Keep Your Footing on Slippery Surfaces

Don’t risk a serious injury! Follow these guidelines to stay safe around wet surfaces.

Slips are one of the most preventable yet prevalent workplace injuries. While it is simple to clean up a spill or put up a caution sign, it is not as simple to heal a broken bone. Keep safety in mind during wet weather or when working with liquids.

Wet surfaces always present a workplace hazard, and account for many injuries in the transportation industry. Slick warehouse floors require extra caution whether they are caused by rain, cleaning and accident spills or wet winter conditions. Slipping on a wet surface can result in bruises, strains and sprains, lacerations, fractures, head trauma and even fatality. And all that stacks up to lost wages, too.

Take Action

When you see that an indoor work surface has gotten wet, act immediately to dry it or find an alternate workspace. Follow these general guidelines to protect our team from serious injury:

* Clean up spills immediately.
* Use caution signs to clearly identify when a surface is wet or likely to become wet and remove the signs as soon as the surface is dry.
* Barricade affected areas where possible.
* Use sand or salt on wet walking surfaces that cannot be avoided.
* Check for equipment and electrical currents that may not be grounded and wires that are not insulated.
* Use floor mats at entrances and exits of covered areas to reduce tracking in water from outside.
* Ensure good drainage to prevent standing water and speed drying.
* Use pumps to disperse water.
* Be sure to wear shoes and boots with slip-resistant soles, and clean them if they become muddy.
* Report any spills or wet areas that you notice to your supervisor.

Anti-slip Tips

If you cannot avoid walking on a wet surface, follow these tips to avoid slipping and falling.

* Slow down! Rushing is not worth a serious injury and lost wages.
* Take small steps to keep your balance centered.
* Walk with your feet pointed slightly outward to form a stable base.
* Make wide turns at corners.
* Use handrails if present.
* Concentrate on the surface you are walking on.
* Be prepared for slippery patches.
* Keep your hands out for balance.

Speak Up

We care about your safety at SAMPLE COMPANY. If you have any doubt about the safety of your worksite, whether it concerns a wet surface or another hazard, talk to your supervisor. It takes the cooperation of our entire team to keep our worksite safe.