

Reported incidents

23 April 2013

Since the last edition of Safety Soapbox, there have been 62 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
5 Apr	Stratford	Near miss	Employees were doing maintenance on a telecom pole when the pole slipped and fell to the ground.
8 Apr	Sandringham	Lacerated right calf	Employee was working on a window when then wind blew window glass out of the frame.
8 Apr	Laverton	Lacerated right bicep	Employee fell 2.5m when the batten he was working on broke.
8 Apr	Mernda	Lacerated right hand	Employee was working next to a skid steer loader when his hand came in to contact with the machine.
8 Apr	Melbourne	Lacerated left hand	Worker cutting timber with circular saw when his hand slipped.
8 Apr	Bundoora	Bruised coccyx	Contractor slipped on loose plywood and fell 3m onto the lower level of a multi-level building.
8 Apr	Melbourne	Electric shock	Worker was cleaning electric concrete coring drill and received a minor electric shock.
8 Apr	Melbourne	Electric shock	Employee was plugging in vacuum and received minor electric shock.
8 Apr	Bannockburn	Electric shock	Contractor touched exposed element on switchboard and received small electric shock.
9 Apr	Malvern	Lacerated left index finger	Employee was installing metal flashing when his finger slipped.
9 Apr	Mitcham	Lacerated right forearm	Worker cutting stainless steel on roof when he slipped and fell on to a sharp edge of the stainless steel.
9 Apr	Warragul	Severed right thumb	Worker cleaning out agitator barrel on concrete truck when his finger got caught.
9 Apr	South Yarra	Broken bone in left foot	Employee was stepping on to lower level when he slipped and rolled his ankle.
9 Apr	Bundoora	Near miss	Employees drilling into slab floor and hit electrical power cable.
9 Apr	Melbourne	Near miss	Horizontal boring machine struck underground electric cable.

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9 Apr	Eltham	Fractured left hand	Worker was removing sleepers with a crowbar when the crowbar slipped and his hand was crushed under a sleeper.
9 Apr	Albert Park	Near miss	Frame fell 4m.
9 Apr	Yallambie	Near miss	While mobile scaffold was being disassembled, some parts weighing 3 to 5kg fell from second floor.
9 Apr	Shepparton	Electric shock	Worker was standing on a steel fence post holding electricity lines and received an electric shock.
9 Apr	Benalla	Near miss	Concrete power pole being lowered into hole when sling holding pole snapped causing pole to tip over.
9 Apr	Epsom	Lacerated right hand	Employee slipped on roof cutting his hand on sharp metal.
10 Apr	Brunswick	Electric shock	Contractor installing air conditioning unit when received an electric shock
10 Apr	Epping	Near miss	Concrete pre-cast panel was being lifted from truck when it broke in half and fell to the ground.
10 Apr	Ballarat	Near miss	Worker backfilling a trench with an excavator when the excavator rolled onto its side.
10 Apr	Bacchus Marsh	Fractured leg	Worker was using an excavator and caught his leg in the machinery.
11 Apr	Richmond	Injured left eye	Carpenter was hammering in nail and the nail came out and hit his eye.
11 Apr	Box Hill	Lacerated left palm	Contractor attempted to open tin with a knife when the knife slipped.
11 Apr	Burwood	Small bruise on back	Formwork was being stripped and a small piece of timber broke off and hit a worker standing below.
11 Apr	Lalor	Back injury	Employee was working in a telephone pit when he collapsed and couldn't move.
11 Apr	Brooklyn	Near miss	Workers were using an overhead gantry crane to load a pre-cast panel on to a truck, when a chain on the crane broke and the panel fell .5m to the ground.
11 Apr	Hoppers Crossing	Fractured vertebrae, laceration on head and neck	Employee was unloading a steel panel when the steel panel fell and hit him on the back of his head and neck.
11 Apr	Warrnambool	Laceration on	Contractor struck on head by falling piece of timber while

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		head	carrying out activities on the ground.
12 Apr	South Yarra	Near miss	Cable snapped while two people were inside a man and materials hoist.
12 Apr	Docklands	Eye injury	Worker grinding steel part when a piece of steel flew into the worker's eye.
12 Apr	Altona	Near miss	Gas line struck with a backhoe bucket resulting in a small gas leak.
12 Apr	Benalla	Near miss	Recently installed roller door fell off its mounting bracket missing painters working near the door.
12 Apr	Laverton	Near miss	Pre-cast panel being rotated when lifting eye released and panel fell to ground.
12 Apr	Caroline Springs	Near miss	Steelwork frames collapsed coming to rest at a 45° angle.
12 Apr	Laverton	Lacerated left hand	Worker cutting fence paling with a circular saw when the saw slipped and hit his hand.
15 Apr	Mitcham	Facial burns	Employee heated canned soup which then exploded splashing his face.
15 Apr	Bayswater	Fractured back and ribs	Contractor was climbing out of his work truck when he slipped and fell.
15 Apr	Moordialloc	Head injury	Worker installing roof fell three meters to the ground.
15 Apr	Burwood	Unknown injury	Contractor was carrying out assessment of roof work required and fell through the roof.
15 Apr	Cranbourne	Lacerated left knee	Skid steer loader operator moving a steel pole when the pole swung and hit his left knee.
15 Apr	Ocean Grove	Soft tissue damage on right ankle	Worker lowering a feeder by rope cable. His ankle caught in rope cable and he was wrenched up 2m.
15 Apr	Geelong	Lacerated left thumb	Worker cutting a piece of timber with a circular saw when finger slipped.
16 Apr	Burwood	Electric shock	Employee was sanding concrete with a hand sander when he nicked an electrical lead receiving an electric shock.
16 Apr	Wheelers Hill	Broken teeth	Worker shoveling clay when shovel struck a hard surface and was pushed back in to the worker's mouth breaking some of his teeth.
17 Apr	Malvern East	Laceration on head	Temporary fencing in front of a construction site blew over a member of public resulting in small cut to the person's head.

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S17 Apr	Clayton	Near miss	Excavator hit a gas main.
17 Apr	South Melbourne	Near miss	Length of steel cable fell down thirteen levels of a building.
18 Apr	Camberwell	Laceration	Employee was cutting a cable tie when his knife slipped and cut another employee who was holding the cables.
18 Apr	Bairnsdale	Lacerated right arm	Worker was lifting a metal sheet when it slipped and cut his right arm.
18 Apr	Prahran	Near miss	Scaffold plank fell from Level 1 to the ground floor.
18 Apr	Shepparton	Lacerated forearm	Plumber was cutting up cast iron pipes when blade shattered lacerating his forearm.
18 Apr	Thomastown	Near miss	Worker driving a pad foot roller when the roller hit a rock and flipped on to its side.

Mining

Date	Location	Injury description	Incident summary
11 Apr	Stawell	Laceration on head	Maintenance worker doing oxy cutting tasks was hit on the head by a steel plate.
11 Apr	Costerfield	Electric shock	Two workers received electric shocks while using an amp meter
12 Apr	Ouyen	Near miss	Fire in scraper engine caused by failure of hydraulic hose.
15 Apr	Traralgon South	Lacerated right index finger	Worker using grinder when his finger slipped.
15 Apr	Yallourn	Near miss	Vehicle parked in front of mine office and rolled 10m.
16 Apr	Fosterville	Electric shock	Electrician touched the circuit breaker in an underground mine while inspecting work.