

"Metron/Swartz Sentencing Decisions Now Online:  
Company Criminally Liable for Site Supervisor's Actions",  
*Canadian Employment Safety and Health Guide*, August  
2012

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In this article, Adrian Miedema discusses the lessons that employers can learn from the historic sentencing decision against Metron Construction Corporation and its owner, Joel Swartz.

On July 13, 2012, the Ontario Court of Justice made its historic sentencing decisions against Metron Construction Corporation and its owner, Joel Swartz. The court's reasons for decision—one for each of Metron and Mr. Swartz—are now online. The charges and fines resulted from the deaths of four workers on Christmas Eve, 2009, when a swing stage (a suspended work platform) collapsed and they fell 14 floors. The case has garnered much media attention and has generated discussion about when criminal safety charges are appropriate against employers and their managers or executives.

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