

WorkSafe

Tools for building safer workplaces | worksafemagazine.com | November / December 2019



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workers in long-term care** p7

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Answer key and winner of the last "What's wrong with this photo?" contest.

On the front cover: Shannon Warnock and Rebekah Cochran demonstrate a peer training moment at The Heights at Mt. View in Victoria, B.C.

Looking at safety in new ways

As our workplaces evolve and change, so too must our health and safety programs. Our goal with *WorkSafe Magazine* is to bring you stories that look at health and safety from new perspectives — whether it's a new regulation, a technological advancement, or an emerging risk. This issue is no different.

In our cover story, we explore how an engagement with WorkSafeBC helped a long-term care facility see training and mentorship in a new way (page 7). In "Ask an officer," Todd Siefke shares tips on why typical firefighting methods don't work on a silo fire (page 5).

Meanwhile, in the construction sector, members of the British Columbia Construction Association are sharing what they've learned about why falls from heights continue to happen (page 13). And, in the transportation sector, the Winter Driving Safety Alliance shares tips on keeping safe on the road in winter conditions after new regulations from the B.C. government came into effect last October (page 16). To cap it off, we speak with an employer who learned about the need for specialized first aid training, when a worker had a cardiac event on site. Today, he trains staff in how to use an automatic external defibrillator (page 11).

We hope you'll find these stories inspiring enough to look at how your health and safety program can be strengthened and improved. Lives depend on it.



Terence Little
Editor-in-chief

WorkSafe

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WORKSAFE BC



Gord Woodward

Gord has run his own communications and business-consulting firm for 24 years. He brings us “Ask an officer” (right) and a “Safety talk” on log hauling (page 21).



Sarah Ripplinger

Sarah is a marketer, writer, editor, and journalist. She brings us our cover story on peer safety in health care (page 7).



Marnie Douglas

Marnie Douglas is a Kelowna-based writer and communications professional who began her career in journalism. In our “Safety spotlight,” she talks to a woodworking company about its emergency response plan (page 11).



Gillie Easdon

Gillie Easdon is a writer specializing in communications, blogs, websites, grant writing, articles, and creative work. She speaks with SafetyDriven on how to chain up properly in one of our “WorkSafeBC updates” (page 16).

Silo fires pose unique risk to workers, first responders



Todd Siefke

Supervisor, Prevention Field Services

Region: Surrey

Years on the job: 13

A fire in a silo presents a unique set of risks that are not always found in other types of fires. Any employer who uses bulk storage vessels, such as silos, needs to be aware of the risks. Many industries use silos, but some of the most common are agriculture or agrifoods; breweries; large commercial bakeries; manufacturers of animal feed, wood products, foam, foods, and beverages; and plastics.

In this issue, supervisor in Prevention Field Services Todd Siefke explains the fire hazards of silos and how to reduce the risk of serious injury and death to workers and first responders.

Q. What makes silo fires unique?

A. Silo fires are often smouldering, rather than active fires with open flames. Smouldering fires can be deep rooted in the material being stored and they can feed themselves for days, weeks, or even months. A smouldering fire in a silo may create an oxygen-deficient environment. This affects how you fight the fire: allowing oxygen into the silo by opening hatches or spraying in water can intensify the fire. There's also an explosion risk from accumulation of carbon monoxide.

You could also see structural collapse due to silo materials absorbing the water and increasing in weight. The materials being stored could add more complexity as well — disturbed combustible dust could also cause an explosion.

Q. What am I required to do as an employer?

A. You need to create a risk-based emergency response plan and assign someone to oversee it. To get started, identify the hazards and do a risk assessment. Your plan also needs to cover the following:

- Training and equipment needs
- Specific actions to be undertaken
- Roles and responsibilities

- A communication plan
- Outreach to first responders — fire departments will rely on you for information

Q. What are some other actions I can take to reduce the risk of fire?

- A.** Your specific prevention practices will depend on your industry and circumstances. In general, regularly monitor your silo content with the goal of preventing spontaneous combustion. How long has it been stored? How often do you turn it over? Regularly measure temperature and the concentration of gases. Look for ways to prevent ignition from an outside source such as a spark from your equipment. Inspect your equipment and do preventive maintenance regularly.

Q. What should I consider when creating an emergency response plan?

- A.** There are three important factors: type, materials, and resources. Here's what to review:
- **Type of silo:** The more airtight it is, the greater the potential for explosion due to carbon monoxide or combustible dust.
 - **Materials it contains:** Understand the characteristics of what you're storing, such as its size, shape, and byproducts. The material's characteristics have an impact on the risk of fire and the methods for extinguishing it. For example, biofuels and silage are susceptible to self-heating from biological activity and chemical oxidization, which could lead to spontaneous ignition. The porosity/permeability of the product could affect an extinguishing agent's ability to disperse through the material. Other materials may absorb water during firefighting activities and structurally compromise the silo's integrity.
 - **Available resources:** It's not good enough to simply say, "I'll call 911 if there's a fire." Is there a fire department nearby or do you rely on an in-house fire brigade? Discuss with them the potential for a silo fire and the risks it creates.

Develop a firefighting strategy so everyone knows what to do. Then practise your plan.

Q. What are the best practices for responding to silo fires?

- A.** Incidents here in B.C. show that fighting silo fires is extremely challenging and dangerous, even for professional fire services. So, never rush into it. It is essential to have your strategy in place first. You have a bit of time to think when dealing with a smouldering fire.

One option is to shut down the silo to let the fire burn out. If you have to fight it, don't open the silo and avoid using water if possible. Instead, inject nitrogen. Don't enter the area without personal gas-monitoring equipment or a breathing apparatus. If you're removing the material, do it slowly to minimize the disturbance of combustible dust.

Q. Where can I get more information?

- A.** Henry Persson, a leading expert in silo fires, has written a guide, *Silo fires: Fire extinguishing and preventive and preparatory measures*, which is available for free online at msb.se. You can also download *Firefighting precautions at facilities with combustible dust*, from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration at osha.gov.

Looking for answers to your specific health and safety questions? Send them to us at worksafemagazine@worksafebc.com, and we'll consider them for our next "Ask an officer" feature. ☺



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On the cover

Bridgette De Groot and Ana Marie Domasig discuss infectious disease protocols and supplies as part of the peer safety program.



Peer support program builds safety culture in long-term care

By Sarah Ripplinger

In the dynamic work environment of a long-term care facility, issues need to be dealt with on the floor and in real time. For one facility in Victoria, training, peer support, and a partnership with WorkSafeBC have been key to keeping workers safe from injuries.

When faced with a workplace concern, colleagues often consult each other to resolve the situation. This kind of peer support can help workers at long-term care facilities, such as The Heights at Mt. View, manage health and safety concerns in real-time.

The Baptist Housing facility in Victoria, B.C., houses 260 seniors with complex care needs, and is staffed 24-7 from a pool of 365 front-line caregivers and support workers. While The Heights has an active joint health and safety committee, staff and management wanted to further reduce injuries, increase training, and improve orientation for nurses and care aides.

“We noticed that employees needed different kinds of support on the floor — not just with resident handling, but also with such things as infection control and orientation,” says Dyan Te, a resource nurse educator and member of The Heights’ peer safety team. “We wanted to provide more support at orientation for new hires and continue that support for all staff on a daily basis.”

Creating a peer program

Several years ago, The Heights launched a musculoskeletal injury (MSI) coaching program. Through the program, experienced care aides and nurses coached new hires and other staff and provided real-time guidance on things such as preventing soft-tissue injuries when transferring or repositioning residents. But The Heights had two big challenges: finding enough staff members who felt comfortable being a coach and structuring the program in the most effective way.

In early 2018, The Heights worked with WorkSafeBC’s Mike Paine, a key account performance consultant, and Heather Middleton, a prevention industry specialist. When WorkSafeBC did an initial employer assessment, gap analysis, and worker survey with The Heights, the team confirmed that the MSI coaches were not being utilized by staff. A new model was piloted and the Peer Safety Team was born with the mission “to support a safety culture and reduce team member injury.”

Under the new initiative, employees now self-identify as peers, as opposed to being appointed by the employer, notes Te. Plus, peers have more autonomy in their role, which gives them a sense of ownership and pride.

“All peers are front-line workers who have the knowledge and experience to quickly address safety issues when they arise,” says site manager Walter Greaser. Peers also support injury prevention by leading monthly educational sessions on topics such as how to properly use slings or soaker pads and hand hygiene. The floor with the highest attendance at the educational sessions wins a prize, and attendance statistics are gathered to help leadership track the program’s success.

Measuring the return on investment

The peer safety team meetings have been well-attended thanks to support from management, adds Te. They’ve provided financial support by covering initial startup costs as well as staffing costs to backfill employees who attend the monthly peer team safety meetings. Management is also prepared to act on issues and innovations raised by the peer safety team. Funding is set aside to implement the policy and procedural changes recommended by the team.



Glenn Webber and Nathy Orticio post new workplace safety information on the peer safety team bulletin board.



Peer safety team members attending their December monthly meeting.

In addition to on-site training, several peers have received train-the-trainer education on resident handling from SafeCare BC, a health and safety association for continuing care. They also receive leadership and policy training through The Heights. Meanwhile, WorkSafeBC continues to be involved with the team and their injury prevention initiatives by participating in meetings and providing advice, expertise, and resources when needed.

The facility has seen a drop in employee injuries since the launch of the peer safety team, notes Greaser. “That’s a direct impact from the program.” There has also been a significant increase in staff knowledge and appreciation of the importance of occupational health and safety. “This knowledge directly transfers to the care and safety of the residents,” adds Greaser.

Skill-building and NAOSHing

In May 2019, Middleton encouraged The Heights to participate in the North American Occupational Safety and Health (NAOSH) Week for the first time. The team

held a wellness fair with the theme “people, passion, and prevention” and were rewarded by taking home the B.C. award for Best New Entry at the November 28 safety forum and awards dinner in Burnaby, B.C.

Six care workers from the joint committee and peer safety team coordinated The Heights’ wellness fair, which brought together eight external exhibitors and eleven internal departments and committees.

The Baptist Housing executive team held the annual staff appreciation BBQ the same day to generate more buzz and excitement. This opened the fair up to over 120 day- and evening-shift workers.

Attendees were treated with external personal wellness vendors, such as a seller for essential oils offering tips for relaxation at home and a local massage college giving free massages. A local police constable taught staff about personal safety and WorkSafeBC ran a “What’s Wrong with this Picture?” safety education contest. The committee also sourced donations from local organizations for door prizes and participant bags.

Displays focused on key safety issues within individual departments or committees. For example, The Heights' maintenance department focused on fire safety. Education services focused on MSI prevention and responding to a Code White — an emergency response signalled when violence occurs.

"We also included information about psychological trauma and emotional trauma," adds Te. "Employees are quite familiar with physical injury, and we wanted to let them know they can also get support for emotional trauma."

Owning health and safety

Overall, their NAOSH win and their new peer program are just the beginning of a continuing journey to reduce injuries — a journey that Middleton and Paine have been pleased to have been a part of, through WorkSafeBC's engagement with The Heights.

"In the time that I have been working with The Heights, I have seen them grow and really take ownership of their health and safety," says Middleton. "They are making the time to listen to their workers and enact changes that make a direct impact on their health and safety at the workplace." 🍷

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WORK SAFE BC

Martin Berryman, co-owner of Wanes Custom Woodworks, gives a safety talk on using an automatic external defibrillator.

Taking workplace safety to heart

By Marnie Douglas

After an employee had a cardiac event at the worksite, Wanes Custom Woodworks wanted to take action and make sure that if it ever happened again, they'd be prepared.

Sudden cardiac arrest can happen anywhere and at any time — and Martin Berryman knows first-hand.

“Every minute is crucial in that situation,” says Berryman, the co-owner and general manager of Wanes Custom Woodworks in Burnaby, recalling the day when he and his colleagues could only watch helplessly and wait for first responders when an employee was having a cardiac event.

Just being in that stressful and worrisome situation provided a compelling case for getting better tools and/or training. The experience was enough to convince Berryman to purchase an automatic external defibrillator (AED) for his woodworking shop.

An AED is a portable and easy-to-use electronic device that assesses the heart of a person in cardiac arrest for a shockable rhythm. It guides the user either to deliver a shock to allow the heart to return to a normal rhythm or to perform CPR until first responders arrive.

AED a worthwhile investment

“Waiting for emergency services to arrive seems like an eternity, and feels worse when you want to help but don't have the tools or the knowledge to help someone who needs it,” he adds.

Berryman reviewed the statistics of having an AED on hand — if defibrillated within the first minute of collapse, the patient's chances of survival increase dramatically. For every minute that defibrillation is delayed, survival rates drop significantly.

“After seeing the stats for the effectiveness of resuscitation versus elapsed time, and realizing how cheap an AED is, I was sold, and so was our entire group,” Berryman adds. “It's an investment of less than \$2,000 that could save a life.”

He made an immediate decision to purchase an AED and train staff on correct usage, in the event that it is needed. Installation and training happened within a week, and he says the positive vibe created by having the AED in place made the purchase all the more worthwhile.

“I was a little struck by the reaction of the employees to be honest. It's like there's peace of mind in the shop.”

He even jokes he's "not getting any younger" and may need the life-saving device one day.

Awarded for safety innovation

The decision to add the life-saving piece of equipment earned Waness Custom Woodworks the WorkSafeBC Safety Innovation Award, from the BC Chapter of the Architectural Woodwork Manufacturers Association of Canada (AWMAC). The award recognizes original programs, policies, tools, or projects in the woodworking industry that assist in reducing workplace injuries.

This year is the second time Waness has been recognized with the Safety Innovation Award, which was started as a means to find innovative solutions to issues in the woodworking industry. In 2016, the company won for using a thermal imaging camera to check all the electrical switches to see if they're running too hot. The scan identified a malfunctioning electrical switch before it resulted in unplanned downtime or a fire. Waness now regularly scans all electrical switches and disconnects within the plant and compares the scan results to a recorded baseline.

The company has also been acknowledged for using a drone to inspect the roof for snow buildup or other debris, rather than having to send someone up a ladder. In addition to these initiatives, there are weekly safety meetings among the 18 employees where they discuss everything from any near-misses to what it means to work safely.

Safety culture takes time

Berryman admits it took a few years and a cultural shift to become a workplace where safety on the job and in the workplace is the number-one priority.

"I've been in this industry 33 years and when I came in, it was a bit of the Wild West. Safety wasn't a consideration or a priority. But when you put what we do into perspective, if employees find themselves putting speed or efficiency ahead of safety, they're really just putting money ahead of safety and that's not right."

Glenda Harskamp, executive director of the AWMAC BC Chapter, describes Waness as a "forward-thinking, innovative company" and one that seeks out safety improvements for its workplace.

"When they see something that will benefit health and safety, they jump on it. In the case of the AED, it's something that they may never need to use but they had the forethought to do the research, look at the need, and make that investment," she explains.

For his part, Berryman says what's key is to "keep an eye open to new ideas and solutions and make sure the priority is always going home safely at the end of the day." 🙏

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When it comes to fall protection, using the right kind for the job matters.

Can your fall-arrest system withstand edge and swing?

By Jesse Marchand

Fall protection is essential, but are you using it correctly?

Fall-arrest systems are the last line of defence for workers at heights, but the equipment needs to be used correctly. When fall protection is used incorrectly, it can have devastating results.

Back in 2013, WorkSafeBC released a bulletin after the improper use of a self-retracting lifeline resulted in the death of a worker. The investigation into that incident found that instead of being anchored above the worker in a vertical application, the lifeline was anchored on a low-slope roof at the same level. The result was that the mechanism could not work properly when it caught on a sharp edge and severed the line.

Sadly, stories like this are not isolated, nor are they in the past. In B.C., falls from elevation accounted for 15 percent of all traumatic injuries between 2014 and 2018. In that same period, there were 26 fatalities relating to lack of fall protection or improper use of guardrails, fall arrest, or fall restraint in the construction sector.

“With the equipment available out there, there shouldn’t be any falls,” says Marcelle Hiebert,

occupational safety officer, Prevention Field Services, at WorkSafeBC. “We’re starting to see change, but it’s not improved enough to drop from one of the number-one causes of injuries and deaths.”

Understanding the different types

For Tanya Steele, regional safety advisor for the British Columbia Construction Safety Association, fall protection awareness extends way beyond the message of “put it on.”

“Many workers know that they need to wear it, even when to wear it, and in many cases how to wear it. Unfortunately, we still see workers falling on a regular basis, and in some cases with their gear on,” says Steele. So what’s going wrong? For Steele, it all comes down to the employer providing the correct protection in addition to adequate training.

“Employers need to get the system that works best for their type of work. Although workers will attend a fall protection class, it’s important for employers to attend too. Most reputable schools will demo many different systems in class,” says Steele.

Employers also need to be aware about the compatibility between different equipment types.

“In many cases, they have equipment that is not even compatible with other equipment. Different systems also have an impact on what the worker can and can’t do at work, so it’s necessary for employers to assess this with the workers to find out what equipment will work and not impede the work or slow down the worker.”

Tips for choosing the right fall arrest system

Not all fall-arrest systems are designed for work against a sharp edge. Take, for example, the popular nylon twill tail retractable lifelines, which are designed for overhead anchorage points. They are light and easy to wear, but they aren’t designed to withstand being rubbed against a leading edge or being tied off at your feet.

Lanyards that are rated for leading-edge work offer higher weight ratings, can withstand being rubbed on a sharp edge, and are rated for anchoring at a worker’s feet when there is no anchor point above the head.


Though leading-edge lanyards cost more than traditional nylon versions, they are necessary for work where the lanyard may come in contact with a sharp edge.

Hiebert has these tips to help employers and workers know when to use what equipment:

- 1 Make sure you understand fall protection requirements.
- 2 Always follow the manufacturer’s instructions.
- 3 Provide workers with as much information as possible to work safely.
- 4 Provide supervision, so that workers can demonstrate that they understand how the equipment works and show that they are using it.

And, he adds, “Talk to the fall protection providers. They’re happy to explain what each piece of equipment is used for.”

For more information

WorkSafeBC has a number of resources on fall protection. Find them by searching for “fall protection” on [worksafebc.com](https://www.worksafebc.com). 

The fall protection hierarchy

No matter how quick the job, or how experienced the worker, following the fall protection hierarchy is an essential part of preventing falls from heights:

- 1 **Guardrails.** Where fall hazards cannot be eliminated, permanent or temporary guardrails or handrails form a protective barrier around an opening or edge to prevent a fall.
- 2 **Fall restraint.** After eliminating fall hazards and installing guardrails, a fall-restraint system is the next level in the fall protection hierarchy.

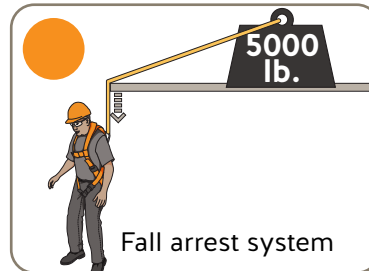
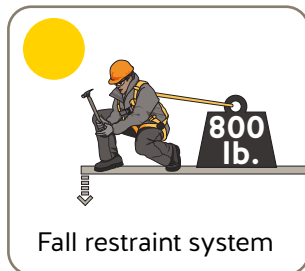
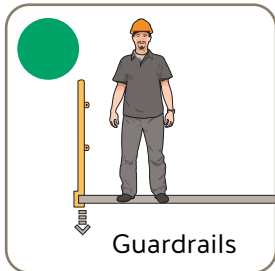
Fall-restraint systems prevent you from falling through either travel restriction or work positioning. With travel restriction, workers are attached to a fixed-length line that prevents them from travelling too close to an opening or edge.
- 3 **Fall arrest.** When it’s not possible or practical to use a fall-restraint system, the next line of protection is fall arrest. A fall-arrest system (including a lanyard or lifeline, a harness, and, most importantly, an anchor) protects you after a fall by stopping you from hitting the surface below.

If the situation requires fall arrest, it’s crucial that you use something rated for the work at hand. Strapping on a harness may look safe, but if it’s not designed and rated for the type of work you are doing, you’re putting your workers or yourself at risk, says Hiebert.

“You need to read the manufacturer’s instructions to ensure the equipment is suitable for the type of work. Read the instructions to know the limitations and compatibility. Employers need to ensure their workers have the manufacturer’s instructions,” Hiebert says. “If you don’t follow the instructions, then your fall-arrest system could fail.”

Fall protection hierarchy

Falls from heights are a leading cause of injury on B.C. construction sites



- Follow the hierarchy of fall protection with **guardrails** as your first choice
- Ensure **fall protection equipment** is available and used
- Ensure adequate **training, instruction, and supervision** are provided

Find resources at [worksafebc.com/construction](https://www.worksafebc.com/construction)

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WORK SAFE BC



Under B.C. regulations
vehicles 11,794 kilograms or
more must carry steel chains.

Do you know when and how to chain up?

By Gillie Easdon

If you operate a heavy commercial vehicle and travel on B.C. highways, you are required by law to carry tire chains — or other suitable traction devices. The Winter Driver Safety Alliance has resources and tips on how to stay safe on the road this winter, as well as how to chain up safely and properly.

Casualties from crashes in B.C. skyrocket in winter months — from 126 on average in October, to 236 in December. “Conditions can change quickly on B.C. highways, especially for drivers leaving the Lower Mainland for more mountainous terrain. We want everyone to drive safely and get home to their families this winter,” says the Hon. Claire Trevena, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure.

The Minister’s office is one of five main sponsors for the Winter Driving Safety Alliance, a joint provincial initiative that is supported by organizations committed to improving the safety of drivers during the winter months. Also included are WorkSafeBC, the Justice Institute of BC, the BC Roadbuilders and Heavy

Construction Association, and the Insurance Corporation of BC (ICBC). Their overall message is one of preparation when it comes to driving for work in the winter months.

Plan ahead

If you or your employees drive for work, you need to have a winter driving policy. “At a minimum, this policy needs to include the responsibilities for the employer, the supervisors, and the workers,” says Philip Choi, executive director at SafetyDriven – Trucking Safety Council of BC. SafetyDriven is one of the 19 members of the Winter Driving Safety Alliance. It offers help with safety program development, training, and resources for those in the trucking and moving and storage industries. “You should perform a pre-winter checkup and report any concerns to your supervisor,” adds Choi. “Keep your gas tank full to avoid condensation and freezing of fuel lines.”

SafetyDriven and the Winter Driving Safety Alliance also have the following tips:

- Always monitor current road and weather conditions on drivebc.ca.

- Be sure to have four identical winter tires and an emergency kit. As of October 2019, passenger vehicles driving on designated highways in B.C. must have four matched winter tires (three-peaked mountain and snowflake, or mud and snow) with at least 3.5 mm of tread depth. Carriers should consider investing in commercial vehicle winter tires.
- Let someone know your route and travel plans with an estimated time of arrival. If something changes, update them when it is safe to do so.
- Have an emergency plan. If you get stuck or stranded, don't panic. Stay with your vehicle for safety and warmth. If you have a cellphone and it is an emergency, call 911. Otherwise, call for roadside assistance.
- And don't forget, when the weather is poor, consider postponing your trip.

Tips for chaining up

If your work involves driving on roads that require chains, make sure every driver on your team is properly equipped with chains and knows how to chain up correctly before hitting the road — it takes some preparation. “As part of the Winter Driving Safety Alliance, we are sending the message that chaining up requires preparation and the right tools. Learning how to chain should not happen on the side of a busy highway,” says Trina Pollard, manager, Industry and Labour Services, WorkSafeBC. Chain use not only improves safety with traction, it also enhances control for you and other road users. By reducing incidents, chain use also helps minimize road closures and property damage.

- **When:** Always chain up when lights are flashing on designated chain up routes or when advised by overhead signs. You can also visit drivebc.ca or call 1.800.550.4997 to get more information about when to chain.

- **Where:** Select where you chain up carefully — the side of the road is not advisable. Keep an eye open for designated chain-up areas, accessible rest stops, and pullouts. Secure your vehicle, apply the parking brake and hazard lights, and turn off the engine. Ensure there is room for movement between you and any vehicle parked close by. Non-slip wheel chocks help secure the truck and trailer.
- **How:** Before heading out, make sure your chains are the right size for your tires. Do a practice run and follow the manufacturer's written instructions. When chains are on, do not exceed 50 km per hour and avoid bare pavement and hitting curbs. Following use, always inspect the chains for any damage.

For more information

The website shiftintowinter.ca has a number of resources to help you, including:

- The winter driving safety [online course](#)
- The employer [toolkit](#) that includes policy and procedures templates
- Information on [winter tires](#)

Road safety information can also be found at drivebc.ca and tranbc.ca. ☺

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Innovation at work grant competition is open now

By Jesse Marchand

Do you have an idea that could help improve workplace health and safety? The Innovation at Work research grant can help you develop your idea into a solution that makes a difference in the workplace.

WorkSafeBC's Research Services department funds independent, scientifically valid research that provides insight into real issues faced by B.C. workplaces. Among these funding opportunities, [Innovation at Work](#) projects aim to solve specific problems for workplaces, putting the latest scientific knowledge to work.

Be part of the solution

Competitions for 2020 Innovation at Work grants are now open, and anyone can apply. In fact, you don't need to be an academic — all you need is an idea to help improve workplace health and safety.

"The diverse ideas and questions that come to us through the Innovation at Work program help us to understand emerging issues in occupational health and safety. We welcome proposals from any field, with a focus on workers and workplace health and safety," says Lori Guiton, Policy, Regulation, and Research

Division director at WorkSafeBC. "It's always exciting to see the outcomes of research collaborations and the innovations they drive."

Looking for inspiration?

Historically, Innovation at Work grants have covered a wide variety of topics on occupational health and safety. Here are some of the recipients from the 2019 grant:

- **Metal exposure assessment using exhaled breath condensates:** Dr. Bernadette Quemerais, associate professor in the Department of Medicine at the University of Alberta, is exploring a new method to assess whether breath samples can be used as a more accurate and less expensive way to assess metal exposure. The research could lead to recommendations on how to control exposure, and will assess the potential for using this methodology to evaluate exposure to other metals and chemicals, such as paint and solvents.
- **Energy-absorbing cab guards for log trucks:** Ron Corbeil, health and safety advisor with the Safety Advisory Foundation for Education and Research, is leading a project to evaluate cab guard designs

for log trucks, in order to develop a cost-effective design for retrofitting existing cab guard structures to improve safety.

- **Tailored sun-safety messages for outdoor workers:**

Cheryl Peters, occupational hygienist and epidemiologist at Alberta Health Services, is working with a team to develop a mobile app that features practical sun-safety messages for preventing skin cancer, heat stress, and eye damage to ensure outdoor workers and employers have easy access to key information. The researchers note there are 1.5 million outdoor workers in Canada, and over one third are in B.C., Alberta, and Saskatchewan. The project aims to fill a gap to tailor sun-safety messages for outdoor workers, a population that is particularly at risk for skin cancer.

- **Tradeswomen: Potential concerns of bullying, violence, and harassment:** Vicki Kristman, an associate professor at Lakehead University, is investigating how organizational climate and culture influence bullying and harassment for tradeswomen in B.C. and Alberta, to provide up-to-date knowledge

with a focus on mental health and gender. The study will explore whether organizational climate and culture influence bullying and harassment in the workplace, and resulting effects on mental health and well-being of tradeswomen.

Learn more

“We are seeing more and more uptake of research findings, and we are always looking for new ways to present research to our stakeholders,” says Deepani Weerapura, senior manager responsible for Research Services. “We’re proud to play a key role in fostering research capacity in Canada, and to support the development of a dynamic and diverse research community. We’re looking forward to seeing the innovative projects submitted to this competition.”

The application form for the Innovation at Work grant is due by 4 p.m. on February 14, 2020. Interested applicants can check out the [Innovation at Work section of worksafebc.com](#) for full details on how to apply. ☺

Safety on the agenda

Please note: Information and links that appear in this section are provided as a resource. Listings do not necessarily constitute an endorsement from WorkSafeBC.

Looking for health and safety inspiration? Check out these conferences and events across Canada. An up-to-date listing of our upcoming events can be found in the News & Events section calendar on [worksafebc.com](#).

CCO Conference

Building Better Builders

Southern Interior Construction Association

February 28, 2020 | Kelowna, B.C.

[ccoworkshop.ca](#)

Actsafe Entertainment Safety Conference

March 5–7, 2020 | Richmond, B.C.

[actsafeconference.ca](#)

Western Conference on Safety

Pacific Safety Center

April 6–7, 2020 | Vancouver, B.C.

[wcs.pacificsafetycenter.com](#)

2020 Petroleum Safety Conference

Energy Safety Canada

April 28–30, 2020 | Banff, Alberta

[energysafetycanada.com](#)

Day of Mourning

April 28, 2020 | Events across Canada

[dayofmourning.bc.ca](#)

Partners in Prevention 2020

Health and safety conference and trade show

April 28–29, 2020 | Mississauga, Ontario

[PartnersInPreventionConference.com](#)

Safety and Health Week

Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety

May 5–11, 2020 | Events across Canada

[naosh.org](#)

15th Annual Health Care Professional Conference

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May 8, 2020 | Vancouver, B.C.

[healthprofessionalconference.com](#) ☺

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Spring-assisted folding stakes pose risk on log transport trailers

By Gord Woodward

If you work with log transport trailers, you need to be aware of the risks for serious injury that can occur when using spring-assisted folding stakes. The following tips can help reduce your risk for being struck, suffering strains and sprains, and sustaining other injuries.

Just as a spring holds your garage door in place, spring-assisted folding stakes help hold logs in place on transport trailers. In both cases, adjusting the spring tension can be hazardous work. There's a big difference in potential consequences, though.

If a garage door fails, it may damage property. But if the top part of a folding stake collapses, people can be hurt. Badly.

"Adjusting the spring tensions of these stakes on log transport trailers can result in serious injuries if not done properly," says Earl Houlden, a WorkSafeBC supervisor with Prevention Field Services based in Terrace. "A stake extension that isn't fully extended or secured when vertical can fold down suddenly when the spring tension is released."

That's what happened to a worker recently, who was seriously injured when an unsecured stake extension

swung down when they were adjusting the spring tension and it struck their head.

"Consider the energy and force that's in that stake extension," Houlden cautions. "You don't have time to react."

Five tips for safe use of spring-assisted folding stakes

A new safety bulletin from WorkSafeBC explains the hazards of working with spring-assisted folding stakes on log transport trailers. It also describes steps employers and contractors should take to reduce the risk of injury, including conducting a risk assessment. Here are five tips from the bulletin:

1 Identify the hazards

Being struck by a folding stake is just one of the hazards workers face. Strains, sprains, and other musculoskeletal injuries can also occur from using a pry bar to detach the chain link from the hook latch, or by pulling on it. "And if the spring isn't attached or it's broken, it could pinch limbs," says Houlden.

Inspect the stake and spring mechanism to look for anything that may cause harm. Clean out any mud or dirt so you have an unobscured view. Check everything, including the chain, for wear and tear.

“You might also have to give a small tug on the extension and see if there’s tension on it.”

Using a pry bar not suited to the task can also be hazardous.

2 Assess the risk

The risk is the chance that somebody could be harmed by these hazards, as well as how serious the harm could be. Employers need to determine the level of risk: low, moderate, or high. For example, “as soon as you unlatch that chain it becomes a high risk because that extension could fall and strike the worker,” Houlden explains.

3 Implement controls

If you can’t eliminate risks, you need to take action to reduce them. After completing a risk assessment, develop written safe work procedures for specific job tasks. Safe work practices include the following:

- Specify which equipment to use to reduce risk, such as a custom-built stake securement device that stabilizes the upper part of the stake while adjusting spring tension. Make sure the equipment is labelled.
- Identify safe work zones and “no-go” zones for specific tasks. “Remind workers to stay out of the bight,” Houlden says.
- Ensure workers wear appropriate personal protective gear, such as hard hats.
- Train workers on how to adjust the spring tension and make sure only properly trained workers make

the adjustments. “I tell them to always look up before doing anything,” he says. The stake extension should be fully extended and secured before releasing the tension.

- Regularly clean and maintain the stakes and spring mechanism.

4 Ask the manufacturer for information

Contact the manufacturers of the trailer bunk and stakes to find out the recommended safe procedures for adjusting the spring tension. Ask if there’s a specifically designed tool and method to use. Do they supply such a tool? Is there a tool that’s clearly labelled with the brand or make of the stake it’s designed for?

Also ask for recommendations on safely securing stake extensions before releasing spring tension.

5 Expect the unexpected

“Assume it’s going to fail, and act accordingly,” Houlden says. It’s a proactive mindset that helps workers focus on the hazards and risks, and the precautionary steps they can take.

For more information

Review the [safety bulletin at worksafebc.com](https://www.worksafebc.com/safety/bulletin) by searching for “spring-assisted folding stakes.” You can learn about reducing the risk of injury by visiting the site’s [Log transportation](#) and [Managing risk](#) pages. You can also review the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation, [Section 26.3 Training](#) and [Section 26.66 Bunks and stakes](#). ☺



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Agriculture

K T Mushroom Farm Ltd. | \$6,869.75 | Abbotsford | September 9, 2019

WorkSafeBC responded to an incident where a worker was seriously injured at this firm's mushroom farm. The worker was loading compost onto a truck using a conveyor. While the worker was adjusting a sheet of plastic linen around a rotating drum, the worker's arm was caught in the machine. The firm failed to de-energize and lock out machinery in use for normal production where the work activity posed a risk of injury and the machinery was not effectively safeguarded to protect workers from the risk. This was a high-risk violation.

Construction

1016277 B.C. Ltd. | \$10,000 | Coquitlam | August 1, 2019

This firm's worksite was a three-storey triplex under construction. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed two workers near the peak of the 7:12 sloped roof. The workers were not using personal fall protection systems and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a fall risk of about 10.4 m (34 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

1165085 B.C. Ltd. | \$5,000 | Nanaimo | July 22, 2019

This firm's worksite was an apartment building undergoing renovation. WorkSafeBC inspected the workplace while workers were engaged in renovation work, including floor and kitchen installations. Only a limited hazardous materials assessment completed the previous year was available for the site, and it identified the presence of asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) in the building. No clearance letter was available. WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. A hazardous materials assessment conducted after WorkSafeBC's inspection confirmed the presence of ACMs throughout the building, including textured drywall coating, drywall joint compound, and vinyl sheet flooring. The firm failed to ensure that, before renovation work began, a qualified person inspected the building to identify any hazardous materials. This was a high-risk violation.

1177096 B.C. Ltd. / MRL Construction Ltd. | \$2,500 | Vernon | August 9, 2019

This firm was conducting renovations of several units in a pre-1990 apartment building. WorkSafeBC inspected the worksite while renovation work was underway and determined that no hazardous materials survey had been conducted. A stop-work order was issued. A hazardous materials survey conducted later confirmed the presence

Administrative penalties are monetary fines imposed on employers for health and safety violations of the *Workers Compensation Act* and/or the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation. The penalties listed in this section are grouped by industry, in alphabetical order, starting with "Construction." They show the date the penalty was imposed and the location where the violation occurred (not necessarily the business location). The registered business name is given, as well as any "doing business as" (DBA) name.

The penalty amount is based on the nature of the violation, the employer's compliance history, and the employer's assessable payroll. Once a penalty is imposed, the employer has 45 days to appeal to the Review Division of WorkSafeBC. The Review Division may maintain, reduce, or withdraw the penalty; it may increase the penalty as well. Employers may then file an appeal within 30 days of the Review Division's decision to the Workers' Compensation Appeal Tribunal, an independent appeal body.

The amounts shown here indicate the penalties imposed prior to appeal, and may not reflect the final penalty amount.

For more up-to-date penalty information, you can search our penalties database on our website at [worksafebc.com](https://www.worksafebc.com). Find it easily by entering the word "penalties" into our search bar.

Penalties (continued)

of asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) that had been disturbed during the renovation work, including drywall joint compound, textured ceiling coat, and vinyl sheet flooring. The firm failed to ensure a qualified person inspected the building to identify hazardous materials before renovation work began, a high-risk violation.

Andesite Holdings Ltd. / Yellowhead Line Painting & Russell Painting & Blasting | \$4,279.22 | Fort St. John | August 30, 2019

WorkSafeBC observed two of this firm's workers conducting line painting at the centre of a roadway. One of the workers, who was also a supervisor, was applying the line paint without wearing gloves as required by the paint's safety data sheet (SDS). Traffic control signage had not been positioned around the site, and the firm's traffic control plan did not include site-specific details such as location of the work zone, proposed work activities, times and dates when work would be undertaken, and traffic control layouts. The firm failed to ensure that traffic control equipment, arrangements, and procedures met the requirements of the *Traffic Control Manual for Work on Roadways*. The firm is also being penalized because its supervisor failed to ensure that appropriate personal protective equipment was worn when required. These were both repeated violations.

Andrew Jesper Ottosen / Reliable Roofing | \$5,000 | Campbell River | July 30, 2019

This firm was replacing the roof of a two-storey house. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed three workers on the sloped roof, cleaning and preparing the plywood. The workers were not using personal fall protection systems and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a fall risk of up to 6.1 m (20 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

Baaz Roofing Ltd. | \$40,000 | Langley | June 25, 2019

This firm was roofing a two-level house. WorkSafeBC observed three workers, one of whom was a supervisor, working on the roof. The workers were wearing fall protection harnesses but were not connected to lifelines, and no other form of fall protection was in place. This exposed the workers to fall risks greater than 3.7 m (12 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. These were both repeated violations.

Blue Mountain Construction & Contracting Ltd. | \$3,368.01 | Burnaby | June 14, 2019

WorkSafeBC investigated this firm's excavation worksite in response to an incident. A spare bucket attachment was being stored in an excavator's attached bucket overnight to prevent theft. At the end of the workday, the excavator was used to transport a load of lumber, which was rigged to the attached excavator bucket with the spare bucket still inside. As the excavator lifted the load, the spare bucket fell out, striking and fatally injuring a worker who was assisting on the ground. WorkSafeBC determined that the firm had not developed or implemented safe work procedures for lifts using an excavator, including restricting workers from entering the area in and around the mobile equipment. The firm failed to ensure that workers were not within range of the swinging movement of the load or equipment, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety, a repeated violation. Furthermore, the firm failed to comply with WorkSafeBC orders, issued post-incident, to develop safe work procedures for excavator lifts and to amend its original investigation report so that it met the requirements of the *Workers Compensation Act*.

Caleo Construction Ltd. | \$3,316.44 | Merritt | August 20, 2019

This firm's worksite was a building under construction. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed a worker, who was also a representative of the firm, standing on a roof truss. The worker was not using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the worker to a fall risk of about 3.2 m (10.5 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

Can-Tech Roofing Ltd. | \$5,000 | Chilliwack | August 13, 2019

This firm was re-roofing a house. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed five workers removing shingles on

the 4:12 sloped roof. The workers were not using personal fall protection systems and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a fall risk of up to 4.9 m (16 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

CD Construction Drilling Inc. | \$23,593.11 | Kennedy Lake | September 6, 2019

This firm was conducting hammer drilling for a pipe installation as part of a highway improvement project. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed two workers at the base of an unsupported vertical excavation with a depth of about 3.7 m (12 ft.). The firm failed to ensure that, prior to worker entry, excavations were sloped, benched, or otherwise supported as required. This was a high-risk violation.

Chuan Qiang Shi / Abian Roofing | \$5,000 | Burnaby | July 16, 2019

WorkSafeBC observed two of this firm's workers conducting roofing activities near the peak of a two-storey house. Neither worker was using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place. This exposed the workers to a fall risk of about 7.9 m (26 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

Dava Developments Ltd. | \$1,250 | Richmond | August 2, 2019

This firm was the prime contractor at a townhouse construction project. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed that the firm was not maintaining sufficient first aid coverage, providing new and young worker orientations, or correcting unsafe conditions without delay. In addition, the firm's health and safety program was not being adequately implemented and maintained. Overall, as prime contractor at a multiple-employer workplace, the firm failed to do everything reasonable to establish and maintain a system to ensure regulatory compliance. This was a repeated violation.

D Construction & Environmental Solution Ltd. | \$1,250 | New Westminster | July 24, 2019

This firm had been hired to conduct asbestos abatement at a house. WorkSafeBC inspected the site after the house had been demolished. No notice of project (NOP) had been filed for the abatement project. In addition, the firm was unable to provide details about the abatement work that had occurred, worker training records, air sample results, fit test records, waste manifests, or a clearance letter. The firm is being penalized for failing to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety.

Dhanvir Singh Grewal | \$5,000 | Surrey | August 19, 2019

This firm was roofing a new two-storey house. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed one worker on the roof at a height of about 6.7 m (22 ft.) without the use of a personal fall protection system. A second worker, a representative of the firm, was observed at a height of about 3.7 m (12 ft.). This worker was wearing a fall protection harness but was not connected to a lifeline. No other form of fall protection was in place for either worker. The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. These were both repeated violations.

D Dhaliwal Construction Ltd. | \$5,000 | Burnaby | August 29, 2019

WorkSafeBC observed two of this firm's workers installing sheathing on the second floor of a new two-storey house. The workers were not using personal fall protection systems and no other form of fall protection was in place. This exposed the workers to fall risks of up to 6.4 m (21 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

Emil Anderson Construction (EAC) Inc. | \$153,661.91 | Kennedy Lake | September 12, 2019

This firm was the prime contractor for a highway improvement project. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed two workers from a subcontracted firm working at the base of a vertical excavation with a depth of about 3.7 m (12 ft.). The excavation was unsupported, and no written instructions from a qualified registered person were

Penalties (continued)

available. The firm failed to ensure the health and safety of another employer's workers where its work was being carried out. This was a high-risk violation.

Fraser Valley Roofing Ltd. | \$2,500 | Chilliwack | August 14, 2019

This firm was roofing a new house. WorkSafeBC observed two of the firm's workers on the 4:12 roof. Neither was using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to fall risks up to 4.9 m (16 ft.). A third worker was observed on an 11:12 sloped portion of the roof without the required toeholds. The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. These were both repeated violations.

Glass House Ventures Inc. / Glass House Environmental | \$2,500 | Vancouver | August 14, 2019

WorkSafeBC inspected this firm's worksite, a house slated for demolition, after the firm had completed its asbestos abatement work. Asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) were observed to still be present throughout the building, including drywall, vinyl floor tile, furnace duct tape, and chimney mastic. WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. The firm failed to ensure all hazardous materials were safely contained or removed, a repeated and high-risk violation.

Gurbhagwan Singh Dhaliwal / B K N Framing Co. | \$5,000 | Coquitlam | July 23, 2019

This firm was installing a truss system to a two-storey house under construction. WorkSafeBC observed a representative of the firm working from a temporary wood scaffold inside the second-level wall. The wall was not high enough to provide sufficient fall protection and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the worker to a fall risk of 6.6 m (21.5 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

Hazelwood Construction Services Inc. | \$35,830.09 | Long Beach | September 12, 2019

This firm was the prime contractor at a construction project to install a pipe under an airport runway. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed two workers from a subcontracted firm conducting pipe welding in an excavation. The workers had been working directly below the sloped face of the excavation, which was about 9 m (29.5 ft.) deep. The firm failed to ensure excavation work was done according to the written instructions of a qualified registered professional. This was a high-risk violation.

Hi Tech Excavating & Demolition Ltd. | \$7,500 | Delta | September 17, 2019

This firm was demolishing a two-storey house. WorkSafeBC inspected the partially demolished site and observed a pile of debris that included drywall filler compound and chimney mastic, identified asbestos-containing materials (ACMs). WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. At a follow-up inspection, WorkSafeBC observed that additional demolition work had been completed while the stop-work order was in effect. The firm failed to comply with a WorkSafeBC order. The firm also failed to ensure that identified hazardous materials were safely contained or removed prior to demolition work, a repeated and high-risk violation.

Hi-Fi Framing Ltd. | \$5,929.72 | Surrey | August 22, 2019

This firm's worksite was a two-storey house under construction. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed a worker cutting floor sheathing at the leading edge of the second-floor balcony. The worker, who was in the line of sight of a supervisor, was not using personal fall protection equipment and no other form of fall protection was in place. The worker was exposed to a fall risk of about 3.5 m (11.5 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to provide its workers with the supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. These were both repeated violations.

Hive Exterior Services Inc. | \$2,500 | North Vancouver | July 25, 2019

This firm was hired to clean the windows of a five-storey condominium building. WorkSafeBC attended the site in response to an incident where a worker fell about 18.3 m (60 ft.) from the sloped roof and sustained serious injuries.

The worker had been tasked with cleaning the top-floor windows from the platform of an elevated boom lift as well as from the roof. A representative of the firm had instructed the worker to access the roof via the boom lift and then connect the personal fall protection system to the horizontal lifeline installed along the side of the roof ridge. WorkSafeBC determined that the firm's fall protection plan did not include information specific to the job site, such as using the building's designated roof access ladder and specifying that workers were to be connected to permanent anchors on the roof's flat landing when navigating to and from the horizontal lifeline. The firm failed to ensure a fall protection system was used, and failed to have an adequate written fall protection plan in place. The firm also failed to ensure that equipment in the workplace was used and operated according to the manufacturer's instructions. Furthermore, the firm failed to ensure there was a safe way of entering each place where work was performed and that workers did not use another way if the other way was hazardous. In addition, the firm failed to ensure that workers were instructed in the fall protection system for an area and the procedures to be followed before being allowed into that area. Finally, the firm failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. These were high risk violations.

Homepro Exteriors Inc. | \$3,190.12 | Nanaimo | June 27, 2019

WorkSafeBC observed one of this firm's workers on the sloped roof of a house. The worker was not using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the worker to a fall risk of about 5.5 m (18 ft.). The firm failed to ensure that fall protection was used, a high-risk violation, and failed to ensure a written fall protection plan was in place. The firm also failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. These were all repeated violations. In addition, the firm failed to ensure that non-self-supporting ladders extended 1 m (3 ft.) above the upper landing and were sufficiently secured, a high-risk violation.

H.P Roofing Ltd. | \$2,500 | Abbotsford | July 18, 2019

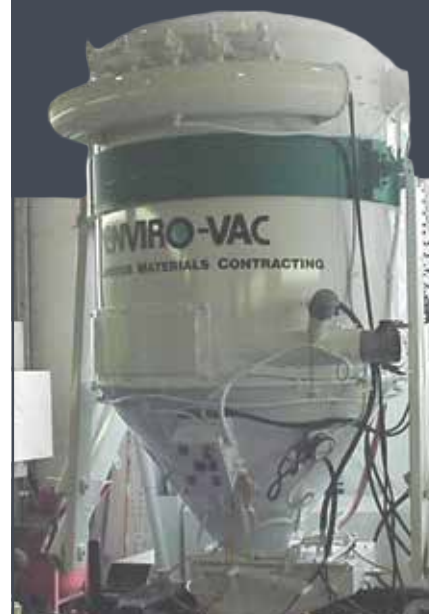
WorkSafeBC observed four of this firm's workers on the 4:12 sloped roof of a house under construction. The workers, one of whom was a representative of the firm, were not using personal fall protection systems and no other form of fall protection was in place. This exposed the workers to a fall risk of about 6.1 m (20 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

Infinite Supplier Incorporated | \$5,000 | Langley | July 12, 2019

This firm was conducting abatement of asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) at a pre-1990 house slated for demolition. WorkSafeBC inspected the worksite and issued a stop-work order after observing deficiencies with the firm's procedures for handling and containing ACMs. The firm failed to adequately secure all windows, doors, and openings to prevent the spread of asbestos fibres. The firm also failed to provide proper ventilation of containment areas, and to ensure its decontamination facility included a shower facility. In addition, the firm failed to conduct regular air sampling, a repeated violation. These were all high-risk violations.

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Penalties (continued)

Justin Matthew Hall | \$2,500 | Nanaimo | August 22, 2019

WorkSafeBC inspected this firm's roofing worksite and observed a representative of the firm and two workers on the 5:12 sloped roof. None of them was using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing them to a fall risk of about 4.6 m (15 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation.

Kelly W R Matthews / Alpineroofs.ca | \$2,500 | Nanaimo | July 12, 2019

WorkSafeBC observed three of this firm's workers performing roofing activities on a 5:12 sloped roof. Two of the workers were wearing personal fall protection harnesses but were not connected to lifelines. The third worker was not using a personal fall protection system. No other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a fall risk of about 5.5 m (18 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

(Kelowna's) Storm Roofing Inc. | \$2,500 | Kelowna | August 2, 2019

This firm was roofing a new three-storey townhouse complex. WorkSafeBC observed two workers near the leading edge of the sloped roof. Neither worker was using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place. This exposed the workers to a fall risk of about 9.1 m (30 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

Kenneth R. Manke / Best Price Roofing and Drainage | \$1,250 | Chilliwack | June 25, 2019

WorkSafeBC inspected this firm's worksite, a residential roofing project. WorkSafeBC issued orders to the firm in relation to its requirements to ensure fall protection was used, and to provide the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure the health and safety of its workers. After multiple follow-up communications, the firm had not provided the required report about how it would comply with these orders. The firm is being penalized for failing to comply with WorkSafeBC orders.

Kenneth R. Manke / Best Price Roofing and Drainage | \$20,000 | Chilliwack | July 23, 2019

This firm's worksite was a three-storey residential complex. During two separate inspections, WorkSafeBC observed workers on the sloped roof who were not using personal fall protection systems. No other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a fall risk of about 8.5 m (28 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation. The firm also failed to have a written fall protection plan in place as required. In addition, the firm failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety.

Mainland Crane Service & Trucking Ltd. | \$2,318.44 | Chilliwack | July 24, 2019

WorkSafeBC observed one of this firm's workers, a crane operator, on the back of a transport trailer with a mounted crane. The operator was under a suspended load that lacked a tag line, and was attempting to stop the load from rotating. WorkSafeBC also observed that the load had already rotated and damaged the cab of the truck. The firm failed to ensure its crane operators were able to maintain full control of hoisting equipment while it was in operation, and that they did not engage in other duties while operating the equipment. The firm also failed to ensure that tag lines or other effective means were used to control hazardous movement of loads, a repeated violation.

Matcon Excavation & Shoring Ltd. | \$116,291.60 | Surrey | July 9, 2019

This firm was conducting excavation work to install sewer lines when its excavator struck and damaged an underground power line. A worker subsequently entered the excavation and attempted to repair the damaged power line. WorkSafeBC determined that the supervisor on site had not ensured safe work practices were followed or that the utility owner was notified in a timely manner. The firm failed to maintain a safe limit of approach between energized electrical lines and its workers and equipment. The firm also failed to provide its workers with the supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. These were both high-risk violations.

Moncado Holdings Ltd. | \$5,000 | Kamloops | July 15, 2019

This firm was the prime contractor of a multi-storey building under construction. WorkSafeBC observed four workers from a subcontracted painting firm working at heights without the benefit of fall protection. The workers were exposed to fall risks of 4.6 to 15.2 m (15 to 50 ft.). As the prime contractor, the firm failed to ensure that health and safety activities were coordinated and to establish and maintain a system to ensure regulatory compliance. This was a repeated and high-risk violation.

Mooney Homes Limited | \$2,500 | Langford | July 11, 2019

This firm's worksite was a two-storey house under construction. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed two workers installing siding from elevated work platforms, which lacked guardrails. The workers were not using personal fall protection systems and were exposed to a fall risk of about 3.7 m (12 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

Navco Construction Corp. | \$10,000 | Coquitlam | August 29, 2019

WorkSafeBC observed one of this firm's workers conducting repairs on the 7:12 sloped roof of a two-storey house. The worker was not using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the worker to a fall risk of up to about 9.1 m (30 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

Peace River Hydro Partners Construction Ltd. | \$662,102.48 | Fort St. John | August 21, 2019

A worker at this firm's worksite accessed the main circuit breaker in a high-voltage electrical cabinet on the firm's tunnelling equipment. An electrical discharge occurred, and the worker sustained an electrical shock injury. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed that the main electrical breaker extensions on the exterior cabinet door were not functioning, the de-energization switches had been circumvented, and the main breaker switch-box isolation covers were in disrepair. In addition, WorkSafeBC determined that it was a standard work practice at this site to access the main circuit breaker without following lockout procedures. A stop-use order was issued for the tunnelling equipment. The firm failed to ensure its equipment was capable of safely performing its functions, and failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. These were both repeated violations. The firm also failed to effectively isolate and control hazardous energy sources, a high-risk violation.

Prairie Creek Homes Inc. | \$5,219.73 | Blind Bay | July 30, 2019

WorkSafeBC observed two of this firm's workers on the 6:12 sloped roof of a house under construction. The workers, one of whom was a supervisor, were not using personal fall protection systems and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a fall risk of about 4.3 m (14 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. These were both repeated violations.

R & M Gill Enterprise Ltd. | \$2,500.00 | Vancouver | September 9, 2019

WorkSafeBC inspected this firm's worksite and observed three workers removing shingles from the 7:12 sloped roof of a two-storey house. Two of the workers, one of whom was a supervisor, were holding onto anchored lifelines but were not wearing fall protection harnesses. No other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a fall risk of up to 9.1 m (30 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation. The firm also failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety.

Penalties (continued)

Rainbow Siding Ltd. | \$2,500 | Langley | August 14, 2019

This firm was working on the construction of a new two-storey house. WorkSafeBC observed one worker walking along the leading edge of a roof. The worker was not using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place, and was exposed to a fall risk of about 5.2 m (17 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

Rasode Builder's Group Ltd. | \$2,500 | Surrey | June 27, 2019

This firm's worksite was the demolition of a house. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and issued a stop-work order after observing that asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) had not been completely contained and removed. At a follow-up inspection, WorkSafeBC observed that the firm had proceeded with demolishing the house, in violation of the stop-work order. The firm is being penalized for failing to comply with a WorkSafeBC order.

Ravinder Kaur Dhaliwal / Joban Roofing | \$2,500 | Surrey | August 19, 2019

This firm was roofing a new building. WorkSafeBC observed one worker at the leading edge of the 4:12 sloped roof, walking backward and rolling out roofing membrane. The worker was wearing a fall protection harness but was not connected to a lifeline, and no other form of fall protection was in place. This exposed the worker to a fall risk of about 4.9 m (16 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

Ryan Lowe | \$2,500 | Chilliwack | May 13, 2019

This firm was roofing a new house. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed two workers on the 10:12 sloped roof. One of the workers was wearing a fall protection harness but was not connected to an anchor, and the other worker was not using a personal fall protection system. In addition, requirements when working on roofs with an 8:12 slope or greater had not been implemented, such as the use of toe-holds. No other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a fall risk of up to about 9.4 m (31 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to ensure toe-holds were used as required. These were both repeated violations.

SealMax Construction Ltd. | \$5,000 | Surrey | August 8, 2019

WorkSafeBC observed four of this firm's workers removing shingles on the 4:12 sloped roof of a two-storey house. The workers, one of whom was a representative of the firm, were observed approaching the edge of the roof to throw debris into a bin below. None of the workers was using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a fall risk of about 5.2 m (17 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. These were both repeated violations.

Shuai Wang / Jia He Roofing Construction | \$5,000 | Richmond | July 16, 2019

This firm's worksite was a two-storey house under construction. WorkSafeBC observed one worker moving bundles of shingles across the 5:12 sloped roof. The worker was not using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the worker to a fall risk of about 10.7 m (35 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to provide its workers with the supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. These were both repeated violations.

Shuai Wang / Jia He Roofing Construction | \$5,000 | Richmond | July 19, 2019

This firm was performing roofing work on a two-storey building. WorkSafeBC observed one worker, who was also a supervisor, at the leading edge of an 8:12 sloped roof at a height of about 11.3 m (37 ft.) and another worker on a 4:12 sloped roof at a height of about 7.6 m (25 ft.). Both workers were wearing fall protection harnesses but were not connected to lifelines, and no other form of fall protection was in place. The firm failed to ensure fall protection was in place, a high-risk violation, and failed to have a written fall protection plan in place. The firm also failed to provide its workers with the supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. These were all repeated violations.

S.S. Construction Ltd. | \$20,000 | Maple Ridge | May 15, 2019

WorkSafeBC observed three workers constructing exterior walls on the third level of a house under construction. The workers were not using personal fall protection systems, and no guardrails or other forms of fall protection were in place. This exposed the workers to a fall risk of about 6.1 m (20 ft.). WorkSafeBC also observed that worker access to the upper levels was via a non-compliant ladder erected on top of a stairwell opening covered with a non-compliant temporary floor cover. A stop-use order was issued for the ladder. The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, and failed to construct a stairway to each floor level before construction of the next floor began, both high-risk violations. Furthermore, the firm failed to provide its workers with the supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. These were all repeated violations.

Star Painting Ltd. | \$2,500 | Kamloops | July 19, 2019

This firm's worksite was a multi-storey apartment building under construction. WorkSafeBC observed four of the firm's workers installing protective paper at heights without the benefit of fall protection. Two workers on different balconies were working from elevated positions near the balconies' railings. Two other workers were working at the leading edge of a concrete deck area. The workers were not using personal fall protection systems and were exposed to fall risks of 4.6 to 15.2 m (15 to 50 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation, and failed to have a written fall protection plan as required. Furthermore, the firm failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety.

Tak Hoi Construction Ltd. | \$5,000 | Vancouver | August 2, 2019

This firm was framing a new house. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed a worker walk from the second floor of the house and onto the roof, within view of a representative of the firm. The worker was wearing a fall protection harness but was not connected to a lifeline. No other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the worker to a fall risk of 6.8 m (22 ft.). The firm failed to ensure that fall protection was used, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to provide its workers with the supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. These were both repeated violations.

Tehal Singh Bath | \$43,242 | Abbotsford | June 27, 2019

The firm conducted asbestos abatement at a house prior to its demolition. WorkSafeBC inspected the site after the house had been demolished and determined that the hazardous materials survey this firm had provided to the demolition company, which indicated the site was free from hazardous materials, had been falsified. A previously conducted hazardous materials survey identified the presence of asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) in the house, including drywall joint compound, vermiculite insulation, window putty, exterior stucco, duct tape, fire stop, and mastic. The firm failed to ensure that hazardous materials were safely contained or removed prior to demolition work beginning. This was a high-risk violation.

Toor Construction Ltd. | \$3,703.38 | Burnaby | July 12, 2019

WorkSafeBC inspected this firm's workplace, a two-storey house under construction, and observed a worker installing soffit materials to the second-floor roof. The worker was standing on a sawhorse that was on the sloped lower roof. The worker was not using a personal fall protection system and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the worker to a fall risk of 4.6 m (15 ft.). WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used. Furthermore, the firm failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. Both of these were repeated and high-risk violations.

Tyler McGuire / Undercover Roofing | \$2,500 | Sechelt | August 2, 2019

This firm was roofing a house under construction. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed three workers, one of whom was a supervisor, on the 6:12 sloped roof. The workers were wearing fall protection harnesses but were not connected to lifelines. No other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to fall risks greater than 3.7 m (12 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to provide

Penalties (continued)

its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. These were both repeated violations.

Up and Up Roofing Ltd. | \$2,500 | Coquitlam | August 1, 2019

This firm was replacing the roof on a house. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed three workers near the peak of the 5:12 sloped roof. The workers, one of whom was a supervisor, were not using personal fall protection systems and no other form of fall protection was in place. The workers were exposed to a fall risk of up to 9.8 m (32 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a high-risk violation. The firm also failed to provide its workers with the supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. These were both repeated violations.

Vectis Construction Ltd. | \$2,813.95 | Qualicum Beach | May 28, 2019

This firm's worksite was a two-storey house under construction. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed two workers on a scaffold, and a third worker in the roof trusses. The workers were not using personal fall protection systems and no other form of fall protection was in place, exposing the workers to a fall risk of about 6.1 m (20 ft.). The firm failed to ensure fall protection was used, a repeated and high-risk violation.

V'Island Communications Construction Ltd. | \$2,500 | Nanaimo | June 19, 2019

This firm was demolishing a pre-1990 house. When WorkSafeBC inspected the site, the house had been partially demolished. Uncontained debris from cement siding, drywall, and other potential asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) were present inside and outside the house. No notice of project (NOP) had been filed and no hazardous materials survey had been conducted. WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. A hazardous materials survey conducted later confirmed drywall joint compound and cement siding as ACMs. The firm failed to ensure a qualified person inspected the building to identify hazardous materials before demolition work began. This was a high-risk violation.

West Side Asbestos Ltd. | \$2,500 | Burnaby | July 12, 2019

This firm conducted asbestos abatement at a house slated for demolition and issued a clearance letter stating all asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) had been removed. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed the presence of window mastic, an identified ACM. WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. A subsequent hazardous materials assessment confirmed that ACMs were still present on site, including vermiculite insulation, vinyl tile, and duct tape. The firm failed to ensure that hazardous materials were safely contained or removed, a repeated and high-risk violation, and failed to ensure a qualified person confirmed that the hazardous materials were removed.

Manufacturing

Blue-O Technology Inc. | \$1,250 | Burnaby | August 1, 2019

WorkSafeBC ordered this firm to pay a worker a wage-loss award with interest. After several follow-up communications, the firm had not complied with the order. The firm is being penalized for failing to comply with a WorkSafeBC order within reasonable time.

K-C Recycling Ltd. | \$22,866.82 | Montrose | August 27, 2019

This firm's worksite is a facility that recycles electronic waste, batteries, and cathode ray tubes. Workers at this site routinely handle recycled materials that contain a range of hazardous substances, including lead, silica, sulfuric acid, cadmium, chromium, mercury, and manganese. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed deficiencies related to the firm's exposure control plan, ventilation system, and other practices for handling hazardous materials. The firm failed to implement an effective exposure control plan to maintain workers' exposure as low as reasonably achievable. This was a repeated violation. The firm also failed to ensure worker exposure to hazardous substances did not exceed allowable limits, and failed to use substitution, engineering controls, administrative controls, and/or

personal protective equipment to effectively control worker exposure. In addition, the firm failed to ensure that work area surfaces were kept free of accumulations of lead dust. These were all high-risk violations.

North Okanagan Poultry Processing Inc. | \$2,500 | Spallumcheen | August 14, 2019

This firm operates a poultry processing facility. WorkSafeBC attended the site in response to an incident that resulted in serious injuries. A worker was cleaning the chicken processing trailer. An unsecured propane tank fell over and released propane gas, which ignited. The firm failed to ensure that compressed gas cylinders were secured to prevent falling, a high-risk violation.

Vaagen Fibre Canada, ULC | \$45,984.14 | Midway | June 27, 2019

WorkSafeBC inspected this firm's sawmill in response to a workplace incident. Two workers were performing maintenance on a sawing machine. One worker reached across the front of the log turner sensors to remove string line tools from the infeed. This resulted in two log turners clamping down, seriously injuring the worker. WorkSafeBC determined that the workers were not provided with adequate training in lockout procedures, and that the procedures that were in place were inadequate to ensure an effective de-energization of all hazardous energy sources. The firm failed to ensure that energy-isolating devices were secured in the safe position using locks in accordance with procedures made available to all workers required to work on the equipment. Furthermore, the firm failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. These were both high risk violations.

Primary Resources

Anderson Sod Farm Ltd. | \$12,859.58 | Burnaby | August 7, 2019

WorkSafeBC inspected this firm's worksite in response to a close call incident. A worker was using a forklift to unload sod from a flatdeck truck. The forklift stalled, became unresponsive, and started rolling down a hill. The worker jumped off the forklift, which then struck a parked vehicle. WorkSafeBC determined that a stop-use order had been in place for the forklift, issued after it had been involved in a previous incident. The firm failed to ensure that equipment was capable of safely performing its functions, a repeated and high-risk violation. The firm is also being penalized for failing to comply with a WorkSafeBC order.

Aria Farms Ltd. | \$2,500 | Surrey | August 8, 2019

This firm's worksite was a pre-1990 house slated for demolition. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed two workers removing drywall, which the firm knew was an asbestos-containing material (ACM). The workers were not using personal protective equipment, and no control measures were in place, such as containment, decontamination, air monitoring, or wetting methods. WorkSafeBC issued a stop-work order. The firm failed to take precautions to protect workers before allowing work that would disturb ACMs, a high-risk violation.

G.T. Farms Ltd. | \$2,836.66 | Cobble Hill | August 23, 2019

WorkSafeBC inspected this employer's farming operation after an incident where a worker was injured. At the time of the incident, two workers were preparing to water crops with an irrigation system attached to a tractor. The brake system on the irrigation system was not operational so a makeshift brake was installed. One of the workers was holding the brake as the tractor moved forward, and was caught in the rotation of the brake and the associated rotating shaft. The employer failed to ensure that rotating parts exposed to contact by workers were guarded, a high-risk violation.

Jordan River Logging Ltd. | \$27,154.36 | Nanaimo River | August 20, 2019

WorkSafeBC inspected this firm's logging worksite and observed safety deficiencies. The firm failed to ensure its workers had alternate means of escape from mobile equipment, and that equipment windows were maintained to

provide clear vision to the operator. In addition, the firm failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety. These were all repeated violations.

Public Sector

City of Abbotsford | \$318,707.80 | Dewdney | June 6, 2019

WorkSafeBC responded to an incident at this employer's water treatment plant. While performing upgrades and maintenance at the plant, two workers were exposed to a residual amount of chlorine gas, a toxic process gas, which remained in the line the workers were isolating from the main chlorine source at the facility. Both workers, one of whom was a supervisor, had been wearing self-contained breathing apparatus, but their regulators had not been connected to their full facepieces. The employer failed to develop an exposure control plan for chlorine gas for this facility. It failed to conduct a risk assessment and did not prepare written safe work procedures for the handling of chlorine in relation to the hazardous tasks being performed. The employer also failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety, a repeated violation based on prior violations that had occurred at another of the employer's locations.

Service Sector

AD General Partner Inc. / AD Chilliwack Limited Partnership | \$3,541.88 | Chilliwack | May 2, 2019

This firm operates a golf club facility. A worker was driving a utility cart up a 27 percent sloped pathway. The worker stopped at the top of the hill then attempted to move forward again when the cart began to roll backward. The worker turned the cart toward a rock wall to stop it. The cart rolled over and ejected the worker, and the worker sustained injuries. WorkSafeBC determined that the firm did not evaluate whether the utility cart was suitable for use on slopes exceeding 20 percent before permitting the cart to be used in those circumstances. The worker had also not been adequately trained to operate the equipment on a slope. In addition, the cart had not undergone daily pre-use checks or regular inspections as required and, when inspected after the incident, was found to have multiple mechanical deficiencies. The firm failed to ensure its equipment was inspected and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. The firm also failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their workers' health and safety.

Chiefs Development Group Ltd. | \$3,570.12 | Chilliwack | June 18, 2019

WorkSafeBC inspected this firm's worksite, an ammonia plant that services two hockey arenas, and observed several safety deficiencies. The firm failed to have written work procedures for the safe handling of ammonia, a toxic process gas. The firm also failed to develop and implement an exposure control plan for toxic process gases, and failed to have a written emergency plan appropriate to the hazards of the workplace. Furthermore, the firm failed to ensure that its ventilation system was designed to exhaust toxic process gases safely.

Epoch Environmental Consulting Ltd. | \$4,892.88 | Delta | July 8, 2019

This firm conducted a post-abatement inspection at a house slated for demolition and issued a clearance letter indicating all asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) had been removed. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed identified ACMs, including insulation and drywall debris, present in the house. The firm failed to ensure that a qualified person confirmed that hazardous materials were safely contained or removed, a repeated violation.

ESS Environmental Ltd. | \$2,500 | Coquitlam | August 28, 2019

This firm was hired to conduct pre-renovation asbestos abatement at a house. WorkSafeBC inspected the site while workers were engaged in abatement work, and observed that the containment was breached through to the decontamination facility. In addition, workers in the containment were wearing street clothes under their protective

suits, contrary to the firm's abatement procedures. Furthermore, the water used in the decontamination shower was not being adequately filtered to prevent the spread of asbestos fibres. The firm failed to conduct daily air sampling as required, and failed to adequately ventilate the containment. The firm also failed to prevent the spread of asbestos dust and debris to other work areas, and failed to take the necessary precautions to protect workers before allowing work that would disturb asbestos-containing materials (ACMs). These were all high-risk violations.

High Precision Monitoring & Analysis Ltd. / HPMa | \$2,500 | Maple Ridge | July 17, 2019

This firm conducted a hazardous materials inspection at a house being renovated. WorkSafeBC reviewed the inspection report and determined that several potential asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) had not been adequately sampled or tested, including drywall, vinyl flooring, and textured ceiling coat. Subsequent testing confirmed all three were ACMs. The firm failed to have a qualified person collect representative samples of all potentially hazardous materials and prepare an inventory of the location and quantity of all hazardous materials. This was a repeated violation.

M.C.A. Environmental Consulting Inc. | \$2,500 | Langley | July 19, 2019

This worksite was a rural property that contained four detached buildings slated for demolition. This firm had conducted a pre-demolition inspection for hazardous materials at the worksite and submitted a hazardous materials report. WorkSafeBC inspected the site and observed potential asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) that had not been sampled as part of the inspection. WorkSafeBC also determined that the firm's hazardous materials report did not include the location of some of the samples it had collected. The firm failed to collect representative samples of potentially hazardous materials, and failed to include the locations of all representative samples in its hazardous materials report. These were both repeated violations.

Michael W Smith & Alice H Dregson / Coastal Mobile Mechanical Services | \$2,500 | Colwood | September 5, 2019

This firm's worksite was the demolition of a house. A hazardous materials survey for the site had identified asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) in the house. WorkSafeBC inspected the site after the house had


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Penalties (continued)

been demolished and determined that the firm had not followed safe work procedures for asbestos abatement. In addition, the firm was unable to provide evidence of required documentation, such as a clearance letter, notice of project (NOP), air sampling information, or waste disposal records. A stop-work order was issued. The firm failed to sample for airborne asbestos fibres during removal and cleanup to ensure workers were adequately protected. The firm also failed to assess the effectiveness of HEPA filters by DOP testing. Furthermore, the firm failed to provide workers who were handling asbestos with task-specific work direction that addressed hazards and necessary controls, and failed to ensure the health and safety of all workers at the worksite. These were all high-risk violations. In addition, the firm failed to submit an NOP as required.

Trade

Anup Kumar Sharma & Sons Ltd. / Chetwynd Fas Gas | \$2,500 | Chetwynd | August 20, 2019

This firm operates a gas station and retail store. WorkSafeBC inspected the site during two separate late-night shifts, when there was only one worker working. During both inspections, WorkSafeBC observed customers enter the store through the unlocked front door and complete purchases, and also observed that the worker was not physically separated from customers. The firm failed to ensure that workers working alone in late-night retail premises were physically separated from the public by a locked door or barrier, and failed to develop procedures to ensure workers' safety in handling money. The firm also failed to develop and implement procedures for checking the well-being of workers working alone or in isolation, and failed to perform a violence risk assessment. These were all high-risk violations. Finally, the firm failed to provide its workers with the information, instruction, training, and supervision necessary to ensure their health and safety.



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Injunctions

Injunctions are court orders from the Supreme Court of B.C. that require a person or business to comply with the *Workers Compensation Act*, occupational health and safety requirements, or a WorkSafeBC order. Injunctions may also restrain the person or company from carrying on work in their industry for an indefinite or limited period, or until the occurrence of a specified event.

WorkSafeBC may pursue an injunction when there are reasonable grounds to believe that a person or company has not complied, or is not likely to comply, with the Act, the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation, or an order. WorkSafeBC may pursue an injunction in addition to other remedies under the Act, such as an administrative penalty.

The injunction summaries in this section are listed alphabetically by respondent. Each summary shows details from the court order, which may include the firm name, the name of the respondent(s), the industry to which the order relates, and the directions from the court.

To see up-to-date injunctions or to read these court orders in their entirety, visit worksafebc.com/injunctions.

Brick Environmental Consulting Ltd. | October 8, 2019

On October 8, 2019, the Supreme Court of British Columbia ordered that Brick Environmental Consulting Ltd., a firm engaged in asbestos abatement and building demolition in British Columbia, and its principal, Mandip Kaur Barring, are restrained from continuing or committing contraventions of Part 3 of the *Workers Compensation Act*, and of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation, and are required to comply with Part 3 of the Act, and the Regulation, in the future.

G S Framing Ltd. | September 13, 2019

On September 13, 2019, the Supreme Court of British Columbia ordered that G S Framing Ltd., a firm engaged in the framing industry in British Columbia, and its principals, Jasvir Singh Samra and Rajvinder Kaur Samra, are restrained from continuing or committing contraventions of Part 3 of the *Workers Compensation Act* and section 11 of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation, and are required to comply with Part 3 of the Act and section 11 of the Regulation in the future.

Ifat Hamid | October 4, 2019

On October 4, 2019, the Supreme Court of British Columbia ordered that Ifat Hamid, doing business as IS Environmental, who is engaged in the asbestos abatement industry in British Columbia, is restrained from continuing or committing contraventions of the *Workers Compensation Act* and the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation, and is required to comply with the Act and the Regulation in the future.

Kennon Construction Ltd. | October 4, 2019

On October 4, 2019, the Supreme Court of British Columbia ordered that Kennon Construction Ltd., a firm engaged in the construction industry in British Columbia, and its principal, Dong Shao Tang, are restrained from continuing or committing contraventions of section 115 of the *Workers Compensation Act* and section 11.2 of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation, and are required to comply with section 115 of the Act and section 11.2 of the Regulation in the future.



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