

ZRS Safety Huddle Guide

Slip, Trips and Falls at the Same Level

Why this matters

- **Cost savings** - According to 2023 Zurich claims data, 34% of all claims were related to Slip/Trip/Fall injuries and cost, on average, \$50k each. This does not include the indirect costs of each claim.
- **Productivity** - When a worker suffers an injury due to a slip/trip/fall, it can lead to time loss, reduced productivity, increased overtime, more work for crew members, and increased work disruption.
- **Morale** - Workers generally come to work to be productive. An unorganized construction site can create a sense of inconsideration by workers. An unorganized site can also lead to poor communication among workers and supervisors which may result in misunderstandings, delays, and poor decision-making and can further decrease worker morale.
- **Reputation** - Slip/Trip/Fall accidents can harm the reputation of an organization. Project owners, and even workers, may perceive a company as unsafe if frequent preventable accidents occur on their job sites.

Slip/Trip/Fall Related Injuries are 100% preventable



Best Practices

To prevent slip, trip, and fall injuries, here are some best practices to consider:

- Site-specific illumination
- Footwear policy and assessment of walking surfaces
- Cord and hose management plan
- Seasonal hazards (snow/ice/rain)
- Clear signage
- Employee training on site-specific written material handling plan
- Daily clean-up at the end of each day
- Review look-ahead and daily project schedules to reduce trade stacking
- Site logistics planning and Just-In-Time deliveries
- Ongoing housekeeping inspections
- Delineate public access and walkways and inspect daily

Lessons Learned

- A worker exited a scissor lift and fell when he stepped on rolling stock. The worker sustained a shoulder strain.
- A worker was carrying materials and tripped over a 5-gallon container of paint and fell, injuring his rotator cuff. The employee was off work for six months.
- A worker was climbing down into a trench when he tripped on a frozen dirt clod. There was no other access into the trench. The worker suffered a meniscus tear and was off work for several months.
- A worker was texting while walking on site and tripped on uneven ground. The worker was not injured but reported the near miss so that a ramp could be installed.

Discussion

- What are the leading causes of slip and fall accidents?
- What is the best way to manage hoses, wires, cords and cables?
- What kind of footwear/boots are required on this site?
- What are the requirements of hole covers?
- What is more common? Slips or Trips?
- What are other ways to prevent slip/trip/falls exposures other than formal signage?
- What is the best way to prevent slip/trip/falls on stairways?
- What should you do if you slip and fall on the job? Should you tell anyone?
- What can you do to prevent slip/trip/fall hazards on this project?

Daily safety briefings are used to identify S/T/F hazards.

The foreman and crew should develop a plan to reduce or eliminate these risks before work.

Attendance Form

Safety Meeting Sign in Sheet

Topic: _____ Date: _____

Trainer: _____ Location: _____

Print Name	Signature
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Comments/Feedback:

Contact us to learn more:

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