

Safety Moment

WHAT IS A NEAR MISS?

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A near miss is any event that occurred that could have caused injury to our employees or damage to equipment but failed to do so.

A NEAR MISS is a second chance.

It's a second chance to:

Go home alive.

To see your family again.

Play with your kids or grandkids again.

To right a wrong.

It's also a chance to correct an issue and to reduce the chances of it reoccurring. It's an opportunity to keep someone else from suffering an injury.

But, if near misses go unreported and are not corrected or addressed we are asking for an injury. We are saying it's okay to allow someone to almost get hurt and then when an injury does occur we seem surprised. Why did this happen? How could this have happened?

We had warning signs but ignored them. We allowed our employees or co-workers to be exposed to a danger and didn't correct it.

Addressing a near miss in a timely manner is very important to the safety of our workforce. We all have a responsibility to report near misses to a supervisor immediately. We as supervisors have an obligation to address and correct the issue immediately. If we can't correct it immediately, we can isolate the danger or hazard.

We all have an obligation and a responsibility for safety at our workplace. We are responsible for our own safety. We've all been given the tools to respond to situations that are critical to the well-being of our co-workers.

Let's commit to the safety of each other. We know how to address each safety situation. We've got to take action when we are exposed to a hazard or danger.

Near Miss Examples from the KZ Mill.

- ◆ EE was walking on udrain covers in K1 basement near coating tanks and heard a splash. EE looked back and saw udrain cover had tilted into drain.
- ◆ It was discovered that a new hire was given a pair of rubber boots that did not have steel toes in them.
- ◆ EE found chunks of concrete on the floor that had fallen from the ceiling at the west end by the K1 dry end conveyor.
- ◆ Pallet of core plugs was unwrapped and left by previous shift. EE heard a crash and found core plugs scattered on ground
- ◆ EE struck elbow left elbow on 2nd top vacuum pump when pipe wrench slipped when removing a rotted out pipe.