



TOOLBOX TALK: SLIPS, TRIPS, AND FALLS

Slips, trips, and falls make up a large portion of workplace injuries and are some of the leading causes of workers' compensation claims in Missouri. Some common contributing factors to slip, trip, and fall injuries include:

SLIPS

- Wet spills (water, mud, grease, oil, blood, chemicals)
- Dry spills (powder, dust, wood chips, granules)
- Weather hazards (ice, snow)
- Sloped or uneven walking surfaces
- Unsuitable footwear
- Floor surfaces without skid or slip-resistant surfaces



TRIPS

- Clutter
- Obstructed view
- Poor lighting
- Loose or curled rugs, mats, and floor coverings
- Missing or loose floor tiles and bricks
- Cables, wires, hoses, and extension cords
- Protruding objects (open drawers, cabinets, doors)
- Uneven flooring/stairs
- Change in work surface/elevation



FALLS

- Unprotected edges
- Failure to use guardrails on scaffolding
- Not using appropriate equipment
- Lack of handrails
- Weak or damaged ladders
- Use of ladders in unsafe positions
- Carrying heavy objects



SLIP, TRIP, AND FALL HAZARDS OCCUR IN VIRTUALLY EVERY INDUSTRY AND CAN OCCUR NOT ONLY ON ELEVATED SURFACES BUT EVEN ON LEVEL SURFACES. THE KEY IS IDENTIFICATION AND PREVENTION:

- Keep workroom floors clean, orderly, and dry
- Provide safe means of entering and exiting from walking surfaces
- Inspect the working surface to keep it in good condition
- Repair hazardous floors as soon as possible
- Other human factors that contribute to slip and trip injuries are rushing and inattentiveness.
- Talk to employees about the importance of slowing down, paying attention, and keeping their eyes on the task.

I understand the information presented and the importance of identifying and preventing slip, trip, and fall hazards before an injury occurs.

COMPANY: _____

EMPLOYEE NAME:

DATE: _____

EMPLOYEE SIGNATURE:

LEARN MORE WAYS TO KEEP YOUR WORKPLACE SAFE.
VISIT safeatwork.mo.gov.

