

Root Cause and Related Factors

CAUSAL FACTORS

Contributors to an incident - if causal factors are eliminated, the failure might be less severe or happen less frequently

ROOT CAUSE

A fundamental reason for the occurrence of a problem, event or failure

HUMAN ROOTS

Human intervention that led to, and/or allowed the failure event to occur (by commission or omission)

LATENT ROOTS

Deficiencies in the system, or problems in a system that 'set the scene' and make it more likely the event will occur

PHYSICAL ROOTS

The physical evidence gathered *after a failure* and confirmed against manufacturer's or supplier's information, but may not be an actual factor in the failure