Editorial

Tell us what you think - $200 Coles Myer voucher up for grabs!

Do you want the chance to win a $200 Coles Myer voucher? Then we want you!

We’re keen for your opinions and insights on Safety Soapbox – what you like and what we can improve. Simply click on the link below to complete a short four question survey - giving your suggestions about Safety Soapbox and you will go into the draw to win!

This survey is open for four weeks (18 February 2015 – 18 March 2015) and the competition winner will be randomly drawn. The competition winner will be notified on 18 March 2015. Only Victorian residents are eligible to win the Coles Myer voucher. Employees of WorkSafe Victoria (and their immediate family) are ineligible to win the prize.

Start Survey

Prosecution update

Since the last edition of Safety Soapbox, two construction related prosecutions have been finalised. The WorkSafe prosecution webpage has been updated and now includes convictions and/or fines over the:

- Crush injury at a precast yard
- Collapse of a hoarding onto a pedestrian

View Prosecution Results Summary database

Safety Alert – tilting cabs on trucks
WorkSafe has issued a Safety Alert following an incident where the cabin of a truck tilted forward while the truck was braking. This led to loss of vehicle control and collision with a tree, which resulted in fatal injuries being sustained by the driver.
Read more

Arrest for climbing scaffold
A trespasser has been arrested after climbing 30 storeys up the scaffolding of a building under construction in Melbourne’s CBD.
Read more

Western Australia

Crane topples over
A crane has toppled over at the Roy Hill iron ore mine in the Pilbara region, as it was being evaluated by an inspector. Nobody was injured in the incident.
Read more

Electrocution prosecution
A Bunbury electrical contracting business and one of its employees have been convicted and fined over the 2013 electrocution of an 18-year-old trade assistant.
Read more

Crane designer fined
In a legal first, a West Australian crane designer has been fined $16,000 in relation to modifications to a crane that resulted in the crane’s failure during load testing in 2013.
Read more

New South Wales

Safety Alert - fire ignites after worker drills into a sealed void
The NSW Mine Safety Operations Branch has released a Safety Alert after a worker was burnt while drilling into an enclosed excavator counterweight. Gas trapped in the counterweight escaped through the drill hole and ignited the worker, who suffered second degree burns to his right hand.
Read more

Safety Alert - rollover incidents involving load shifting plant
The NSW Mine Safety Operations Branch has released a Safety Alert, as over the past few years there has been an increase in the number of rollovers of load shifting plant.
Read more

Electrocution linked to faulty quarry plant
The NSW Mine Safety Investigation Unit has released an information sheet following the electrocution of a woman, who was living in a house that was supplied from a quarry’s electrical installation.
Read more

Safety Warning - excavation work
WorkCover NSW is reminding businesses and workers about the
dangers of excavation work following two recent serious trench collapse incidents.
See WorkSafe’s 2011 Safety Alert for information on preventing trench collapse.

Students may have been exposed to asbestos
Students may have been exposed to asbestos when contractors cut into bonded asbestos sheeting while installing air-conditioning during the first week of the new school year.

Tasmania

Worker dies after roof fall
A Worker has died after falling six metres from a roof during renovation works at the King Island Airport. WorkSafe Tasmania is investigating.

Northern Territory

Crane lift failure
A 43-metre exhaust stack weighing more than 50 tonnes crashed to the ground during a crane lift that went wrong at an LNG project at Blaydin Point near Darwin. WorkSafe NT is investigating.

South Australia

Media Release - hot weather
SafeWork SA is reminding employers and workers that heat is a workplace hazard and that it is imperative for appropriate measures to be put in place to deal with it.
Important information:

1. WorkSafe Victoria collects personal information to enable us to perform our functions. For more information about the use, access and disclosure of this information, refer to our privacy policy at our website worksafe.vic.gov.au.
2. Safety Soapbox includes material from a variety of other sources.
3. Material from other organisations is provided in good faith as representing the views and policies of those organisations. It does not necessarily reflect the views or policy of WorkSafe Victoria.
4. Please consider the environment before printing.

This email was sent by WorkSafe Victoria,
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