

ACCIDENT ANALYSIS – FLEET

Experience has proven that the most effective way to reduce accidents is to concentrate on one phase of the accident problem at a time, rather than attempting to stop all accidents at once. Even in large operations where hundreds of accidents may occur annually, only rarely do two accidents occur in exactly the same way. Accidents do follow general patterns, however, and by grouping them according to common features, patterns will be uncovered. Finding the patterns and common features of groups of accidents is the basis of accident analysis.

In order to analyze accident experience, it is essential that good reporting and accident investigation procedures be in place and functioning effectively. The information supplied on the accident and investigation reports then only has to be assembled and tabulated into groups or categories. Once this is done, conclusions can be drawn from the data.

One method of collecting the data is to select an area of information from the accident reports and record the number of accidents which have occurred during any period of time selected. Any area of information can be selected.

Examples of areas that can be used are:

- **Type of Vehicle** — private passenger car, straight truck, tractor-trailer, pick-up
- **Type of Driving** — intracity, intercity, long haul, pick-up and delivery
- **Time of Accident** — hour, daylight, dusk, night
- **Accident Type** — struck other vehicle, ran off road, backing up

- **Accident Site** — intersection, roadway, driveway
- **Road Conditions** — dry, wet, icy, fog
- **Our Vehicle Action** — going straight, turning, following, speed
- **Other Vehicle Action** — passing, backing, parked
- **Drivers Experience** — with company, with other company, total

There is no limit to the various areas of accident information that can be selected. It could include the name of the driver (which would be of value in identifying accident repeaters) and day of the week.

The next logical step, after tabulating the accidents according to area, is to determine what specific features are common in the highest percentage of accidents. The conclusions reached will identify the principal areas to concentrate on in preventing accidents. Further study and evaluation of the key features may be necessary to determine why the features are common in the accidents. When the facts that directly lead to the cause of accident have been uncovered, needed corrections should be evident. It then becomes necessary to give thought to the selection and application of an effective remedy. For example, an effective remedy is group and individual retraining that addresses the loss cause.

The information and recommendations contained in this material have been obtained from sources believed to be reliable. However, SECURA accepts no legal responsibility for the accuracy, sufficiency, or completeness of such information. Additional safety and health procedures may be required under particular circumstances.

FLEET ACCIDENT ANALYSIS — WORKSHEET	Period Covered
Company: _____	From:
Location: _____	To:
	Date Prepared

Our Vehicle Action	S	T	B	F	E R	E R	S	P	T	%
Type of Accident	T	U	A	O	N O	X O	T	A	O	O F
	R	R	C	L	T A	I A	O	S	T	T O T A L
	A	N	K	L	E D	T D	P	S	A	%
	I	I	I	O	R W	I W	P	I	L	T O T A L
	G	N	N	W	I A	N A	E	N		%
	H	G	G	I	N Y	G Y	D	G		%
	T			G	G					%
Struck Other Vehicle - Rear										
Struck Other Vehicle - Side										
Struck Other Vehicle - Front										
Struck By Other Vehicle										
Ran Off Roadway,										
Overtuned										
Struck Fixed Object										
Struck Animal										
Struck Pedestrian										
Chain Reaction										
TOTAL										
% OF TOTAL										

The chart indicates the frequency (numbers) of accidents in the various categories. This is shown vertically and horizontally. By examining the percentages, it becomes evident what type of accident or what vehicle action should receive priority attention. Retraining should be directed in these areas.