

Lead and Lag

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- Things going right
- When nothing is happening, there's nothing to measure
- Complacency?



- But – what is really happening?

Key Points:

- Companies can become complacent if internal reports consistently show no incidents or accidents have occurred.
- There could in fact be near misses which no one has considered reporting.
- Keeping a record of Lead and Lag data can help to identify areas of potential concern.
- Lead indicators are pro-active and preventative actions - easy to influence, hard to measure, eg safety briefings, behavioural observations.
- Lag indicators are re-active actions – easy to measure, hard to influence, eg over 3 day incidents, minor injuries – no time lost.
- A points system is useful for recording both Lead and Lag data over a set period of time.
- It is important to thoroughly investigate any health and safety incidents/accidents.
- The Fishbone Investigation Tool is an excellent method for getting to the root cause – it can look at the Man, Machine, Material and Method - eg is the man properly trained and fit, has the machine been properly serviced, are the materials in good condition, is the method appropriate to the task and being properly followed.
- During your investigation don't just look at what has been done wrong; look at what has been done correctly, take statements and check records.