Editorial

In this edition of Safety Soapbox, WorkSafe Senior Construction Advisor Tony Cockerell highlights concerns over the number of incidents involving skid-steer loaders.

On 10 June 2015 we had a fatal incident where a man died after being crushed while operating a skid-steer loader in Melbourne's eastern suburbs (see media report in Victorian news section).

In the last 12 months there have been a number of other significant incidents involving skid-steer loaders in Victoria and across Australia.

Read more

Victoria

Skid-steer loader fatality
WorkSafe Victoria is investigating an incident involving a skid-steer loader, which resulted in the death of the operator.

Read more

Geelong fall
A worker has been injured in a central Geelong workplace accident. According to reports, the man fell more than three metres from scaffolding on a residential building site. WorkSafe is investigating.

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Prosecution results summaries
WorkSafe Victoria has updated the prosecution summaries webpage. These summaries include cases associated with failure to provide a safe system of work and failing to maintain plant.

Read more
Current OHS prosecutions
WorkSafe Victoria has updated the list of current prosecutions.
Read more

New South Wales

New video - working on or near electricity
WorkCover NSW has released a new video safety alert, targeting workers who work on or near electrical installations or equipment.
Read more

Unloading incident
WorkCover NSW is investigating an incident after a man became trapped whilst helping to remove two rail carriages from the back of a truck. He was reported to be in a serious but stable condition.
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Mine death report published
NSW Trade & Investment Mine Safety has published an investigation report into the death of an underground mine worker in June 2014.
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Western Australia

Inquiry calls for new code for fly-in, fly-out workers
Another mine worker has taken his life — as an inquiry calls for a new code of practice to protect fly-in, fly-out workers from mental distress, including encouraging more family-friendly rosters.
Read more

Bullying of young workers
A Perth father has told of the months of physical and psychological harassment directed at his son, saying the problem of workplace bullying needs to be in the spotlight.
Read more

Perth audits building cladding
The City of Perth will audit up to 70 high-risk buildings in the Perth CBD, to identify if external aluminium composite cladding has been used in buildings and if it has been used to determine whether it complies with the building standards.
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South Australia

**Injuries in power station explosion**
A man remains in the Royal Adelaide Hospital after sustaining burns in an explosion at a power station at Port Augusta last week. Two firefighters were also injured.

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**Demolition company fined over asbestos**
The Environment Protection Agency (EPA) has reported that a demolition company operator has been fined for dumping asbestos-contaminated waste on a private property on Adelaide’s northern fringe.

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**Media Release – take care with electricity**
SafeWork SA has issued a media release, reminding people to be careful with electricity. The release comes following an increase in the number of people receiving electric shocks in SA workplaces.

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World

**Quarry death**
A quarry operator has died after being buried beneath more than 1000 tonne of rocks when an overhanging cliff face gave way, causing a landslide. WorkSafe NZ has revealed that the quarry was operating illegally and did not hold the required certificate of competence.

Read more

**WorkSafe NZ investigating asbestos in pipe**
An asbestos scare shut down a worksite by a busy footpath and road in central Christchurch last week. WorkSafe NZ is investigating and having the pipe tested for asbestos.

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