

# SLIPS AND TRIPS

Preventing slips and trips is crucial for ensuring workplace safety. These incidents are among the leading causes of workplace injuries, occurring not only at various heights on scaffolding but also on stairs and level surfaces both onsite and offsite.

### **Hazards**

Most injuries from slips and trips result from poor housekeeping practices which often involve:

- Leaving obstacles and construction materials lying around.
- Uneven surfaces or uncovered holes in the ground.
- Allowing general rubbish and waste to accumulate.
- Slippery substances such as oil and grease or mud on ladder rungs.
- Inadequate lighting makes it difficult to identify potential hazards during early mornings or late afternoons.
- Walking without paying attention.

## What you should do

- Always be aware of your surroundings, focusing on your route and tasks.
- Actively manage potential hazards by reporting, removing, or avoiding them. "See It, Sort It, Report It."

- Keep scaffolding boards, treads, steps, footholds, and scaffold platforms clean and dry.
- Promptly address and contain any spills to prevent them entering any nearby drains or watercourses.
- Improve walking surfaces by re-coating or replacing floors and installing mats.
- Clean any mud, snow, ice, grease, or other slippery materials from footwear before using ladders or stairs.
- Wear well-fitting footwear with a solid grip and good tread.
- Ensure clear visibility ahead when carrying materials, ensuring that your path and surroundings are visible.
- Alert others to inadequate or faulty lighting.
- Be cautious of uneven floors, holes, wet areas, or recently cleaned surfaces that might be slippery.

### **Further Considerations**

 Remember: it is everyone's responsibility to contribute to a safer workplace by adhering to these guidelines, reducing the incidence of slips and trips in our operations.

#### **Further information**

- Alltask Ltd Environmental policy.
- NASC Guidance Note SG31:20 Management of Slips & Trips