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COCA UPDATE ON WORKSAFEBC ACTIVITIES #574 ~ JANUARY 14, 2014

DECEMBER 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 December 2013.

Injury: Fractured leg and vertebrae; upper body bruising and abrasions

Industry: Construction

Core Activity: Removing protective tape from windows

Location: Lower Mainland

Date of Incident: 2013-Dec

A worker on an extension ladder removing protective tape from a window frame lost his balance when he reportedly over-reached to complete the work without repositioning. The worker fell about 18 feet to the ground.

Posted: 2014-Jan-07 **ID:** 2014155730002

Injury: Close call

Industry: Construction

Core Activity: Excavation

Location: Lower Mainland

Date of Incident: 2013-Dec

While digging a trench for a water line, a backhoe hit a previously capped gas line, causing a natural gas release.

Posted: 2014-Jan-08 **ID:** 2013165370409

Injury: Close call

Industry: Construction

Core Activity: Tower crane operation

Location: Lower Mainland

Date of Incident: 2013-Dec

A 16-inch wide-flange girder 16 feet long was being lowered into place when the tower crane's hoist brake failed. The girder landed on another beam, loosening the slings, and fell about 30 feet to grade.

Posted: 2014-Jan-02 **ID:** 2013115134272

Injury: Lower body bruising
Industry: Construction
Core Activity: Bridge construction
Location: Lower Mainland
Date of Incident: 2013-Dec

A rough-terrain forklift carrying a load with the forks extended rolled over onto its side.

Posted: 2014-Jan-02 **ID:** 2013122700351

Injury: Close call
Industry: Construction
Core Activity: Retaining wall construction and footing preparations
Location: Lower Mainland
Date of Incident: 2013-Dec

A temporary concrete block retaining wall, estimated to be 7.5 feet high and 100 feet long, collapsed during the night (when no workers were present).

Posted: 2014-Jan-02 **ID:** 2013162000426

Injury: Fractured vertebrae, injuries to head
Industry: Construction
Core Activity: Metal-clad roofing installation
Location: Lower Mainland
Date of Incident: 2013-Dec

A roofer fell 18 feet to grade from a metal framed scaffold.

Posted: 2014-Jan-02 **ID:** 2013166720119

Injury: Amputated finger, lacerations to other fingers
Industry: Construction
Core Activity: Exterior renovation work
Location: Lower Mainland
Date of Incident: 2013-Dec

A worker's hand contacted the blade of a table saw.

Posted: 2014-Jan-02 **ID:** 2013166920292

Injury: Possible neck injury (1 worker); possible injuries from seatbelt (1 worker)
Industry: Construction, Trucking
Core Activity: Dump truck operator
Location: Lower Mainland
Date of Incident: 2013-Dec

While travelling along a newly completed section of a road, a dump truck collided head-on with a crane truck. The driver of the crane truck was not seriously injured.

Posted: 2014-Jan-02 **ID:** 2013163710314

Injury: Ingestion of methyl hydrate

Industry: Construction

Core Activity: Framing

Location: Lower Mainland

Date of Incident: 2013-Dec

A worker ingested methyl hydrate that had been poured into a 500-mL water bottle. The water bottle had not been labeled to say it contained hazardous contents.

Posted: 2014-Jan-02 **ID:** 2013107200103

Injury: Electric shock, facial contusion, lacerated arm

Industry: Construction

Core Activity: Installing pipe hangers

Location: Lower Mainland

Date of Incident: 2013-Dec

A young worker sustained an electric shock when he contacted a live 347-volt lighting circuit. The worker was able to break the electrical contact by falling off the stepladder he was on.

Posted: 2014-Jan-02 **ID:** 2013165410370

Injury: Close call

Industry: Construction

Core Activity: Wood frame construction

Location: Lower Mainland

Date of Incident: 2013-Dec

A telescoping handler forklift was unloading drywall on the 5th storey of a wood frame building under construction when the forklift tipped over, landing on its side and a stack of drywall.

Posted: 2014-Jan-02 **ID:** 2013113830210

Injury: Close call

Industry: Construction

Core Activity: Formwork

Location: Lower Mainland

Date of Incident: 2013-Dec

While lifting a bucket of concrete, the line of a tower crane failed. The load, weighing about 6,000 pounds, fell to the ground.

Posted: 2014-Jan-02 **ID:** 2013114550332

Injury: Close call

Industry: Construction

Core Activity: Excavation work

Location: Lower Mainland

Date of Incident: 2013-Dec

An excavator working on a 6-foot-high sloped bank moved onto a slippery section, slid down the bank, and rolled onto its side.

Posted: 2014-Jan-08 **ID:** 2013165370400

Injury: Close call
Industry: Construction, Services (NES)
Core Activity: Installing an underground duct bank
Location: Lower Mainland
Date of Incident: 2013-Dec

During the installation of a new underground duct bank for a utilities company, a live 12-kV power line was contacted.

Posted: 2014-Jan-02 **ID:** 2013165370394

Injury: Close call
Industry: Construction
Core Activity: Building demolition
Location: Lower Mainland
Date of Incident: 2013-Dec

While sorting out demolition debris at a demolition site, an excavator grabbed an 8-foot-long 4-inches-wide steel post. A section of the post was still cast in concrete. When the excavator dropped the post onto a debris pile, the end section of the post broke off and catapulted about 50 feet out of the site and onto a public road, striking and damaging the front end of an incoming vehicle.

Posted: 2014-Jan-02 **ID:** 2013163750264

Injury: Concussion; neck and back strains
Industry: Construction
Core Activity: Plumbing and heating services
Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal B.C.
Date of Incident: 2013-Dec

A worker slipped and fell on ice, striking his head on the pavement.

Posted: 2014-Jan-02 **ID:** 2013110750891

Injury: Close call
Industry: Construction
Core Activity: Construction of a retaining wall
Location: Lower Mainland
Date of Incident: 2013-Dec

A 7-block-high retaining wall collapsed during backfilling.

Posted: 2013-Dec-09 **ID:** 2013162000411

Injury: Arm bruise and contusion
Industry: Construction
Core Activity: Concrete pumping
Location: Vancouver Island/Coastal B.C.
Date of Incident: 2013-Dec

A 43-metre concrete pump truck tilted onto the fully extended boom when pumping a slab on grade in an excavation. At the time of the incident, the boom was fully extended horizontally and was being lifted to raise the concrete delivery hose. A worker was injured when struck by the concrete discharge hose.

Posted: 2013-Dec-09 **ID:** 2013129920376