

Toolbox Talk

69. Slips, Trips & Falls



What?

- There are many things which can cause slips, trips and falls in the workplace such as liquid lying on floors, materials and cables in walkways, damaged floors or carpets etc. Many of these conditions are easily dealt with but all too often people see them and simply walk on by leaving the hazard behind
- By eliminating the contributing unsafe conditions in the workplace that lead to slips, trips and falls, you can stop someone harming themselves or a fellow site worker
- Slips and trips are the most common of workplace hazards and make up over a third of all major injuries. Over 10,000 workers suffer serious injury because of a slip or trip in the UK every year



Why?

- Slips, trips and falls result in a high number of accidents each year and a great deal can be done to prevent them, but requires commitment and action to reduce the risks
- They are often disproportionately costly, both to the individual because of pain and suffering and to the organisation (because of lost time or the cost of sick pay etc)
- Look out for hazards like bad lighting, uneven floors and trailing cables

Do



- ✓ Clear up spills immediately
- ✓ Check there are no trailing cables, obstructions or damaged floors which could trip people up
- ✓ Take care when using stairs and keep a firm hold of the handrail, especially when descending
- ✓ Keep floors tidy and don't leave things lying on the floor - pick them up
- ✓ Put waste bins in a safe place and keep walkways or passageways clear at all times
- ✓ Exercise caution when walking over washed or waxed floors

Don't



- ✗ Stand and hold a conversation on stairways
- ✗ Leave materials and cables in areas people may walk
- ✗ Forget to put up warning signs such as wet floor etc
- ✗ Ignore tripping hazards – eliminate them where you can



Document Name	TBT 69 Slips, Trips & Falls	Document No	FM/HS/TBT/071
Document Owner	Stuart Care	Date of Issue	13/01/2017
Classification	Internal Use	Version No	01