



SAFETY ALERT



Broken Cable Come-Along



Chain Come-Along

Date: August 1, 2015

Cable Come-Along Break

Location: Castlegar, BC

Summary: A ¼ inch cable come-along was used to assist with hoisting. The cable was inadvertently caught, stretched and broke while under tension, which caused it to fly up and strike a worker in the face. Medical aid was sought, and worker was later released to the worksite.

Hazard: Cable come-alongs can be compromised and break especially if pinched or if poorly maintained. A cable break can have huge “struck-by” consequences to the workers involved.

Actions to Prevent a Re-Occurrence:

- Avoid using cable come-alongs; opt for the more reliable chain-type.
- Anticipate worst-case scenario and ensure workers are in-the-clear.
- Ensure workers are trained and feel proficient with come-along use.
- Come-along equipment must be stored properly and inspected prior to use.
- Enforce consistent use of PPE, which may require eye or face protection.
- Always ensure the object does not weigh more than the come-along’s capacity.

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