



Root Cause Analysis (RCA) Using Tripod Beta Method

DURATION

5 days

CONTACT HOURS

30

LEVEL

Intermediate

FEE PER DELEGATE

US\$1,500

Tripod Beta applied to a real incident, to the point where the cause is a condition somebody can change.

Most incident investigations stop one step too early, at the action a person took, and produce a recommendation about care or training. Tripod Beta is built to keep going: it separates the agent, the object and the event, traces each failed barrier, and asks what preconditions made the failure likely before asking who was involved. The method is not difficult and applying it honestly is, because it usually ends somewhere organisational. Delegates work a real incident through the full tree, their own where confidentiality permits.

Available as classroom, live online, in house.

Who it is for

Incident investigators and HSE advisers, operations and maintenance supervisors who lead investigations, and the managers who review the reports and approve the actions.

What you will be able to do

- Build a trio of agent, object and event from the facts of an incident.
- Identify the barriers that should have worked and classify how each one failed.
- Trace an immediate cause to its preconditions and to the underlying condition.
- Write a recommendation that changes a condition rather than exhorting a person.
- Recognise where an investigation has stopped early, including your own.

The outline

DAY 1

Why investigations stop early

Human error as a finding rather than a starting point · Hindsight, outcome bias, and how obvious a sequence looks afterwards · What a recommendation about training usually conceals · The organisational end of a causal chain

DAY 2

The Tripod model

Agent, object and event, and building the trio · Barriers, and the hazard release they were there to prevent · Immediate causes, preconditions and underlying conditions · Where Tripod differs from five whys and from a fishbone

DAY 3

Evidence

Securing a scene and a sequence before memory reshapes it · Interviewing without leading, and without blame · Physical, documentary and electronic evidence together · Working with what is missing

DAY 4

Building and testing the tree

Constructing the tree from the trio outward · Classifying each barrier failure · Testing a branch for whether it is supported · Knowing when the tree is finished

DAY 5

Recommendations and the report

Recommendations aimed at conditions, with owners and dates · Writing for the people who have to act, not for the file · Sharing a finding without identifying an individual · Checking months later whether the condition changed

What you leave with

- A completed Tripod Beta tree for one real incident.
- A barrier analysis distinguishing missing, failed and defeated barriers.
- A set of recommendations tied to underlying conditions, each with an owner.

Published dates

DATES	WHERE	FEE
23 to 27 November 2026	Nairobi, Kenya	US\$1,500
30 November 2026 to 4 December 2026	Maseru, Lesotho	R15,000
7 to 11 December 2026	Durban, South Africa	R15,000
14 to 18 December 2026	Dubai, United Arab Emirates	US\$1,500

Fees are per delegate and cover all materials and meals arranged by the delegate. Reg

Register or ask a question

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