

Near Miss Reports and Investigations

A “near miss” is an incident that does not involve injury or property damage, but has the potential for injury or property damage.

Why near misses **SHOULD** be reported:

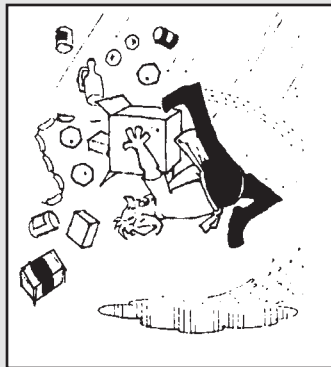
All employees must **IMMEDIATELY** report unsafe conditions and/or circumstances related to a “near miss” to their supervisor so that appropriate action can be taken to evaluate the situation and take corrective action to avoid a similar type of occurrence in the future.



Near Miss #1



Near Miss #2



Accident: Serious Injury

If the first incident had been reported, investigated, and corrective measures taken, it would have prevented the second accident and serious injury to the third person.

If the near miss goes unreported, the incident may happen again, perhaps producing tomorrow’s disabling injury, death, or even business closure.

Why workers **DO NOT** report near misses:

- It is perceived that there is much "red tape" involved.
- Fear of their supervisor’s disapproval.
- Not wanting the incident on their record.
- Perception that they are “rocking the boat” or a “trouble-maker” if they report a near miss.
- Not wanting to be embarrassed by co-workers’ ridicule or sarcasm.
- Concern that reporting a near miss will result in more work.
- Reluctance to spoil the group’s safety record.
- Failure to understand why incidents should be reported.
- Failure to recognize the damage that could result.
- Not wanting to be the subject of an incident investigation.

Why workers **SHOULD** report near misses:

- To prevent extra expenses, as some property damage may not be covered by insurance.
- To prevent the loss of skilled employees.
- To prevent higher costs to their employer and extra time used to train replacement workers.
- To prevent customers from going to competitors.
- To prevent work stoppage.

AND MOST IMPORTANTLY

- **To prevent injury, or even death, to themselves or other co-workers.**