

Reported incidents

10 September 2013

Since the last edition of Safety Soapbox there have been 58 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
23 Aug	Traralgon	Fatality	Electrician was electrocuted while working at private premises.
23 Aug	Caulfield	Fatality and serious injury	Two contractors were trapped under rubble when the second floor of a construction site collapsed onto them.
23 Aug	South Yarra	Near miss	A pane of glass fell down between a wall and scaffolding during a skylight installation.
23 Aug	Dandenong	Loss of consciousness	Building employee entered a construction zone and was affected by vapours from substance being used in building works.
23 Aug	Richmond	Torn medial ligament	While working on a concrete capping between a beam and ground, an employee stepped on an uneven section of ground, twisting his right knee.
23 Aug	Broadmeadows	Fractured vertebrae	Plasterer standing on a 700mm high trestle fell off onto his back.
26 Aug	Ringwood	Lacerated wrist	Contractor was in a ute tray and pulling rubber floor mat forward when he struck his left arm on a metal clip in the ute.
26 Aug	Mitcham	Crushed hand	While assisting with installing reinforcing mesh on a hole, an employee was realigning some chains when the tension was taken up, causing a chain around his hand to tighten.
26 Aug	Dandenong	Bruising to one man, head impact to second man	A concrete pump truck was reversing out on a levy bank when it slipped and rolled, landing on its side.
26 Aug	Rowville	Electric shock	Employee working on an electrical panel board when he received a 250 Volt DC shock.
26 Aug	Braybrook	Lacerated finger	Employee operating an electric magnetic drill when his glove was caught by the chuck.
26 Aug	Richmond	Electric shock	Contract plumber was connecting a pump in a new storm water tank and while testing the pump float the RCD tripped.
27 Aug	Bayswater	Dislocated shoulder	Employee was putting a ladder back onto the roof of the car when he dislocated his left shoulder.
27 Aug	Mount Waverley	Fractured elbow	Apprentice caught his foot, tripped and fell while stepping over a trailer.
27 Aug	Mornington	Lacerated hand	Employee was fixing metal flashing on timber cladding when he cut his right hand on a sharp edge.
27 Aug	Melbourne	Electric shock	Employee installing a water pump to a temporary shed and received an electric shock when he switched the pump on.
27 Aug	Ascot Vale	Two fingers partially amputated	Apprentice was packing up tools when he picked up an electric planer and accidentally pushed the 'on' button.
27 Aug	Ballarat	Fractured leg	Employee slipped when stepping off the back of a truck

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			onto a bunded wall.
28 Aug	Clayton	Near miss	A steel pipe fell through the floor of a second storey to the ground narrowly missing a member of the public during refurbishment works.
28 Aug	Mentone	Crushed index finger	Apprentice was hammering a wooden tree stake into the ground. He wasn't using the correct provided tool and crushed his right index finger between his hammer and the stake.
28 Aug	Footscray	Near miss	A guide wheel fell from a passenger hoist and landed in a controlled zone.
29 Aug	Carlton	Dislocated shoulder	Employee fell approximately one and a half metres from a concrete truck while disconnecting a blow-out pipe.
29 Aug	Abbotsford	Crushed thumb	A truck driver tried to move some rubber matting in the tray while the truck was being loaded and a storage unit was lowered onto his right hand.
29 Aug	Clifton Hill	Near miss	During water main excavations a bucket clipped a gas service.
29 Aug	Hamlyn Heights	Near miss	During digging work to lay pipes, an excavator hit a domestic gas line in the road.
29 Aug	Golden Plains	Lacerated head, injured ribs	Employee fell approximately two to three metres from a scaffold when one of the planks gave way or slipped out.
30 Aug	Yarra Ranges	Torn shoulder muscle	Traffic management employee was lifting a sign out of the back of a truck and hurt his left shoulder.
30 Aug	Ivanhoe	Near miss	Water main renewal by pipe-cracking method was being done when a piece of old cast main splintered and put a hole in the gas service.
30 Aug	South Melbourne	Back injury	A tiler was shovelling sand to prepare a floor for tiling when his back seized and he collapsed.
30 Aug	Epping	Electric shock	An employee was cutting floor tiles with a concrete cutting saw when he cut into an electrical conduit in the floor.
30 Aug	Point Cook	Near miss	Excavator struck a power cable that had not shown on the Dial Before You Dig.
30 Aug	Bendigo	Lacerated hand	Plumber slipped and grabbed onto a sheet of iron.
2 Sept	Dandenong	Lacerated face	Employee using a concrete saw when the saw kicked back and hit him in the face.
2 Sept	Melbourne	Lacerated thumb	Work experience student cut his hand while handling some roof flashing.
2 Sept	Footscray	Near miss	Some scaffolding twisted and collapsed when a crane tail rope caught on it.
2 Sept	Werribee	Fractured fingers	An employee was assisting a telehandler to place steel bar bundles when one of the bars snagged and released, hitting his hand.
2 Sept	Epping	Near miss	Contractor was stripping some formwork when his pinch bar fell approximately eight metres from his hand to the ground.
3 Sept	Springvale	Near miss	A concrete line from a piling rig burst causing concrete to spray over two vehicles.
3 Sept	Lilydale	Near miss	A water tank that had been mounted on concrete fell into a trench that was being dug next to it.
3 Sept	Moorabbin	Lacerated arm	Employee was about to fall and tried to grab at a piece of

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		and hand	timber frame but struck a piece of steel scrap instead.
3 Sept	Footscray	Lacerated leg	While loading materials on the back of a truck a dogman scraped his right shin against some reo bars.
4 Sept	Stonnington	Near miss	A demolition site wall collapsed onto a footpath when the site was unattended.
4 Sept	Bairnsdale	Fractured jaw	Employee was unloading a steel load binder from a truck when it released suddenly and struck him on face.
4 Sept	Croydon	Lacerated leg	Employee was carrying a roof sheet that cut his leg when he tripped over a pothole.
4 Sept	Warragul	Near miss	Driver was driving a rigid truck with a heavy load up a hill when the truck lost momentum, started rolling backwards and rolled over.
4 Sept	Footscray	Near miss	A dogman's helmet fell from a level 13 window down to the road.
4 Sept	Footscray	Lacerated thumb	Employee cut his thumb while installing a cable tray.
4 Sept	Fitzroy	Near miss	Some insufficiently secured bar chairs dislodged from a crane and fell approximately five meters to the ground, narrowly missing a man.
4 Sept	Melbourne	Broken finger	Employee dropped a storm water grate onto his hand.
4 Sept	Melbourne	Near miss	A hammer head crane came into contact with a lifting cable.
4 Sept	Melbourne	Electric shock	An employee received an electric shock when a forklift broke an extension lead that was live.
5 Sept	Melbourne	Electric shock	Electrician working on a switchboard when he received an electric shock.
5 Sept	Melbourne	Near miss	Member of the public was driving next to a construction site when they reported hearing a loud bang. They stopped and found the top of their car dented, but could not find what may have fallen and caused it.
5 Sept	Bundoora	Bruised thigh	Three employees were lifting a jersey barrier (pre-cast concrete) when the crane went over a bump and caused the jersey barrier to swing and hit a worker's upper right leg.

Mining

Date	Industry	Injury description	Incident summary
27 Aug	Mine	Facial injury	Employee using a magnetic drill which jammed, twisted and hit his upper lip.
27 Aug	Mine	Near miss	A 40 tonne dump truck tipped over while travelling on a mine road.
30 Aug	Quarry	Near miss	A large rock fell onto a walkway outside of the control room.