



Safety Talk – Near Misses

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A near miss is an incident that did not result in an injury BUT had the potential to cause result in one.

Most employees shrug off near misses because it did not result in a negative outcome.

HEINRICH RATIO

For every 1 occurrence of a serious injury, there were previous occurrences of:

- 29 minor injuries
- 300 near misses



Injuries are really just the tip of the iceberg.

Near Misses are important learning opportunities!

- Treat near misses like injuries
- Report it to your supervisor and co-workers
- Conduct a root cause analysis
- Identify corrective actions
- Prevent your close call from becoming a potentially more serious outcome

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AN INJURY AND A NEAR MISS COULD BE A SPLIT SECOND

Near misses are caused by:

- Unsafe conditions:
 - Poor housekeeping
 - Poorly maintained tools
 - Electrical hazards
 - Hazardous atmosphere
 - Temperature and humidity
 - Lighting
- Unsafe acts:
 - Rushing or hurrying
 - Not following safety rules
 - Improper lifting
 - Not using PPE

Not reporting near misses and ignoring unsafe conditions or acts can contribute to an occurrence of an injury!

HOW MANY TIMES HAVE YOU IGNORED THESE:

1. Wire laying across the floor.
2. Frayed wires on power tools.
3. A coworker not wearing safety glasses.
4. Loose rung on a ladder.
5. Uneven pavement or floor.
6. Coworker improperly using a ladder.
7. Storage of items in corridors.

WHY???

INJURIES ARE PREVENTABLE

Be proactive:

Report near misses to your supervisor.

Take action to address unsafe conditions or unsafe acts.