Editorial

In this edition Dermot Moody, WorkSafe Construction Program Manager, welcomes back industry for 2016 and reminds readers to be aware of the annual influx of inexperienced young workers.

I hope all construction employers and workers have returned recharged and ready for a busy 2016, after relaxing with family and friends over the summer.

With the start of the year we see the annual influx of young workers into the construction industry, with many school leavers starting what we all hope will be long, productive and healthy careers.

Unfortunately too many will be injured in their first days, weeks and months on the job.

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Victoria

WorkSafe News

WorkSafe Executive Director, Marnie Williams released a Letter to the Editor, following the tragic deaths of a 24 year old electrician and a 21 year old dairy farmer in early January.

Ms Williams said these deaths are a "horrible reminder to all Victorians why workplace safety needs to be everyone’s priority."

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WorkSafe Inspector recruitment

WorkSafe is advertising for new health and safety inspectors and applications are open until 5pm, Friday 19th February 2016.

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Worker trapped in excavator

A worker was hospitalised after being trapped in a 30 tonne
excavator, which rolled on its side at an Ararat wind farm construction site in January. WorkSafe is investigating the incident.

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Current prosecutions - updated
WorkSafe has updated its list of prosecutions that were to be before the courts from 18 - 29 January.

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Prosecution summaries - updated
WorkSafe has updated its list of prosecution summaries and includes a precast prosecution and a fall from height prosecution.

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Western Australia

Apprentice collapses in heat
A 17 year old apprentice has regained consciousness in hospital several days after collapsing in 41 degree heat while working at a building site.

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Significant Incident Report
The Department of Mines and Petroleum has released a Significant Incident Report relating to the failure of a crane head sheave.

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Queensland

Safety Alert - stair module failures
Workplace Health and Safety Queensland has released a Safety Alert highlighting the potential risks associated with scaffold stair module failures and to provide guidance on ways to minimise the risk of this occurring.

Read more

Safety Alert – support of mobile plant on outriggers
Workplace Health and Safety Queensland has released a Safety Alert to highlight the potential risks associated with inadequate support under outrigger feet on mobile plant – particularly on poor ground, including fill.

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New South Wales

**Death on residential site**
A 73 year old man was fatally injured after the mobile scaffolding he was working on slipped from under him.

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**Media Release**
WorkCover NSW has issued a reminder to businesses to be aware of the risks of working in the heat.

[Read more](#)

**Safety Alert – pipe assembly pressure test**
NSW Department of Industry, Resources and Energy have released a Safety Alert after a worker was seriously injured when pipe assembly failed during a pressure test.

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Northern Territory

**Safety Alert – use of saw blades on angle grinders**
WorkSafe NT has released a Safety Alert highlighting the dangers of fitting saw-type blades to hand held angle grinders.

[Read more](#)

Related WorkSafe Victoria guidance

National

**Comcare alert – falling objects**
Comcare has released an alert to highlight the importance of managing the risk to health and safety of falling objects.

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World

**NZ: Convicted over demolition**
A Christchurch company has been fined $45,000 for failing to properly identify and manage asbestos at a demolition site.

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