InterSafe

ESSENTIAL FACTORS Incident Investigation

A New Approach to Basic Level Incident Investigation

InterSafe uses this powerful and effective basic level incident investigation model:

- For incidents that result in minor, temporary or permanent damage (including fatality);
- To conduct external, independent investigations;
- To facilitate on-site investigation teams;
- To train your people (1 DAY COURSE).

How is the Essential Factors approach different to other models?

THINKING PARADIGMS "Essential Factors" vs	"Cause and Effect"
The InterSafe Approach	**OTHERS Approach**
100% / 100% / 100% paradigm – ○ 100% of incidents include "people" factors ○ 100% of incidents include "equipment" factors ○ 100% of incidents include "environment" factors	**80% / 20% paradigm –** ○ 80% of incidents are "caused" by human error/unsafe acts ○ 20% of incidents are "caused" by the equipment or environment/unsafe conditions
Clear process of description and analysis	Tends to blur line between description and analysis
Focuses on what "is" / What "is not"	Focuses on "causes" & "effects"
Lists essential and contributory factors	Lists causes of accident
Lists all observations and does not make value judgement of "rightness" or "wrongness" of what was observed	Can require "value" judgement of cause / root cause before information is recorded eg. list unsafe conditions
All essential factors are of equal significance with respect to incident outcome	Factors are not considered equal with respect to causation
Factors are considered different with respect to controllability	Ranks causes without a clear definition of "Cause". Is cause the most easily recognised factor? ...the most easily corrected factor? Etc.
Change for the future	Blame for the past
Describes what people did / did not do	Lists cause / root cause / prime cause
Describes what features of equipment / environment were present / absent	
Uses ergonomic model – interaction of people with equipment in an environment	Has ego centric bias – unsafe acts/behaviours
Strong scientific base using well established concepts of hypothesis forming and modelling	Less scientific and often does not reflect the significance of hypothesis forming and modelling

For Incidents resulting in Major Damage InterSafe uses an extension of the Essential Factors model – the ART-T model.

Incident Investigation – The InterSafe Way

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