

# Workplace Health and Safety Fatality Report



## **WORKER FELL OFF A ROOF**

Type of Incident: Fatality

Date of Incident: August 29, 2009

**Government of Alberta** ■  
Employment and Immigration

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**SECTION 1.0            DATE AND TIME OF INCIDENT**

1.1                      August 29, 2009 at approximately 9:15 a.m.

**SECTION 2.0            NAME AND ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES**

**2.1                      Owner(s)**

2.1.1                    Balzac, Alberta

**2.2                      Prime Contractor**

2.2.1                    N/A

**2.3                      Employer(s)**

2.3.1                    Clackson Roofing 1998 Ltd.  
7531 Hunter Valley Road N.E.  
Calgary, Alberta  
T2K 4K9

**2.4                      Contractor(s)**

2.4.1                    N/A

**2.5                      Supplier(s)**

2.5.1                    N/A

**2.6                      Worker(s)**

2.6.1                    Calgary, Alberta

**2.7                      Others**

2.7.1                    RCMP Didsbury detachment  
Didsbury, Alberta

### **SECTION 3.0 DESCRIPTION OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES**

- 3.1 Clackson Roofing 1998 Ltd. was a Calgary based small roofing company. At the time of the incident, the company had 3 temporary workers.
- 3.2 The worker was the sole owner of Clackson Roofing 1998 Ltd. He had more than 30 years experience as a roofer. After the death of the owner, the Clackson Roofing 1998 Ltd. became non-operational.

### **SECTION 4.0 LOCATION OF INCIDENT**

- 4.1 The incident occurred at a single detached house located at 607 Carriage Lane Place, in Castairs, Alberta (Refer to Attachment A-Map and Attachment B- Photographs 1 and 2).

### **SECTION 5.0 EQUIPMENT, MATERIAL AND OBSERVATIONS**

#### **5.1 Equipment and Material**

- 5.1.1 The workers were replacing hail damaged shingles on the roof. The removed hail damaged shingles were discarded into a bin located on the ground beside the garage (Refer to Attachment B- Photographs 1 and 2).
- 5.1.2 The owner and the workers were not using a fall protection system.

#### **5.2 Observations**

- 5.2.1 At the time of the incident it was sunny and clear with a temperature of 20 °C.

### **SECTION 6.0 NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION OF THE INCIDENT**

- 6.1 On August 29, 2009 at approximately 8:30 a.m., the owner, worker 1 and worker 2 climbed onto the roof to replace the hail damaged shingles.
- 6.2 The owner and worker 1 began removing the hail damaged shingles located on the roof over the garage. Worker 2 started installing new shingles in the back part of the roof.
- 6.3 At approximately 9:15 a.m. the owner picked up a load of removed shingles and walked to the roof edge to throw the shingles into the bin on the ground. Worker 1 followed the owner with second load of shingles to be discarded. After the owner threw his load of shingles into the bin, worker 1 threw his load of shingles into the bin and walked back to the location where he had been removing damaged shingles. Worker 1 looked back towards the roof edge and did not see the owner.

- 6.4 Worker 1 returned to the edge of the roof and saw the owner lying on the ground in the drive way. Worker 1 informed worker 2 that the owner had fallen from the roof and landed on the concrete drive way. Both workers climbed down from the roof and attended to the injured owner.
- 6.5 The owner was unconscious and bleeding from his nose and mouth. Worker 1 ran to the next door neighbour and asked him to call 911. The neighbour called 911.
- 6.6 Emergency Medical Services (EMS) arrived on the scene and attended to the injured owner. The owner was transported to the Foothills hospital by STARS. The owner was pronounced dead at the Foothills hospital.

## **SECTION 7.0 ANALYSES**

### **7.1 Direct Cause**

- 7.1.1 The owner was fatally injured when he fell approximately 3.4 meters from the roof onto the concrete drive way.

### **7.2 Contributing Factors**

- 7.2.1 The owner was not using a fall protection system.
- 7.2.2 No hazard assessment was conducted prior to starting work on the roof.

## **SECTION 8.0 FOLLOW-UP/ ACTION TAKEN**

### **8.1 Employment and Immigration; Occupational Health and Safety**

- 8.1.2 On August 31, 2009, Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) received a call from the Medical Examiner's office that a worker had been died who fell from the roof on August 29, 2009. OHS responded to the notification and commenced an incident investigation. The roofing job was completed prior to the arrival of OHS on the site.

### **8.2 Industry**

- 8.2.1 After the death of the owner, Clackson Roofing 1998 Ltd. became non- operational.

**SECTION 9.0      SIGNATURES**

Original Report Signed  
Lead Investigator

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Original Report Signed  
Reviewer

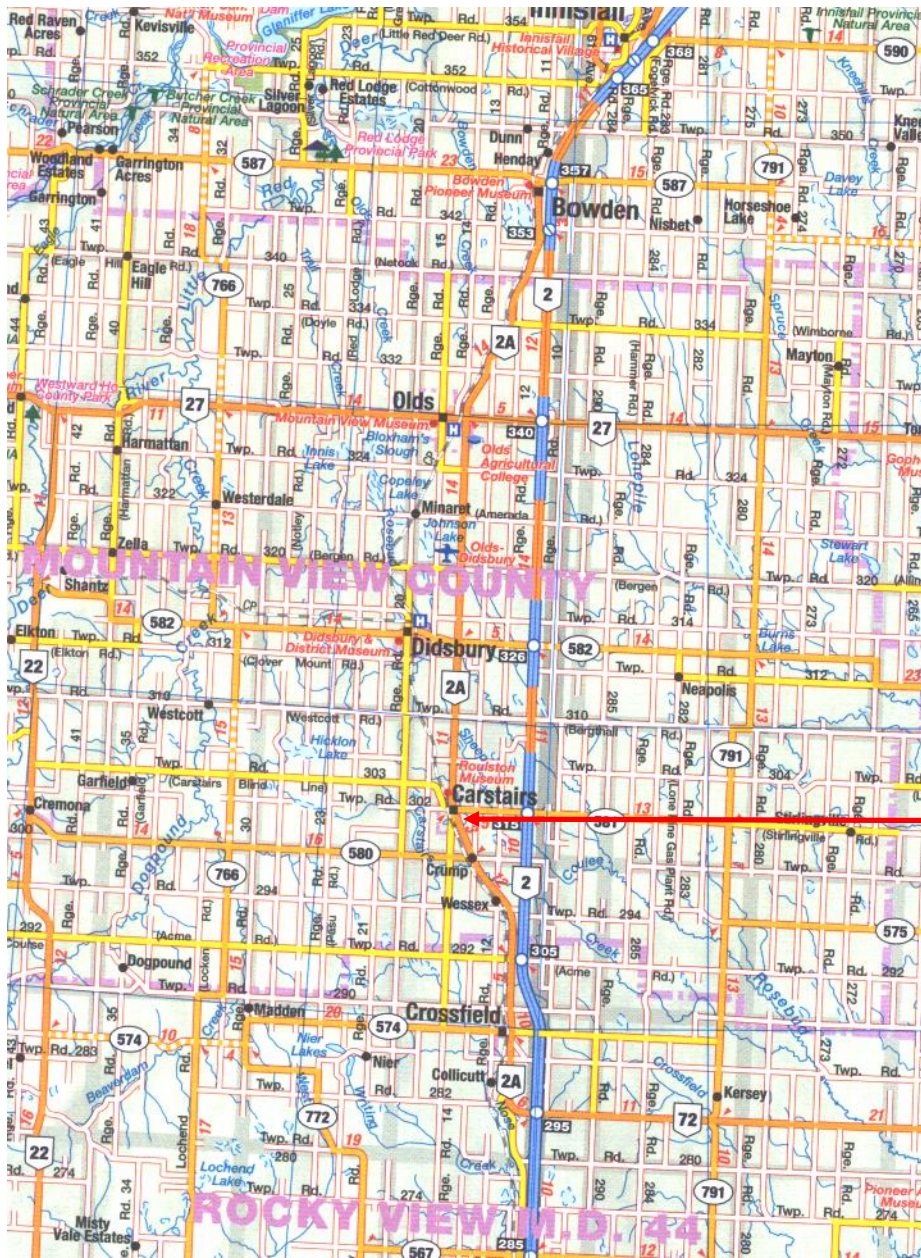
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Original Report Signed  
Director South Region

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**SECTION 10.0      ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment A      Map  
Attachment B      Photograph



Map: Shows the approximate location of the incident.

Photograph 1 of 2



Photograph 1: Front view of the house where the incident occurred

Arrow shows the location where the owner landed after he fell

Photograph 2 of 2



Photograph 2: This photograph was taken after the roofing job was completed

1. Shows the garage roof where the owner and worker 1 were removing hail damaged shingles
2. Shows the location where the bin was located