

Accident Investigation – Appendix A: Definitions

Accident - an incident that results in an injury or illness to an employee or property damage.

Catastrophe - when two or more employees are fatally injured, or three or more employees are admitted to a hospital or clinic as a result of the same incident

Confidential - containing information whose unauthorized disclosure could be prejudicial

Direct Cause - the immediate reason why the incident/accident occurred

Exposure - experiencing something or being affected by it because of being in a particular situation or place

Hazard - a condition that has a potential to cause harm

Hospitalization – formal admission to the in-patient service of a hospital or clinic for care or treatment

Illness - an unhealthy condition of body or mind as a result of exposure to a health hazard

Incident - an event that may have resulted in personal harm or property damage

Injury - hurt, damage, or loss sustained as a result of exposure to a physical hazard

Investigation - to observe or study by close examination and systematic inquiry

Near-miss - an incident that could have/would have caused serious illness, injury, or death if the situation had been different

Root Cause - the underlying issues that leads to an unsafe condition or unsafe acts causing an incident

Surface Cause - conditions that lead to a direct cause of and incident/accident