



Safety Message of the Day for IMEA Members



HAZARD AWARENESS – GENERAL SAFETY

Understanding the difference between hazards and accidents is key to preventing injuries and protecting property in the workplace.

What is a Hazard?

A hazard is any condition or changing set of circumstances that presents a potential for:

- Injury
- Illness
- Property damage

It refers to the inherent characteristics of an activity, condition, or environment that could produce adverse or harmful consequences.

What is an Accident?

- An accident is an unfortunate event, typically the result of:
- Carelessness
- Ignorance
- An unforeseen or unplanned circumstance

Accidents usually result in an unfavorable outcome, such as injury or damage.

Key Takeaways on Hazard Awareness:

There are important keywords in these definitions:

- Unplanned
- Unforeseen
- Unfortunate
- Unfavorable

And most importantly: POTENTIAL

Hazard awareness is about recognizing what could happen before it does — and taking steps to prevent it.