



# Toolbox Talk

## *Slips, Trips and Falls*

Slips, trips and falls are one of the most common cause of injuries for workers and injuries can happen in a number of ways, for example:

- unmarked changes in floor levels
- slipping on a wet floor (which is wet because something is spilt on it, or because of weather conditions or cleaning processes)
- poor housekeeping and obstructed views – leading to people tripping over loose carpet, mats, trailing cables, boxes or bags
- damaged flooring including stairs
- not using stair hand rails
- cramped conditions and poor work flow (eg desks too close together)
- standing on unstable furniture
- poor lighting.

### **What can you do?**

First you must always eliminate the risk where you're reasonably able to. Where you're not reasonably able to, then you need to consider what you can do to minimise the risk. Here are some examples:

- Keep your work and storage areas tidy.
- Ensure you use designated walkways and report if they are in bad condition under foot, not signposted or adequately lit.
- Use mechanical lifting aids rather than carrying heavy or unwieldy loads that block the view ahead.
- Ensure you wear appropriate footwear with good grip.
- Plan any deliveries to minimise the amount of materials on site.
- Make sure you use the designated areas for waste collection, skips and bins.
- Use cordless tools where possible. If you need to use cables for temporary lighting or power tools, run the cables at a high level.
- Make sure you signpost any slippery areas and report them as soon as possible.



**Signature**

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