

Incident summary and lessons learned

Incident

Scaffolding collapse at bloomingdale

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Introduction

An incident is an unplanned or undesired event that adversely affects a company's work operations. Incidents include work-related injuries, occupational illnesses, property damage, spills, fires or near miss events that could have resulted in any of these.

All incidents should be investigated. An incident that results in a serious employee injury, considerable property damage, a major fire, or spill obviously warrants an extensive investigation. A minor incident or near miss incident also requires a thorough investigation and may reveal significant potential for a serious incident if the conditions are left uncorrected.

Investigation is not a place to blame

Introduction

A near miss incident was reported from Bloomingdale dated 16th Sep- 22, at 07:46 hrs, during our incident investigation below are identified

ASFAM was carrying out an additional variable painting works at Bloomingdale Ground floor drum area with the support of mobile scaffolding with an approximate height of 4 to 5 meter.

ASFAM technician Mr. Shailesh Kumar Sharma and the contractor employee Mr. Babban Kumar Tej was executing the job Team was using the scaffolding without outrigger and ASFAM technician Mr. Shailesh Kumar moved the erected scaffolding with Mr. Babban kumar on top caused the fall of scaffolding.



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Incident Photographs



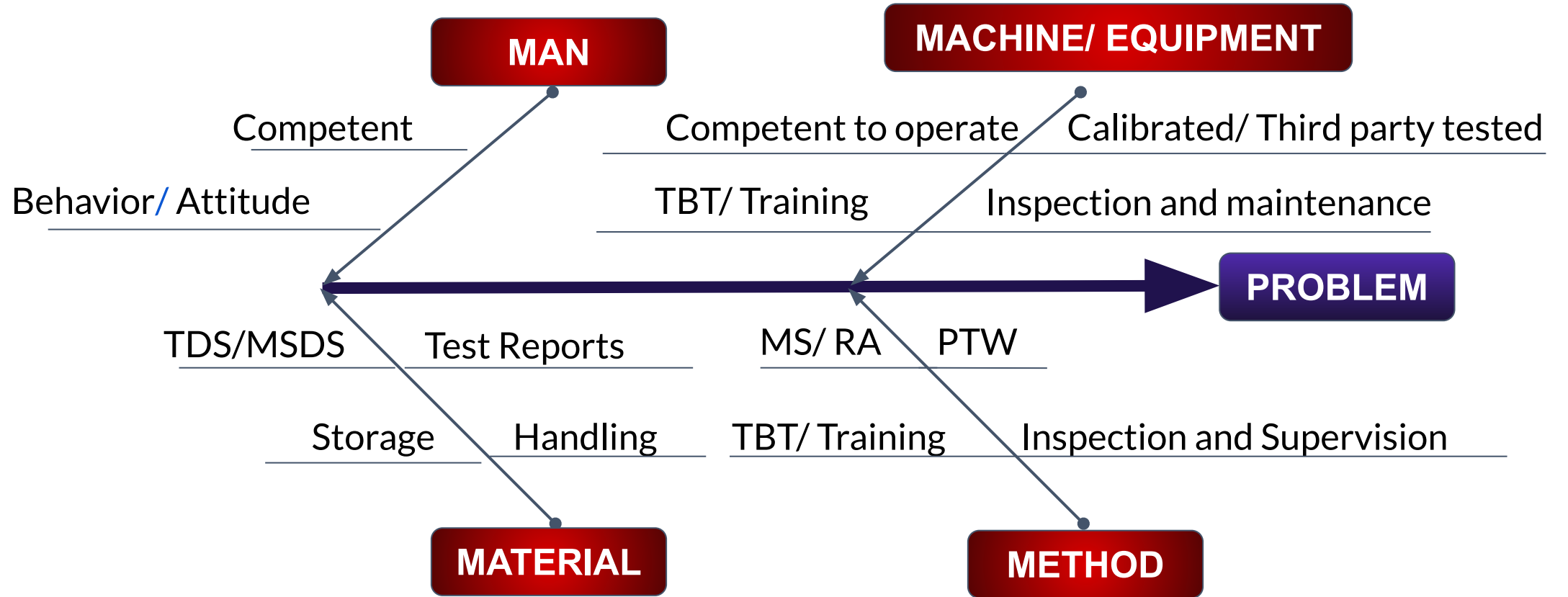
HONESTY

INITIATIVE

TEAM WORK

ENJOY WORK

SERVE WITH A SMILE



Investigation Findings

MAN

Competency-

Competent Scaffolding erector, Scaffolding inspectors are available however both of them failed to perform their responsibilities to ensure the scaffolding is erected safely

- a) The outriggers of the scaffolding was available however not used
- b) Green tag was not displayed on the scaffold by the scaffold inspector

Behaviour/ Attitude-

Unsafe practice by the scaffolding users

- a) Scaffolding was used by the user without checking the green tag
- b) Scaffolding was pushed by the person standing below while a person was standing on the scaffolding platform

Investigation Findings

MACHINE/ EQUIPMENT

Change of Equipment-

A vertical lift was used to perform height works since long time, Hence many of the technicians were trained to used the vertical lift. The scaffolding was used because of non availability of the vertical lift. few People were not familiar working with scaffolding.

Inspection of equipment prior to use-

Adequate inspection was not carried out by the competent scaffolding inspector prior to the use of scaffolding considering the fact that people are not familiar with the scaffolding.

Hazard communication-

Task specific TBT was not conducted prior to the commencement of activity.

MATERIAL

Handling and storage-

Materials, tools and equipment taken on to a scaffolding platform shall be well secured and a toe board shall be made available on the scaffolding platform to ensure these materials are not fallen off from the edges, The toe boards were not installed in the scaffolding platform during the activity

To prevent paint spillage on the floor a polythene sheet was spread on the floor and the scaffolding was above the polythene sheet, When The scaffolding was pushed the wheels may have got jammed and created an imbalance. This might have caused the scaffolding to topple.

METHOD

Method statement and Risk assessment- Available for the activity

PTW and inspection- A specific permit to work at height was not available hence adequate inspection on the equipment used to work at height was not conducted. However a permit to work from the mall management was available.

Supervision- Competent supervision to prevent unsafe acts was not available.

Summary

Considering the above factors, A proactive approach to prevent an incident was not evidenced. However there were other few good practices like buddy system, Adequate lighting, ventilation and available third party certifications.

Improvement required :

- a) Appoint Competent supervision
- b) Conduct proper survey and inspection prior to issuing work permits specially on working at heights and other high risk activities.
- c) Ensure unsafe conditions are reported and rectified immediately
- d) Escalation matrix shall be duly followed in reporting incidents.