland
Date of Incident: 2013-Jun

A material delivery truck contacted a high-voltage power line.

Posted: 2013-Jun-28 ID: 2013166710156

Injury: Close call
Industry: Construction
Core Activity: Exposing underground utilities
Location: Lower Mainland
Date of Incident: 2013-Jun

An excavator struck and damaged a 6-inch underground natural gas line.

Posted: 2013-Jun-07 ID: 2013165410163

Injury: Facial laceration
Industry: Construction
Core Activity: Exterior painting
Location: Lower Mainland
Date of Incident: 2013-Jun

A painter fell about 10 feet from an aluminum ladder to grade when one of the ladder rails pivoted. The worker was not injured in the fall but was struck on the head by the falling ladder.

Posted: 2013-Jun-28 ID: 2013155070122