



## What is a Near Miss?

The definition of a near miss is an unplanned event that did not result in injury, hazard, or damage but had the potential to do so. Also known as a “close call,” a near miss often identifies a system weakness that if not corrected, could lead to dangerous hazards or injury in the future. Near miss incidents can shine a light on significant opportunities to improve safety practice.

## Near Miss Examples

There are many occurrences that could be classified as a near miss incident, but here are some general near miss examples:

- Events where injury could have occurred but didn't
- Minor injuries and incidents with potential to become more serious
- Unsafe working or site conditions
- Unsafe or improper behaviour
- Improper use of equipment
- Malfunctioning equipment

## Important Reasons Why You Should Report Near Misses

Near misses can be a significant indicator and critical opportunity to enhance safety practices. Here are some important reasons why you should report near misses:

- **Allows identification of trends:** Near miss reporting is a valuable collection of data over time and allows management to identify possible trends.
- **Establishes safe practices in the workplace:** Reporting a near miss helps to establish and continue safe practices within the workplace.
- **Reduces risk:** Reporting near misses can improve the safety program and reduces the overall tolerance for risk.
- **Allows information to be shared easily:** Information provided enables Saffron to communicate the facts, causes, and corrective actions to all employees regarding near misses.
- **Collects valuable data:** Reporting of near misses provides valuable data and information to employees and management about how to avoid and prevent future hazards and injuries.

It is very important that any minor accidents and near misses are reported either by filling out the 'Accident Report Form' which you can find on the Health & Safety all policies, forms and procedures intranet page by [clicking here](#), or you can speak to the H&S Team, so that trends can be identified and measures put into place to stop them developing into more serious incidents.