Report for the Labour-Management Network October 2024

Monthly Statistics

Reporting Month	Fatalities	Critical Injuries	Total
August 1 - August 31, 2024	5	34	39
August 1 - August 31, 2023	2	34	36

Fatality & Critical Injury Year-to-Date Overview – Construction

Reporting Months	Fatalities	Critical Injuries	Total		
January 1 – August 31, 2024	13	250	263		
January 1 – August 31, 2023	8	211	219		

Helping you achieve compliance on construction projects and window cleaning operations

General requirements Access to and egress from a work area Excavations

Fall protection and roofing Equipment Electrical hazards Hygiene Forms, formwork, falsework, and

re-shoring

Housekeeping, fire protection, public way protection, traffic control, and hot tar or bitumen tankers or kettles

Asbestos on construction projects Diving operations Window cleaning operations

Workplace Hazard Alerts I Ontario.ca

Disclaimer: This information has been prepared to assist workplace parties in understanding their rights and duties under the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA) and its regulations. This information does not constitute legal advice. To determine your rights and duties under the OHSA, please contact your legal counsel or refer to the legislation.

Section 1 – Senior Manager's Comment

The Occupational Health and Safety Act is built on the foundation of the internal responsibility system. Integral to the internal responsibility system are the roles of the health and safety representative, joint health and safety committee and the workers trade committees. They are the internal check on the performance of the health and safety system on the project and a way for workers to communicate their health and safety concerns to management. The problem is that it doesn't seem to work very well on many construction projects.

Often, we see H&S reps or committees selected simply to give the appearance that the project is complying with the minimum requirements of the Act, but not actually functioning as intended. Most of them have very little health and safety training, if any.

But why, why don't see the value in having a check on our health and safety at our projects?

Part of the problem is due to the transient nature of construction. When workers are not on the project long or don't have long standing relationships with other workers on the project, commitment to the position tends to wane. The other part of the issue is around the everevolving state of construction and temporary nature of most health and safety applications. Workers tend not to take as much care when they know the health and safety measre is only going to be in place during a particular phase of construction and ultimately replaced by something else or something more permanent. By contrast, where they do work well is in workplaces like large manufacturing facilities where the workforce tends to remain the same and any health and safety solutions are usually more permanent. In these situations there's usually a stronger commitment to solving the issue on both the labour and management fronts. In these workplaces, the representatives are usually well trained and both labour and management depend on them to help work through health and safety problems in an effort to create a safe environment and ensure the processes are running smoothly and efficiently.

So the question becomes, how do we get the same focus and commitment in construction? Our work and our workplace is not going to change, it's the nature of construction. We need to spend the time and resources on training our supervisors and our health and safety representative/JHSC's. We also need to recognize that although many of our health and safety measures may be temporary, they are critical in ensuring everyone goes home safe everyday.

A few years back the ICI sector ran a pilot project that saw a full time health and safety representative hired to oversee health and safety on the project. This position was only focused on health and safety, nothing else. This person was the conduit between labour and management at all times and was key to solving any health and safety issues on the project. Regardless of a workers comfort level in voicing their concerns, they knew that they could come to this health and safety representative and be heard, and management listened. The pilot worked well, but unfortunately has not caught on at most projects. Although this may be out of reach for smaller projects, its certainly something that can and should be considered for larger, more complicated projects. If there was ever an argument for a strong and functioning heatlh and safety rep/JHSC, its in the construction sector for all of the reasons listed above. For the smaller project, we need to show commitment to health and safety and give our representatives a strong voice and an adequate amount of time and training to fulfill their duties. This commitment to health and safety builds a strong culture within our projects and is critical to fulfilling your duties under the Act.

Please, take your representatives and committees seriously. They are a key component of a strong and functioning internal responsibility system.

Sincerely, Brian Barron

Senior Manager Construction Health and Safety Program Occupational Health and Safety Branch Ontario Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development

Section 2 - What's New

Ontario Building Training Centre for 50,000 New Construction Workers

VAUGHAN — The Ontario government is investing over \$26 million to build a new training centre at LiUNA 183's skilled trades training campus in Vaughan. This investment comes from the province's new \$224 million Skills Development Fund (SDF) Capital Stream, which was announced by Premier Doug Ford in June 2023 and which will support the training of more than one million workers across Ontario. With this new training centre, LiUNA 183 will be able to train nearly 50,000 additional new workers, doubling their current training capacity to almost 100,000 workers, for in-demand careers in construction across the Greater Toronto Area (GTA), such as bricklaying, heavy equipment operators and concrete finishing.

For the latest what's **new** – MLITSD articles, see: What's New!

Section 3 - Court Bulletins

Workplace Injury Results in \$55,000 Fine for Ottawa Construction Company

Convicted: Claridge Homes Inc., 505 Preston Street, 2nd Floor, Ottawa, Ontario.

Location of Workplace: A highrise construction project at 1707 Carling Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario

Description of Offence: A worker was injured by a swinging peri box that was rigged to a tower crane. Claridge Homes Inc. failed to ensure that the measures and procedures required by <u>section 179(1)</u> of Ontario Regulation 213/91 were carried out at the workplace, contrary to <u>section23(1)(a)</u> of the *Ontario Health and Safety Act*.

Date of Offence: October 25, 2022

Date of Conviction: July 18, 2024

Penalty Imposed:

- Following a guilty plea in the Provincial Offenses Court in Ottawa, Claridge Homes Inc. was fined \$55,000 by Justice of the Peace Karen Baum; Crown Counsel was Dan Phelan.
- The court also imposed a 25 per cent victim fine surcharge as required by the *Provincial Offences Act*. The surcharge is credited to a special provincial government fund to assist victims of crime.

Background:

- Claridge Homes Inc. was the constructor at a highrise project in Ottawa, which included the use of a tower crane and formwork equipment.
- On October 25, 2022, a worker from a company that had been subcontracted to work on the project was helping to hoist a peri box filled with formwork components up to the upper slab.

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- As the load lifted, it began to swing and move towards the worker, causing a critical injury.
- A Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development investigation determined that Claridge Homes Inc. failed to ensure that a tag line/guide rope was used to prevent the peri box from swinging towards the worker, as required by <u>section 179(1)</u> of Ontario Regulation 213/91. As such, the constructor breached its duties under <u>section23(1)(a)</u> of the *Ontario Health and Safety Act*.

Court Bulletins can be found here: https://news.ontario.ca/en

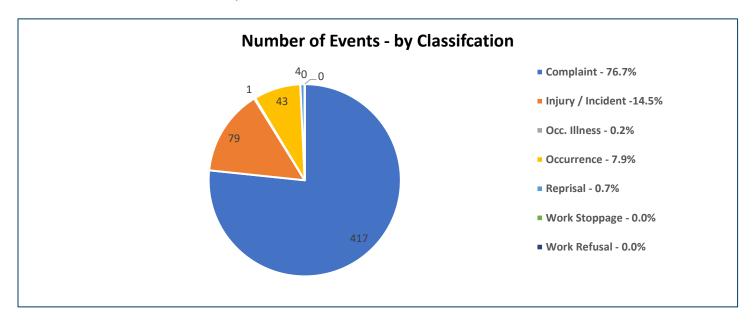
Considerations from a Root Cause point of view:

- 1) Was a tag-line not available?
- 2) Was a tag-line available but not used?
 - Did the size of the load factor in to not using a tag-line?
 - Did the weight of the load factor into not using a tag-line?
 - Did the distance the load was being lifted factor into not using a tag-line?
- 3) Is hoisting and rigging a routine task for the employer who was 'helping' or was this a new task for them?
 - Were hoisting and rigging requirements reviewed with the 'helping' employer or was it assumed they were aware of the requirements?

NOTE: The intent of these considerations is solely for discussion purposes from a root cause point of view. Charges will always be against the Occupational Health and Safety Act and its respective Regulations. These considerations are merely to discuss potential contributing factors that may have led to the incident. This is not an exhaustive list.

Section 4 - Enforcement Trends - June / July 2024

MLITSD Construction Inspectors conducted **1,628** field visits during the months of June and July 2024; of which **544** were in response to an event.



It has been asked by a few sub-committees if a breakdown of the complaints can be provided or provide at 'top 10' list, similar to the orders below. The purpose of including these statistics is more to demonstrate that overwhelmingly, our inspectors are consitantly responding to complaints more than anything else.

Unfortunately, when a complaint comes in through the Contact Centre, there is no way to verify or confirm the actual complaint. This can only be done by the responding inspector. Since the complaint can only be verified or confirmed by an inspector, there are no specific sections or subsections of the Act or Regulations that can be assigned at the time the complaint is called in.

Although the complaints may be generally categorized (for example falls, dust, harassment, etc.), in the absence of further context and the volume of complaints each month, it would be difficult to accurately classify the 'top 10' as we do orders.

Most complaints tend to come from workplace parties; however, it is important to remember that they can come from anyone. The caller does not have to be affiliated to any project. We often receive complaints from the general public who may not know the regulations, they just know something doesn't look right; or come from a friend or family member of a worker who calls on behalf of the

worker based on a conversation they had; or may even come from one employer calling to complain about their competition.

	Stop Wor	k and Time Unknown	Orders –	Top 5 under C).Reg. 213/91 – June / July 2024
	Section	Requirements	# of Stop Work Orders	# of Time Unknown Orders	Remarks
1	26.3	Guardrail	73	120	In August 2024, 281 Stop Work Orders
2	26.1	Fall Protection	56	88	were issued with 876 Time Unknown Orders (TMU) accompanying orders.
3	75/77	Stairs	53	91	Top 5 SWO orders accounted for 85.1%
4	135	Scaffold Platform or Other Work Platform	29	92	Top 5 TMU orders accounted for 55.1% A stop work order is issued where imminent
5	128	Scaffold	27	89	danger is observed at the time of inspection requiring the work to be stopped until the
	,	Totals	238	480	appropriate remedial action can be taken to make the situation safe for workers to work.

Section 5 - Critical Injuries & Fatalities

Year-to-Date Overview and Comparison - Construction Sector

Injury Type	2024	2024
	August	January 1 – August 31
Critical	34	250

Injury Type	2023 August	2023 January 1 – August 31
Critical	34	219

NOTE: These figures represent preliminary data and are not to be considered official statistics from the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. Official statistics will be issued quarterly by the Program Analysis, Evaluation and Outcomes Unit of the Occupational Health and Safety Branch of the Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development. Data are subject to change due to updates in the enforcement database. Only events reported to the ministry are included here. Except for fatalities, event categories in the ministry's data set are based on what was assigned at the time of the initial report to the ministry. The reported event category may not represent what occurred at the workplace.

August 2024

August 2024 CRITICALS		INST	RESM	INDU	ROAD	EXCA	сомм	NECC	RAIL	POWP	ETTL	HYDR	SEWW	BRID	TUNN	TELE	WIND	MARE	PAVE	GAS	MINP	PIPE	CAIS	TOTAL
Falls from Heights	1		1	1			1																	4
Falls From Equipment	1						2																	3
Falls from Ladders	2			1			1																	4
Same level slips and trips	2			2	2																			7
																								0
Struck by equipment	1				- 5					1		ļ				L				1				9
Struck by material			1																					1
collapse of structure																								0
																								0
Electrical Contact																								0
																								0
Excavation Collapse																								0
																								0
Other, including multiple																								
factors, i.e. fall resulting																								
from scaffold being struck																								
by equipment.	1				2	1	1	. 1																6
																								0
TOTAL																								34

Year to Date 2024

ear to Date 2024 CRITICA	RESS	INST	RESM	INDU	ROAD	EXCA	сомм	NECC	RAIL	POWP	ETTL	HYDR	SEWW	BRID	TUNN	TELE	WIND	MARE	PAVE	GAS	MINP	PIPE	CAIS	TOTAL
Falls from Heights	16	5	8	3 7		1	. 2	!																34
Falls From Equipment	2	2	2	2 3			2							1							1			11
Falls from Ladders	12	2	3 8	8 6			6	i	1															36
Same level slips and trips	8	3	1 13	10	2		6	2					2	1	. 1					1	1			48
			_																					
Struck by equipment	7	1	3 2	2 6	7		4			1			1	2	1					1	1			36
Struck by material	€	5	10) 9	4	1	. 3	1	. 2			1	1		1						1			40
collapse of structure	4	ı																						4
Electrical Contact										1														1
Excavation Collapse						1																		1
Excavation Collapse						1																		1
Other, including multiple factors, i.e. fall resulting from scaffold being struck																								
by equipment.	g)	2 6	5 4	4	2	4	5	1						1				1 1	L				39
TOTAL	64	ا ا	9 49	45	17	5	27	8	4	. 2	2 (1	4	4	4	0	0	0) 1	L 2	4	0	0	250

August 2024

	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Details (As reported to MLITSD)	Reported Cause
1	August 2, 2024	Oakville	Single Family Housing	Carpenter	Worker sustained a fractured left elbow after falling down 3-4 stairs.	Fall – On Stairs
2	August 2, 2024	Toronto	Industrial Building Construction	Rigger	Worker fractured both wrists while trying to brace his fall after losing balance.	Fall – Same Level
3	August 3, 2024	Scarborough	Tunnel	Operator	Worker was descending stairs on the tunnel boring machine when he last balance and fell, resulting in a fractured left ankle.	Fall – On Stairs
4	August 8, 2024	Barrie	Highway and Road Construction	Worker	Worker suffered a fractured ankle when he lost balance when the EWP suddenly moved.	Fall – Same Level
5	August 8, 2024	Toronto	Commercial Building Construction	Worker	Worker sustained fractured shoulder as a result of falling	Fall – From Scaffold

	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Details (As reported to MLITSD)	Reported Cause
					3-4 feet from a scaffold.	
6	August 9, 2024	York	Tunnel	Operator	Worker sustained LOC and life threatening head injuries when his head was squeezed between a locomotive and industrial bucket.	Struck by - Equipment
7	August 12, 2024	Sudbury	Single Family Housing	Carpenter	Worker lost consciousness.	LOC
8	August 13, 2024	Scarborough	Industrial Building Construction	Worker	Worker sustained multiple fractures to the left ankle after falling approx. 4ft into an excavation for a post.	Fall – From Height
9	August 13, 2024	Peterborough	Industrial Building Construction	Concrete Worker	Worker lost footing while mending rebar, resulting in a fractured left arm after falling.	Fall – Same Level
10	August 13, 2024	Ivanhoe Lake	Highway and Road Construction	Signaller	Worker lost consciousness.	LOC

	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Details (As reported to MLITSD)	Reported Cause
11	August 14, 2024	Sudbury	Highway and Road Construction	Worker	Worker lost consciousness.	LOC
12	August 14, 2024	Toronto	Commercial Building Construction	Worker	Worker walked backwards, falling approx. 9ft into an open excavation, resulting in a fractured knee.	Fall – From Height
13	August 14, 2024	Pickering	Single Family Housing	Drywaller	Worker was struck by a metal tool when he fell down stairs, resulting in large laceration and head injuries.	Struck by - Equipment
14	August 15, 2024	Mississauga	Commercial Building Construction	Electrician	Worker fell from ladder, resulting in a broken wrist.	Fall – From Ladder
15	August 16, 2024	Markham	Single Family Housing	Labourer	Worker lost footing while unloading materials, resulting in a fractured ankle.	Fall – Same Level
16	August 16, 2024	North York	Highway and Road Construction	Labourer	Worker sustained fractured leg when it became trapped between the asphalt machine and curb.	Struck by – Equipment

	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Details (As reported to MLITSD)	Reported Cause
17	August 16, 2024	Toronto	Institutional Building Construction	Technician	Worker fell approx. 4ft from a ladder, resulting in a fractured left ankle.	Fall – From Ladder
18	August 18, 2024	Hamilton	NEC – Construction	Labourer	Worker lost significant amount of blood after cutting himself tearing down a stage.	Loss of Blood
19	August 19, 2024	North Bay	Highway and Road Construction	Concrete Worker	Worker lost footing while mending rebar, resulting in a fractured right ankle after rolling it.	Fall – Same Level
20	August 19, 2024	Chatham	Highway and Road Construction	Worker	Worker was air lifted to hospital after being struck by a vehicle.	Struck by - Vehicle
21	August 20, 2024	Toronto	Single Family Housing	HVAC Technician	Worker sustained life threatening injuries after falling from a ladder on the second storey.	Fall – From Ladder
22	August 21, 2024	Toronto	Apartment and Other Multiple Housing	Concrete Worker	Worker fell approximately 30ft, resulting in multiple fractures.	Fall – From Height

	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Details (As reported to MLITSD)	Reported Cause
23	August 21, 2024	Maple	Single Family Housing	Painter	Worker fell to the ground when the ladder he was on gave way, causing him to fall and strike a tool, leading to a significant loss of blood.	Fall – From Ladder
24	August 22, 2024	Fort Erie	Single Family Housing	Worker	Worker sustained fractured left wrist when he lost his footing and fell to the ground.	Fall – Same Level
25	August 22, 2024	Cobourg	Commercial Building Construction	Carpenter	Worker lost consciousness after cutting himself on a table saw.	LOC
26	August 24, 2024	North Bay	Excavation	Hydrovac Operator	Worker lost consciousness when he struck his head against construction material while exiting an excavation.	LOC
27	August 24, 2024	Oakville	Commercial Building Construction	Forklift Operator	Worker fell from the forks of a forklift while standing on	Struck by - Equipment

	Date of	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Details	Reported
	Incident				(As reported to	Cause
					MLITSD)	
					them for transport. Worker's leg as crushed by the forklift when it ran over the leg.	
28	August 25, 2024	Copper Cliff	Mining Plant Construction	Rock Truck Operator	Worker's hand was crushed when he attempted to adjust his seat in the truck and the mechanism trapped his hand.	Struck by - Equipment
29	August 26, 2024	Ottawa	Highway and Road Construction	Foreman	Worker was struck by a dump truck that was reversing, causing a hairline fracture in his right leg.	Struck by – Vehicle
30	August 27, 2024	Ottawa	Single Family Housing	Roofer	Worker lost consciousness and sustained head and face injuries after falling from the roof.	Fall – From Height
31	August 27, 2024	Ottawa	Apartment and Other Multiple Housing	Mason	Worker sustained deep laceration causing significant loss of blood after being struck by a brick.	Struck by - Material

	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Details (As reported to MLITSD)	Reported Cause
32	August 28, 2024	Bowmanville	Power Plants	Turbine Technician	Worker's elbow made contact with a sprinkler head while descending a scaffold, resulting in a fracture to his elbow.	Struck by - Equipment
33	August 29, 2024	Peterborough	Commercial Building Construction	Worker	Worker sustained loss of blood and head injuries when he fell from a scaffold as it was being moved.	Fall – From Equipment
34	August 29, 2024	Brockville	Commercial Building Construction	Worker	Worker sustained two broken legs after being struck by a skid steer.	Struck by - Equipment

Fatality Summary – August 2024

August 2024 FATALS	RESS	INST	RESM	INDU	ROAD	EXCA	сомм	NECC	RAIL	POWP	ETTL	HYDR	SEWW	BRID	TUNN	TELE	WIND	MARE	PAVE	GAS	MINP	PIPE	CAIS	Total
Falls from Heights	1						1																	2
Falls From Equipment																								0
Falls from Ladders																								0
Same level slips and trips																								0
																								0
Struck by equipment					1																			1
Struck by material																								0
collapse of structure																								0
																								0
Electrical Contact																								0
																								0
Excavation Collapse						1																		1
																								0
Other, including multiple																								
factors, i.e. fall resulting																								
from scaffold being struck																								
by equipment.								1																1
																								0
TOTAL	1	. 0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			5

Injury Type	2024	2024
	August	January 1 – August 31
Fatal	5	13

Injury Type	2023 August	2023 January 1 – August 31
Fatal	2	8

Fatalities - Year to Date 2024

Year to Date 2024 FATALS	RESS	INST	RESM	INDU	ROAD	EXCA	сомм	NECC	RAIL	POWP	ETTL	HYDR	SEWW	BRID	TUNN	TELE	WIND	MARE	PAVE	GAS	MINP	PIPE	CAIS	Total
Falls from Heights	2			3			1																	6
Falls From Equipment																								0
Falls from Ladders																								0
Same level slips and trips																								0
																								0
Struck by equipment				2	1																			3
Struck by material																								0
collapse of structure																								0
																								0
Electrical Contact																	1							1
																								0
Excavation Collapse					1	1																		2
																								0
Other, including multiple																								
factors, i.e. fall resulting																								
from scaffold being struck																								
by equipment.								1																1
																								0
TOTAL	2	0	0	5	2	1	1	1	0	0	C	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	C	0			13

	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Details (As reported to MLITSD)	Reported Cause
1	February 12, 2024	Ottawa	Industrial Building Construction	Welder	Worker succumbed to fatal injuries as a result of 5 story fall from mast climber	Fall – From Height
2	March 17, 2024	Toronto	Industrial Building Construction	Worker	Worker succumbed to fatal injuries on April 18, 2024 as a result of a fall from heights	Fall – From Height
3	March 27, 2024	Waterloo	Single Family Housing	Worker	Worker fell on March 27 th , succumbing to his injuries on April 4 th .	Fall – From Height
4	May 7, 2024	Whitby	Industrial Building Construction	Steamroll Operator	Worker was crushed by the steamroller when it rolled off a steep slope	Struck by - Equipment
5	May 9, 2024	Watford	Industrial Building Construction	Labourer	Worker was crushed by an excavator when it reversed over him	Struck by - Equipment

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	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Details (As reported to MLITSD)	Reported Cause
6	May 29, 2024	Pickering	Window Cleaning Services	Window Cleaner	Worker was cleaning windows with a broom when it made contact with an energized powerline	Electrical Contact
7	July 25, 2024	Brantford	Industrial Building Construction	Roofer	Worker succumbed to head injuries after falling through an opening in the roof	Fall – From Height
8	July 30, 2024	King City	Highway and Road Construction	Pipefitter	Worker became trapped in an trench when it flooded with water	Collapse - Trench
9	August 1, 2024	Petrolia	NEC - Construction	Landscaper	Worker collapsed on site from suspected heat illness, going into cardiac arrest in transport to the hospital.	Occ. Illness
10	August 6, 2024	Brantford	Commercial Building Construction	Electrician	Worker sustained fatal injuries while	Fall – From Height



	Date of Incident	Municipality	Sector	Occupation	Details (As reported to MLITSD)	Reported Cause
					installing conduit in an electrical room.	
11	August 13, 2024	Etobicoke	Single Family Housing	Waterproofi ng	Worker sustained fatal injuries after becoming trapped in a collapsed trench.	Trenching
12	August 20, 2024	King City	Highway and Road Construction	Operator	Worker was struck by a passing vehicle while attempting to enter his truck	Stuck by - Vehicle
13	August 24, 2024	North York	Single Family Housing	Roofer	Worker fell while reaching for a dropped item, leading to fatal injuries.	Fall – From Height



SECTOR DESCRIPTION	SHORT DESC
Asbestos Removal - Type 1	ASB1
Asbestos Removal - Type 2	ASB2
Asbestos Removal - Type 3	ASB3
Bridge Construction	BRID
Cable	CABL
Caisson	CAIS
Cofferdam	COFF
Commercial Building Construction	COMM
Diving Construction	DCON
Diving Environmental	DENV
Diving Industrial	DIND
Diving Mining	DMIN
Electrical Towers & Transmission Lines	ETTL
Excavation	EXCA
Gas Service Connection	GAS
Excavation - Grading	GRAD
Hydro	HYDR
Industrial Building Construction	INDU
Institutional Building Construction	INST
Marine Construction	MARE
Mining Plant Construction	MINP
Moving of a Building/Structure	MOVE
NEC – Construction (NEC: not elsewhere captured)	NECC
NEC – Diving (NEC: not elsewhere captured)	NECD
Asphalt Paving	PAVE
Pipeline	PIPE
Hydroelectric Power Plants & Rel	POWP
Railway	RAIL
Apartment & Other Multiple Housing	RESM
Single Family Housing	RESS
Highway & Road Construction	ROAD
Sewer/Watermain Construction	SEWW
Shaft Construction	SHAF
Shipbuilding & Repair	SHIP
Subway	SUBW
Telephone	TELE
Trenching	TREN
Tunnel	TUNN
Well Drilling	WELL
Window Cleaning Services	WIND