

Toolbox Talks

Weekly Tailgate Topic_

11-35

Discuss with crews on _____ [INSERT DATE]

PROPERLY CONDUCTED ACCIDENT INVESTIGATIONS

The purpose of conducting an accident investigation is to find out what happened so that we can take steps to prevent similar disasters in the future.

PROPERLY CONDUCTED INVESTIGATIONS can ensure that we learn from our mistakes. Unfortunately, in many different companies; accident investigations fail because employees “go through the motions” while completing the accident investigation. In order for accident investigations to be useful, they must be thorough. The most important point to remember while conducting an accident investigation is that:

ACCIDENTS ARE CAUSED!

The focus of an investigation should be to determine these ROOT CAUSES. Once these root causes have been identified, actions should be taken to:

1. Eliminate the hazard (Eliminate Process, Substitute Materials...), or
2. Isolate the hazard (Guards, Procedures...), or
3. Protect the worker through additional PPE (Glasses, Gloves...)

Crewmembers should also remember that accident investigations are FACT FINDING FUNCTIONS, NOT FAULT FINDING MISSIONS! Therefore, workers should feel willing to talk freely with investigators, because they can be assured that disciplinary action will not be initiated as long as the accident was unintentional.

Remember, conducting accident investigations can be one of the most useful tools in preventing future accidents, so ensure that they are given the time that they deserve.



Excavator on its side in South Surrey

CREWMEMBER SAFETY TOPIC

Crewmember discusses his safety topic.