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For Immediate Release
September 6, 2013

Employer Fined \$60,000 After Worker Permanently Injured Dismantling Salvage

WHITBY, ON – An employer who failed to properly supervise a worker who was permanently injured when a tire exploded has pleaded guilty in court and fined \$60,000.

On October 12, 2011, a worker employed by 1494366 Ontario Inc. – carrying on business as Langille’s Scrap & Cores – was dismantling a truck at the work site at 150 Ranch Industrial Park Road in Port Perry. The worker was attempting to remove a tire using a propane torch to loosen the lug nuts. The worker did not first deflate and remove the tire from its rim.

Most of the lug nuts were removed when the tire exploded from the wheel assembly. The worker was thrown more than 20 feet and sustained cracks and fractures in limbs, a dislocated knee, torn tendons, facial fractures and loss of an ear.

A Ministry of Labour investigation determined that the cause of the explosion was the use of the propane torch on the tire. Heating a wheel rim that has a tire mounted to it can result in an increase of tire pressure, the degradation of the tire’s chemical and mechanical properties, and the release of flammable gases within the tire, as well as an explosion.

Langille’s Scrap & Cores pleaded guilty to failing as an employer to provide information, instruction and supervision to a worker to protect the health and safety of the worker contrary to the Occupational Health and Safety Act. A fine of \$60,000 was imposed by Justice of the Peace Ronald Prestage. In addition to the fine, the court 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.

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For further information:

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Court Information at a Glance

Location:	Provincial Offences Act (POA) Court Courtroom 103 Whitby, Ontario
Judge:	Justice of the Peace Ronald Prestage
Date of Sentencing:	September 4, 2013
Defendant:	Langille's Scrap & Core Port Perry
Matter:	Occupational Health and Safety
Conviction:	Ontario Occupational Health and Safety Act Section 25(2)(a)
Crown Counsel:	Daniel Kleiman



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