

# Notified incidents

July 17, 2012

Since the last edition of Safety Soapbox, there have been 52 incidents, serious enough to be reported to WorkSafe Victoria, from the construction, utility, quarrying and mining industries. Below is a summary of these incidents.

Suburb	Injury details	Incident description
<b>July 2</b>		
Footscray	Near miss	A high rail excavator had been fitted with a rock breaker for use on a concrete wall of a cutting. The safety pin had not been installed and the rock breaker fell from the excavator.
Melton	Finger injury	Worker hit by shovel.
<b>July 3</b>		
Sale	Near miss	Fire in the motor of a hired all-terrain EWP.
Kilsyth	Lacerated chin	Contractor was using a grinder when it kicked back and hit him in the chin.
Hallam	Hand injury	Driver was releasing a jammed tailgate on a tipper. He jammed his hand between the release arm and the tipper body.
West Melbourne	Electric shock	Worker received an electric shock while using a jack hammer.
Alfredton	Lacerated knee	Worker slipped on muddy surface and fell on concrete.
<b>July 4</b>		
Lilydale	Eye injury	A worker at a subdivision site was inflating a tyre on a vehicle. The air hose blew lime dust off the tyre rim and into his eye.
Ferny Creek	Wrist injury	Nineteen-year-old worker was in a building stairwell where plastic has been laid down to protect new tiles. He fell 2 m when the ladder slipped on the plastic. .
Richmond	Lacerated hands	Contractor was fixing a gutter from a ladder when he slipped and cut his hands on the gutter.
Kerang	Neck and back injury	Contractor building a walkway was pushed against the roof beam/rafter

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		when the controls of the scissor lift be was using malfunctioned and the platform continued to elevate.
<b>July 5</b>		
Malvern	Leg injury	Worker fell from step ladder while roughing water pipes.
Port Melbourne	Near miss	Two-hundred and fifty litres of diesel leaked from day tanks when a stopcock was left slightly open.
Glenroy	Knee injury	Apprentice shot a nail into his knee when bumped a nail gun on his right knee when he still had his finger on the trigger.
<b>July 6</b>		
Moolap	Fractured foot	A trailer of traffic signs fell on a worker's foot when the jockey wheel' did not lock.
Torquay	Lacerated leg	Contractor was driving foot boom lift over a cattle grid. The jolt causing the operator to strike his shin on the handrail.
Warragul	Eye injury	Worker moving timber when a piece flew up hit him in the face.
Newport	Near miss	Excavator being used for water main renewal works hit a disused gas pipe.
Bendigo	Near miss	Gas pipe crossing a driveway was clipped by mobile plant.
Truganina	Eye injury	Eighteen-year-old worker put crowbar through high pressure pipeline. Sand was blown into his face by the impact.
Leongatha	Near miss	Power cable exposed and shorted out by excavator doing a cut for a roadway.
<b>July 9</b>		
Geelong	Electric shock	Employee has received an electric shock when he contacted part of the switchboard that was live.
Malvern	Serious finger laceration	Labour hire worker was positioning railway sleepers when the excavator

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		lifted a sleeper jamming his finger.
Melbourne	Exposure to fumes, dizziness, burn	A labour hire employee noticed a burn on his foot after spilling epoxy resin on his foot while completing railway maintenance works.
Corio	Near miss	Forklift truck was picking up a pellet of 4 argon bottles. The tynes clipped the pellet behind and all 4 bottles fell to the ground, approx 1.5mtrs.
Port Melbourne	Laceration to the left hand	Employee, 21, was grinding a metal sewer pipe when the disc shattered and lacerated the back of his left hand. Surgery required.
Somers	Bruising to back	Apprentice, 28, fell off a house roof approx 2.5m while cutting a tin sheet. Guard rail in place only on half the roof.
<b>July 10</b>		
Avoca	Electric shock	Male staff member, 29, winding up an electrical lead on a barrel pump. There was a cut in the lead, which was also wet, and he got a shock.
Richmond	Laceration to upper lip requiring 5 stitches.	Male, 33, was hit in the face by a transformer which swung down when removing ceiling tiles.
Footscray	Crushing injury to the right leg	Employee, 22, operating a skid steer. It rocked forward and the arm came down on his leg.
Huntingdale	Laceration to head, possible concussion	Worker was using a crown stand-up when he hit his head on overhead bar.
Yallourn	Electric shock	Subcontractor, 60, doing insulation resistance testing with a 5000v mega ohm meter on a circuit breaker received an electric shock.
<b>July 11</b>		
Altona	Laceration to chin requiring four stitches.	Male worker, 42, was loosening a nut with rattle gun. When the nut came off, the socket came off the end of the rattle gun and hitting him

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		in the face.
Meeniyah	Laceration to left hand, requires surgery	Employee, 21, cutting wood on a stationary bench saw.
Bendigo	Fractured right elbow	Employee, 26, walking on a set of floor joints above a concrete slab, fell 0.4m.
MacArthur	Laceration to left knee	Sub contractor was using a seven inch grinder when it kicked back and made contact with the inside of the employee's left knee.
Doncaster	Crush (split) injury to right index finger, requires surgery	Employee, 21, conducting rigging work on site. He was pulling on packers when tension of the column was released; the column sprung back crushing and splitting the tip of his right index finger between it and another piece of steel.
Morwell	Laceration to top lip	Employee hitting a spanner with a hammer, the hammer rebounded, hit worker in the mouth.
Alphington	Near miss	A tower crane was moving a boom lift on site when the boom lift rotated. Bolts that were left in the bucket fell out, hitting a worker but not causing an injury.
Kew	Laceration to right thumb	Worker cutting a steel bar with an angle grinder when it jammed and nicked the top of his thumb.
<b>July 12</b>		
Tallarook	Metal in eye, surgery required	Employee 56 yrs old was knocking a steel post in and the mallet handle broke and a piece of steel lodged into his right eye.
Melbourne	Suspected foot fracture	Employee, 23, was moving a pallet of plaster on trolley, when they struck some ply wood covering a penetration which dislodged the trolley. The trolley landed on his left foot.
Caulfield	Electric shock, required hospitalisation	Site Manager, 31, came into contact with live wires after brushing past a

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		broken power lead.
Corio	Laceration requiring stitches	Employee, working inside a tank as a scaffolder, walked into a pipe nozzle, causing his helmet to dig into soft tissue above his left eye..
Essendon north	Suspected fracture and concussion	Employee, 55, was operating a dingo loader. He picked up a bucket of material, lifted the bucket up high, causing the machine to tip. He then fell off the back of the machine.
Williamstown	Crushed finger	Employee was helping to lift an extraction outlet to a height that would assist in the work set up. During the process he let the rope go. The unit fell and crushed his left little finger.
Coburg	Suspected arm fracture	Volunteer, 55, was replacing polycarbonate sheets on a car port with the assistance of another volunteer. Work was being conducted on a trestle at a height of approximately 5 feet. The volunteer fell off and landed heavily, injuring his left wrist and right elbow.
Essendon	Fracture ribs, punctured lungs and head injury	Sub contractor was pouring concrete into a retaining wall and the hose blocked. It kicked back hitting, the fence and rebounding onto the worker.
<b>Mining</b>		
Morwell	Near miss	Two tonne box of parts toppled to the ground while being lifted from a truck by a forklift.
Tynong	Near miss	30 tonne excavator breaking rocks. Side of a ramp on the right hand track has come off the ramp and the excavator fell onto its side and is leaking diesel.
Ouyen	Electric shock	Employee, 21, working in the field went to swap out an extension lead. She reported feeling a tingle when plugging the lead back in.