

Reported incidents

28/03/2014 to 10/04/2014

Since the last edition of Safety Soapbox there have been 55 incidents serious enough to be reported to WorkSafe Victoria from the construction, utility, quarrying and mining industries.

Below is a summary of these incidents.

Date	Location	Injury description	Incident summary
28 Mar	HAMPTON PARK	Near miss	Excavator dug into some concrete which had a gas line encased in it, causing a rupture.
28 Mar	WERRIBEE	Laceration, suspected fracture	Subcontractor trapped his leg under an onsite security fence.
28 Mar	MELBOURNE	Shoulder injury	Employee was stripping formwork when a piece of timber came loose and struck his shoulder.
28 Mar	MELBOURNE	Laceration	Employee was cutting some steel piping when he lacerated his hand.
28 Mar	MELBOURNE	Near miss	Small pieces of concrete rubble fell from level eleven through a carpet layer that was being used to prevent rubble from falling. Some hit a vehicle parked below.
28 Mar	MELBOURNE	Near miss	Gas leaked during a water main replacement. The digging around the gas service was being done by hand.
31 Mar	BOX HILL	Electric shock	Electrician received an electric shock because the area he was working in was not completely deactivated.
31 Mar	CRANBOURNE	Eye injury	Employee was breaking a concrete pipe out using a mash hammer when a small piece concrete flicked up under his glasses, hitting his eye.
31 Mar	FRANKSTON	Near miss	During some roof work a large piece of timber fell through, piercing some plaster and narrowly missing a person.
31 Mar	MELBOURNE	Laceration	Contractor cut his finger while using a pallet truck to shift scaffolding with a pallet truck. His finger jammed between the scaffold cage and truck.
31 Mar	CRAIGIEBURN	Near miss	An uncontrollable grass fire was started by a spark during some grass slashing using a tractor.
31 Mar	CARLTON	Near miss	A concrete slab fell out of an excavator bucket, about six metres through a penetration cover and onto an area that was not an exclusion zone.
1 Apr	BAYSWATER	Laceration	Roof tiler was using a chainsaw to cut batons when it kicked back and caught his hand.

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1 Apr	BENDIGO	Laceration	Apprentice's hand contacted a saw blade while cutting noggins with a saw blade.
2 Apr	BAIRNSDALE	Fracture	Employee was moving a bin when the wooden panel of the bin snapped, causing him to fall backwards and hit his head on the ground.
2 Apr	VERMONT	Fracture	Contractor fractured his ankle while moving soil in a landscaping area.
2 Apr	CLAYTON	Laceration	A sub-contractor lacerated his thumb while cutting a plaster board with a knife.
2 Apr	BURNLEY	Near miss	During a water main renewal, a 40 ml gas line running parallel and above water main was not identified on the map.
3 Apr	DANDENONG	Injured ankle	Apprentice plumber jumped off a joist/bearer, landed on the ground and rolled his ankle.
3 Apr	WEST MELBOURNE	Near miss	More than 1000 litres of aviation fuel spilt while a fuel line was being relocated.
3 Apr	MELBOURNE	Electric shock	Employee received an electric shock while painting a ceiling near a lighting track.
3 Apr	ALTONA	Back injury	Sub-contractor was erecting a precast panel prop when his back had a seizure.
3 Apr	COLAC	Electric shock	When a power adapter fell to the floor from an electrician's trolley and broke open, he bent over to pick it up and made contact with the exposed electrical contacts.
3 Apr	GEELONG	Near miss	A loader was cleaning up a site when an uneven surface caused the loader to tip over onto its side.
4 Apr	TEMPLESTOWE	Near miss	Roof tiles fell two floors from a tile hoist due to the hoist arm not being correctly engaged.
4 Apr	MELBOURNE	Near miss	While erecting formwork an employee lost grip of a three meter long piece of timber which then fell two floors.
4 Apr	MORWELL	Near miss	A seventeen tonne tip-truck trailer fell over while laying rocks.
4 Apr	TRARALGON	Near miss	Welders were working on a scaffold above packing foam when the foam caught fire from the welding embers.
4 Apr	MERENDA	Near miss	A concrete boom touched a power line and caused a spark and blown a fuse.
4 Apr	MELBOURNE	Laceration	Employee was using a wire wheel on a grinder when it

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			kicked, going through his overalls and making contact with his leg.
4 Apr	WANGARATTA	Near miss	During demolition works employees were removing a small section of concrete slab with a jackhammer when they hit a gas pipe.
4 Apr	MELBOURNE	Suspected fracture	Employee had his feet run over by a scissor lift at a building site.
7 Apr	BAYSIDE	Laceration	Sub-contractor was replacing a U head in formwork when it slipped down and connected with his thumb.
7 Apr	BALWYN	Amputation	Sub-contractor apprentice cut off the tips off his fingers while using a circular saw.
7 Apr	MELBOURNE	Laceration	An electrician cut his finger whilst cleaning up materials.
7 Apr	BENDIGO	Laceration	Contractor using an excavator to bore holes with a guiding pipe and caught his hand between the excavator attachment and pipe.
8 Apr	CLAYTON	Electric shock	Sub-contractor was tightening up bolts on a water main joint and received a slight tingling in his arm when his elbow made contact with a pool of water.
8 Apr	MELBOURNE	Near miss	While pumping concrete there was a tear in the pipe which resulted in a blowout.
8 Apr	CAMPBELLFIELD	Electric shock	An electrician working on a junction box was testing for the presence of an electrical current when his finger made contact with a live wire.
8 Apr	WERRIBEE	Near miss	A precast panel that was being put in place dropped and damaged the crane.
8 Apr	BENDIGO	Near miss	A street gas main was hit during excavations to install planter boxes.
8 Apr	DAYLESFORD	Laceration	Employee was using an electric plane on some timber when he struck his finger.
9 Apr	BEAUMARIS	Laceration	Employee was operating a power saw that grabbed on a piece of timber and recoiled back, striking his arm.
9 Apr	MELBOURNE	Inhaled chemical	Plumber was clearing a drain and using a clearing product when he inhaled the fumes, causing a burning sensation and breathing difficulties.
9 Apr	MELBOURNE	Fracture	Employee was installing secondary steel and had a column double wrapped when the chain slipped and caught his finger.

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S10 Apr	WARRAGUL	Laceration	Apprentice carpenter cut his hand with a tile while demolishing a bathroom.
10 Apr	BENTLEIGH	Concussion, laceration	Employee slipped and fell down four stairs, hitting his head.
10 Apr	MELBOURNE	Puncture	Employee was mounting a junction box onto a wall when his cordless drill slipped and punctured his hand.
10 Apr	BALLARAT	Near miss, lacerations	Painter in a roof space sitting on an air handling unit when he stepped down onto what he thought was a platform and fell almost three metres through the false ceiling.
10 Apr	BENDIGO	Laceration	Employee was using a drill to screw in a dust cowl on a heater when the head bit slipped off the screw and into his hand.

Mining

Date	Industry	Injury description	Incident summary
31 Mar	MINE	Near miss	A miner was driving a telehandler underground when he noticed smoke coming from the engine. He safely stopped and used a fire extinguisher to extinguish the electrical fire
3 Apr	MINE	Laceration	Employee fell down three steps as he was climbing onto a moving dredger when it lurched.
4 Apr	QUARRIE / MINE	Laceration	Employee was holding a five inch grinder when the blade jammed when he lost grip and it fell on his leg.