

Reported incidents

22/05/2014 to 04/06/2014

Since the last edition of Safety Soapbox, there have been 50 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
22 May	MELBOURNE	Laceration	Subcontractor was using a battery drill with a 100mm hole saw to drill out a piece of timber, when it came into contact with his hand.
22 May	MELBOURNE	Laceration	Employee stood up and hit his head on a shelf.
22 May	SUNSHINE	Laceration	Employee was lifting the base of a bench top when it slipped and cut his hand.
22 May	HAMPTON	Laceration	Employee cut his hand while trimming carpet up against a skirting board.
22 May	NORTHCOTE	Near miss	A portion of a timber wall frame blew off and fell from the third level to the ground floor. It appears that the temporary bracing failed.
22 May	SHEPPARTON	Broken pelvis	Subcontractor was engaged to install a wind wall for a cattle underpass when the wall collapsed onto the worker.
23 May	HASTINGS	Ruptured tendon	Employee was starting a diesel pump using a pull start method when he received pull back from the machine and injured his finger.
23 May	CHADSTONE	Laceration	Subcontractor was using an explosive nail gun when he shot himself in the hand.
23 May	ST KILDA	Near miss	Employee was unloading a material hoist when his thumb hit the box steel hand rail of the material hoist, causing the handrail to fail and creating live edge with fall height of two levels.
23 May	DANDENONG	Electric shock	Employee replacing a water main dug up a low voltage power crossing with a shovel and crowbar. Conduit was exposed and worker struck the power cable with the crowbar.
23 May	MELBOURNE	Electric shock	Employee was cutting timber and stood on exposed electrical wires.
26 May	SPRINGVALE	Fracture	A skid steer loader that was tracking forward ran over an employee's toe.
26 May	NUNAWADING	Near miss	Employee was walking across a catwalk when he accidentally kicked a tool off and it fell four metres to the

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			floor.
26 May	WODONGA	Fracture	Employee slipped and fell from the third rung of a ladder falling on his arm from a height of about 600mm.
26 May	WERRIBEE	Near miss	A leak of 900 litres of sulphuric acid occurred. It leaked into the chemical bund and was fully contained.
27 May	CHADSTONE	Near miss	A mobile scaffold collapsed and fell onto a timber fence.
27 May	OAKLEIGH	Near miss	During concrete formworking, a piece of 100mm by 150mm by 3600mm long timber fell from level four to level one landing on a fall protection deck below.
27 May	MAFFRA	Fracture	Electrician was putting a motor back into service and as he was putting it down it crushed his finger.
27 May	LAKES ENTRANCE	Broken leg	Employee was carrying a chock to put under the wheels of a truck when he tripped in a hole.
27 May	MELBOURNE	Laceration	Employee was removing a bearing with a mash hammer and dolley when a chard of metal flew off the dolley or the hammer and embedded itself into the employee.
27 May	MELBOURNE	Near miss	A screen was being lowered by a crane swung and struck a window. Glass showered the street and inside a building.
28 May	CLAYTON	Laceration	Contractor was drilling a 40mm hole into a gland plate on a switchboard when the drill jammed. When he reversed the drill it swung into his face.
28 May	MELBOURNE	Near miss	Placard of cladding panel on crane hooks (approximately twenty eight meters high) came free from the panel. A scissor lift in front of this also fell.
28 May	WILLIAMSTOWN	Laceration	Employee was using a reo-bar cutting machine when his finger was amputated by the machine.
28 May	WARRNAMBOOL	Burn	Employee was replacing a solenoid in a rectifier when the cable shortened out on the frame and burnt his finger.
29 May	MELBOURNE	Laceration	Employee was struck in the eye with a chip from a concrete nail that was being hammered three or four metres away.
29 May	SHEPPARTON	Laceration	Employee was using an angle grinder to cut a piece of steel which became unbalanced, rising at one end and striking him in the face.
29 May	BALLARAT	Back and neck injury	When wind caught a sliding door an employee tried to stop the door from falling and injured his back and neck.

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30 May	RINGWOOD	Fracture	Employee fell from a ladder while pulling beams from a pergola.
30 May	MELBOURNE	Near miss	Washer plate fell off a tower crane and onto the ground below.
30 May	ESSENDON	Near miss	Steel frame being lifted by site tower crane from a truck when a length of the structural steel came off, causing the frame to fall back onto the trailer and bounce onto the pavement.
30 May	MELBOURNE	Near miss	Formwork strippers dropped a piece of timber onto the floor and struck a 300mm length of sprinkler pipe sitting on a stallage. The pipe catapulted over the edge of a handrail falling twelve levels causing a hole in a neighbouring tin roof and damage to a glass roof.
30 May	MELBOURNE	Electric shock	Contractor who was working on the transformer of a large chandelier received an electric shock.
2 Jun	CLAYTON	Near miss	Contractors were replacing a roof when a 60cm x 40cm steel framed skylight (weighing about 15kgs) came loose and fell approximately nine metres.
2 Jun	NORTHCOTE	Near miss	During demolition a roof structure collapsed overnight, landing on equipment below.
2 Jun	MELBOURNE	Near miss	An employee was struck on the shoulder by soil collapsing in a trench's retaining wall.
3 Jun	MOE	Electric shock	Employee received an electric shock from a cement mixer he was plugging in.
3 Jun	PAKENHAM	Near miss	A garage structure collapsed during rectification work after an employee removed some studs which caused a beam to give way.
3 Jun	SURREY HILLS	Laceration	Employee was installing doors when a tool fell off a bench. He grabbed at it and cut his finger.
3 Jun	MORNINGTON	Near miss	Forklift was being delivered to a construction site and due to uneven ground, rolled approximately five metres down a hill. Driver jumped out of the vehicle.
3 Jun	MELBOURNE	Laceration	Subcontractor was removing a garage door when the spring hit him in the head.
3 Jun	MELBOURNE	Fracture	Contractor fell almost three metres down an open penetration, fracturing his wrist.
3 Jun	VICTORIA	Knee injury	Employee was working on site when he stood up and his left knee popped.

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3 Jun	MELBOURNE	Laceration	Electrician reached into ceiling cavity to grab a cable and cut his finger.
3 Jun	MELBOURNE	Laceration	Plumber's leg struck the side of a pallet as he walked past.
3 Jun	MELBOURNE	Fracture	Employee was working in ground drainage when he caught his foot, slipped and fell on his wrist.
4 Jun M	GLADSTONE PARK	Head injury	Employee hit his head on a concrete footpath when he slipped on a piece of timber on a nature strip.
4 Jun	WODONGA	Fracture	Electrician was using a jig to lift an electrical cable and when he stepped back to the floor he lost his footing and fell onto his hip.
4 Jun	GLADSTONE PARK	Head injury	Contractor was conducting a roof installation when he slipped and fell, striking his head causing him to become unconscious.
4 Jun	MELBOURNE	Near miss	A hammer fell from the eleventh floor of a building. People in the area.

Mining

Date	Industry	Injury description	Incident summary
No incidents reported			