
ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION FOR OSHA COMPLIANCE

Part Two: The 6 Step Process

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6 Step Process

1. Coordinating with Other Agencies
2. Assessing the Scene/Collecting Evidence
3. Interviewing Witnesses
- 4. Developing a Sequence of Events**
5. Determining the Cause
6. Identifying OSHA Violations
7. Documenting the Findings

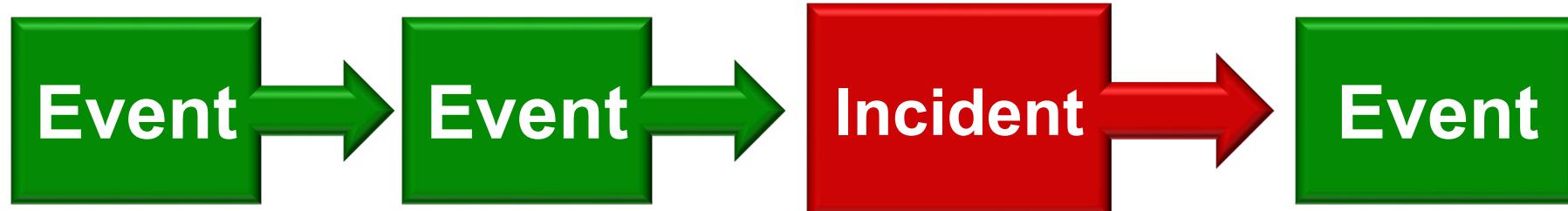
From Incident to “Events”

- Breaking down the incident into events helps:
 - Organize the data
 - Guide the investigation
 - Visualize the accident
 - Identify contributing events and conditions
 - Focus on the root cause
 - Organize the accident report

Step 4 – Event Sequencing

- Analyze the accident “process”
 - Events prior to ...
 - Event during ...
 - Events immediately after ...

Sequence of Events



- Build from start to finish.
- Build from incident out.
- Build from both ends.
- Fill in gaps as data is obtained.

Defining the Events

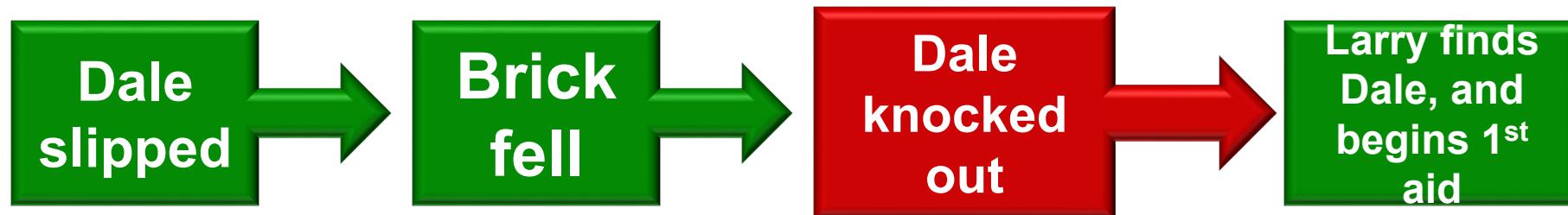
- Each event in the process describes one:
 - **Actor** - Individual or object that is initiating action.
 - **Action** - The thing being done.

"Bob unhooked the lifeline from the harness."

Event = Actor and Action

- Dale slipped on a banana.
- As Dale lay on the floor, a brick fell on his head.
- Larry discovered Dale unconscious on the floor and immediately began initial first aid procedures.

Sequence of Events – Dale



Developing the Sequence

- Group Exercise:
 - Watch the Dupont Animation
 - Identify the events in the scenario
 - Attempt to order them chronologically

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