Incident Investigations: A Guide for Employers

APPENDIX E: COLLECT INFORMATION CHECKLIST

Investigators should be sure their investigation answers the following questions:

WHO?		WHERE?	
☐ Who☐ Who☐ Who☐ Who	was injured? saw the incident? was working with the employee? had instructed/assigned the employee? else was involved? else can help prevent recurrence?		Where did the incident occur? Where was the employee at the time? Where was the supervisor at the time? Where were fellow workers at the time? Where were other people who were involved at the time? Where were witnesses when incident occurred?
WHAT?		WHY?	
☐ What ☐ using ☐ What ☐ what ☐ what ☐ what ☐ what ☐ hat ☐ hat ☐ hat ☐ what	protective equipment was the employee		Why was the employee injured? Why and what did the employee do? Why wasn't protective equipment used? Why weren't specific instructions given to the employee? Why was the employee in the position? Why was the employee using the tools or machine? Why didn't the employee check with the supervisor when the employee noted things weren't as they should be? Why did the employee continue working under the circumstances? Why wasn't the supervisor there at the time?
WHEN?		HOW?	
☐ Wher ☐ Wher ☐ Wher empl ☐ Wher job p	n did the incident occur? In did the employee start on that job? In was the employee assigned on the job? In were the hazards pointed out to the oyee? In was the employee's supervisor last check on rogress? In did the employee first sense something was g?		How did the employee get injured? How could the employee have avoided it? How could fellow workers have avoided it? How could supervisor have prevented it - could it be prevented?



APPENDIX F: SAMPLE QUESTIONS FOR IDENTIFYING INCIDENT ROOT CAUSES

QUESTIONS

- 1. Did a written or well-established procedure exist for employees to follow?
- 2. Did job procedures or standards properly identify the potential hazards of job performance?
- 3. Were there any hazardous environmental conditions that may have contributed to the incident?
- 4. Were the hazardous environmental conditions in the work area recognized by employees or supervisors?
- 5. Were any actions taken by employees, supervisors, or both to eliminate or control environmental hazards?
- 6. Were employees trained to deal with any hazardous environmental conditions that could arise?
- 7. Was sufficient space provided to accomplish the job task?
- 8. Was there adequate lighting to properly perform all the assigned tasks associated with the job?
- 9. Were employees familiar with job procedures?
- 10. Was there any deviation from the established job procedures?
- 11. Were the proper equipment and tools available and being used for the job?
- 12. Did any mental or physical conditions prevent the employee(s) from properly performing their jobs?
- 13. Were there any tasks in the job considered more demanding or difficult than usual (e.g., strenuous activities, excessive concentration required, etc.)?
- 14. Was there anything different or unusual from normal operations? (e.g., different parts, new or different chemicals used, recent adjustments/maintenance/cleaning on equipment)
- 15. Was the proper personal protective equipment specified for the job or task?
- 16. Were employees trained in the proper use of any personal protective equipment?
- 17. Did the employees use the prescribed personal protective equipment?
- 18. Was personal protective equipment damaged or not properly functioning?
- 19. Were employees trained and familiar with the proper emergency procedures, including the use of any special emergency equipment and was it available?
- 20. Was there any indication of misuse or abuse of equipment and/or materials at the incident site?
- 21. Is there any history of equipment failure, were all safety alerts and safeguards operational and was the equipment functioning properly?
- 22. If applicable, are all employee certification and training records current and up-to-date?
- 23. Was there any shortage of personnel on the day of the incident?
- 24. Did supervisors detect, anticipate, or report an unsafe or hazardous condition?
- 25. Did supervisors recognize deviations from the normal job procedure?
- 26. Did supervisors and employees participate in job review sessions, especially for those jobs performed on an infrequent basis?
- 27. Were supervisors made aware of their responsibilities for the safety of their work areas and employees?
- 28. Were supervisors properly trained in the principles of incident prevention?
- 29. Was there any history of personnel problems or any conflicts with or between supervisors and employees or between employees themselves?
- 30. Did supervisors conduct regular safety meetings with their employees?
- 31. Were the topics discussed and actions taken during the safety meetings recorded in the minutes?
- 32. Were the proper resources (i.e., equipment, tools, materials, etc.) required to perform the job or task readily available and in proper condition?
- 33. Did supervisors ensure employees were trained and proficient before assigning them to their jobs?