

4.2: A simple approach to investigations

Application 11

A worker discovered a problem in the edge machine. This is a machine which saws off and planes wood. He didn't know who to report the problem to so he opened the machine lid (which was connected to an interlock which automatically turns off the power when the lid is opened). The worker put their pencil into the interlock switch, so they could still operate the machine with the lid open. The saw suddenly started and cut their hand.⁴

Use the 5 Whys strategy to work through the incident and identify the issues that may have played a part in causing the incident. We have started you off below. (A full page version can be accessed from the NEBOSH website here <https://www.nebosh.org.uk/course-books-companion-materials>.)





