

Causes – Supervisor Quick Guide

Unsafe Conditions:

- Poor lighting
- Poor ventilation
- Crowded work area
- Poor storage
- Inadequate exits
- Poor housekeeping practices
- Unsafe environmental conditions such as slippery floors
- Improper PPE
- Defective Equipment

Unsafe Acts – Cause 90% of all injuries:

- Improper behavior and attitude
- Fatigue
- Defective hearing/eye-sight
- Muscle weakness
- Lack of required skill
- Intoxication (alcohol, drugs, etc.)
- Lack of required knowledge
- Lack of proper training

- Frustrations when goals cannot be met
- Obstacles that can prevent satisfactory performance

Poor Supervision – this can be a learning process:

- Inadequate instructions & employee training
- Job and/or safety rules not being enforced
- Inadequate PPE & mandatory use
- Not providing the correct tool or equipment
- Inadequate inspection of equipment and facilities
- Poor planning or improper job procedures
- Rushing the worker
- Lack of accountability & employee motivation

Worker Job Practices:

- Using shortcuts and/or working too fast
- Not using proper tools or equipment

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- Incorrect, or failure to use, protective equipment
- Horseplay (rough or boisterous play or pranks)
- Disregard of safety rules
- Inattention or inexperience
- Physically or mentally impaired
- Improper body motion
- Action of fellow worker
- Improper personal clothing
- Improper footwear for the conditions

Unsafe Material, Tools, or Equipment:

- Ineffective machine guarding
- Unguarded equipment (why, who removed, etc..)
- Defective materials or tools
- Improper or poor equipment design
- Altering equipment from manufacturers intended use
- Inadequate maintenance schedule

- Faulty/unsafe equipment being used
- Did the employee deviate from the job procedure?
- Was the correct equipment/tool/materials available?
- Restricted space for equipment movement
- Lack of training and proper procedures

Lifting Procedures:

- Employee attempted a lift beyond their capabilities
- Employee did not wait for help
- Help not available when needed
- Lack of planning for lift
- Failure to communicate during the lift
- Unexpected movement during lift
- Lift required outbound reaching
- Failure to use mechanical device
- Failure to use proper body mechanics & body posture

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- Staff fatigued at end of shift
- Inadequate employee training for the procedure

Physical Setup:

- Placement of outlets, power cords, oxygen, etc.
- Organization of room or items on shelving
- Poor floor plan
- Elevator not leveling
- Slippery or wet floors
- Clutter & poor housekeeping
- Failure to put up or take down signage
- Lack of storage space
- Tripping hazards & unsafe conditions allowed to exist
- Ice, weather conditions

Needlestick/sharp objects/bloodborne exposure:

- During use of item
- Disassembling device or recapping used needle
- Inadequate training

- Bloodborne Pathogen & Exposure Control Plan
- Spill kit was not available
- While putting sharps into disposal container
- Item pierced side of disposal container
- After disposal, item protruded from trash or inappropriate container
- Other, after use, before disposal (cleaning up, left on bed, table, floor)