

Whew ... That was a close call!



Call it what you want ... “close call”, “narrow escape”, “near hit” ... all are examples of unplanned incidents which could have resulted in serious injury, property damage, or even death.

**When an incident occurs, our sense of safety is *REACTIVE* ...
we tend to**

- Take steps to prevent a reoccurrence
- Overlook close calls because there was no injury or damage
- Avoid reporting the incident for fear of being blamed
- Make light of the incident because of some inherent humor or embarrassment

Close calls should not go unnoticed

The Proactive Approach to Safety

Near misses should be ...

- thoroughly investigated with follow-up actions taken to change behaviors and procedures
- lessons learned for all employees as a means to propose process improvement

Consequences of not reporting near misses

- Opens the door for repeat similar incident, perhaps with more severe outcomes
- Learning opportunity is lost
- Becomes a behavioral norm



[Reporting near misses; Why are they important, and how can safety pros get employees involved?](#)

[The Top 9 Reasons Workers Don't Report Near Misses](#)

[How to encourage employees to report near-misses](#)