



# Issue Update

## WCB Regulation Proposals Can Affect Your Business

The WCB has issued the 2004 Proposed Amendments to the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation. Here are some examples from the proposed amendments that may be of particular interest to the Construction Industry:

- Delete the requirement for a crane operator to have an appropriate trade qualification, or to be an indentured apprentice or have equivalent qualifications as determined by the Industry Training and Apprenticeship Commission. Employers would be required to ensure adequate training and to evaluate qualifications.
- Increase the maximum allowable weight of a suspended work platform from 25 per cent to 50 per cent of the rated capacity of the crane or hoist that supports the platform.
- Prohibit the use of secondary hoisting lines on cranes when crane suspended work platforms are occupied by workers.
- Provide for alternative formulas for determining the rated capacity of fall arrest and fall restraint systems.
- Amend published safety factors in Table 15-1 for polypropylene rope sling and chain fittings.
- Require a personnel hoist on buildings under construction that exceed five floors in height (18m).

The public hearing will provide you with an opportunity to make your views known. More information regarding the public hearing process and a complete text of the proposed regulations with explanatory notes is available from the WCB's web site at <<http://www.worksafebc.com/>> by clicking on "Public Hearing: comment on proposed occupational health and safety amendments." Or you can call the Policy and Regulation Development Bureau at 604-232-7744 in the Lower Mainland or calling 1-866-366-7744 toll-free from elsewhere in BC.

COCA will organize a response to the WCB proposals and circulate this in DRAFT form to industry for comment. Contractor input will help us to get the most appropriate regulations. You can provide input in any one of several ways. First, you can send us your thoughts and recommendations on the proposals. Second, you can be part of a COCA regulation review group that will examine the proposals in detail. Third, you can respond to COCA when we send out the recommendations that result from this regulation review group.

For more information, please contact Grant McMillan at COCA.

**Council of Construction Associations**  
#138 - 5751 Cedarbridge Way, Richmond, B.C. V6X 2A8  
Telephone (604) 241-7667 Fax (604) 241-7678  
email: grantmcmillan@shaw.ca

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**Visit the BCCA booth at the BC Construction Show February 24th & 25th - Vancouver Convention & Exhibition Centre. For more information check out our "Calendar" on the BCCA website: [www.bccassn.com](http://www.bccassn.com)**

### LET'S GET BC BUILDING!

The mission of the BCCA is to provide leadership and excellence in the representation of, and service to, British Columbia's construction industry.