



# Near Miss (Great Catch)

A near miss (aka a great catch) is an event or hazard that does not result in injury, illness or damage, but had the potential to do so. These incidents must be reported, regardless of how severe, in order to ensure that the appropriate steps are taken to prevent a recurrence in which serious injury or loss may occur. Near misses happen on a regular basis. By recognizing a hazard and reporting it as a great catch, we can investigate the root cause and prevent future incidents and injuries.

## Why Report an Incident?

- Near misses are a warning that something is not working and enables us to learn lessons before a serious incident occurs.
- It helps management find trends and faults within the system and introduce effective control measures.
- Great catch reports give you the opportunity to gather more information and correct behaviors, processes and actions to prevent a future injury.

## Tips for Reporting

- Supervisors should encourage feedback on incidents by maintaining a positive approach to gathering information and, avoid placing blame on an individual or group. Many times employees don't report because they don't want to be blamed for mistakes or be perceived as careless.
- Identify behaviors or conditions that can cause hazards:
  - Failure to maintain or repair equipment
  - Removal of machine guards
  - Failure to keep walkways free of slip, trip or fall hazards
  - Inadequate training or personal protective equipment
  - Not following procedures or poor procedure enforcement
- All near miss incidents should be immediately documented using an great catch report and company specific procedures.
- Investigate all reports and follow up with any new procedures or safety measures.



## Benefits of Reporting Great Catches

- Identify existing unsafe conditions. Some unsafe conditions have been present for a long time and never addressed.
- Create or update standards and procedures for safe ways to accomplish job tasks.
- Discover opportunities for additional training that needs to be developed or repeated to make sure employees are given the information to complete the job safely.
- Reporting helps create more safety awareness among employees and company culture.