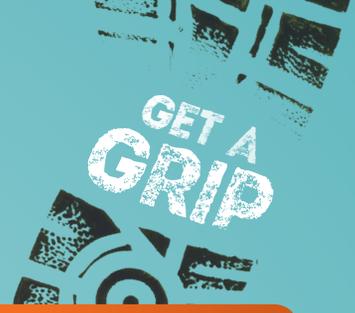


SAFETY CONVERSATION

SC2 - Weather & Environment



WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO LEARN

In this safety conversation you will learn about risks of slips, trips and falls associated with weather and other environmental factors. In this country we very often talk about the weather, so **Getting a Grip** on this topic should be a breeze!

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- **Weather - Outdoor** - Parking areas and grounds can be particularly dangerous, especially during the winter time. An uneven surface like raised pavements, tree roots, or pot holes are common tripping hazards and should be reported immediately. However, combined with darkness, snow, leaves and other obstructions may not always be seen, and that's why you need to be more cautious and try to avoid walking on ice, snow, mud or fallen leaves. Take it slowly and allow yourself extra time to get from A to B, so you don't rush. **Keep your hands out of your pockets and avoid using your phone when walking** - this increases your balance and can help to break your fall if you do start to slip.
- **Weather - Indoor** - Traction on the outside can change considerably when weather conditions change. Those conditions can then affect indoor surfaces as moisture, mud or leaves can be tracked in by pedestrian traffic. Water dripping from clothes and umbrellas on rainy days can also cause slips and falls on some floor surfaces. Ensure you are more cautious when entering the building during wet and snowy conditions. **Be mindful of others and clear any spillages and debris immediately.**
- **Environment** - Things such as lighting, humidity, condensation can increase the risk of slips, trips and falls. Too much or too little light can prevent us from seeing hazards on the floor and stairs. Condensation can make a smooth floor slippery. It is very important you are aware of the environment you work in, and that **any faults or issues are reported, or where possible sorted right away.**

FOLLOW RULES

- Report all incidents and near misses
- Don't take shortcuts over grass or areas which are likely to become slippery when wet



BE MINDFUL

- Keep an eye for what is underfoot, especially during wet and icy conditions
- Wipe your feet well when entering buildings



SPEAK OUT

- Ensure you communicate any found hazards with your manager and colleagues
- Report to your manager any unsafe behaviours



GET INVOLVED

- Ensure you know your responsibilities when it comes to adverse weather
- Become a safety champion and lead by example



PUTTING WHAT YOU'VE LEARNT INTO PRACTICE

Preparing for the inclement weather conditions will help to eliminate slip, trips and falls hazards. So, are we winter ready? Discuss with your team:

- Is there a procedure in place for removing leaves / ice at regular intervals?
- Who is responsible for clearing the walkways / parking area?
- What can we do to reduce the risk of slips, trips and falls caused by environmental factors?