



Solutions in Investigation

Accidents are unplanned events, which result in loss of some kind either to persons or to equipment.

Incidents are events, which do not result in loss, but are near misses, which can be a good predictor of accidents waiting to happen. Certain accidents, resulting in injury to persons, are of such a serious nature that they should be reported to the relevant enforcing authority, in UK often the Health and Safety Executive. Also some occupational diseases suffered by persons are reportable, as are some dangerous occurrences, which may not have resulted in injury but are sufficiently serious.

Statistics demonstrate that for every serious accident, where a person or persons are seriously injured or killed there are many minor injuries, more incidents where there was no loss and many hundreds of **near misses**.

Accidents and incidents should be thoroughly investigated to **prevent recurrence**, as legal requirements in some instances, for reasons of insurance and also because of relevance to civil action. Investigation involves gathering of information, analysis of information, identifying the risk control measures required and deciding on an action plan and implementing the plan. Investigation determines the causes enabling safety management systems to be improved. The **immediate causes** are usually either unsafe acts or unsafe conditions. These immediate causes happen because there are **underlying** reasons which bring them, about such as inadequate training, weaknesses in supervision, equipment failures and deficiencies in systems of work. Again these underlying causes are symptomatic of **root causes**, which in the majority of cases can be traced to a fundamental **failure by management**.

Thorough investigation can be valuable to an organisation in reducing costs, including insurance premiums and staff costs as well as enabling an organisation to increase market share and improve image amongst its clients and suppliers. Although some costs are immediately evident others are hidden and are often never fully appreciated.

- JRL Solutions Ltd will help you to **establish an effective investigation system**.
- JRL Solutions Ltd will **carry out** investigations for you.

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