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Did You Know?

Highway incidents accounted for more than 1 out of every 5 fatal accidents in 2010.
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The rate of fatal work injuries in 2010 was 3.5 fatal work injuries per 100,000 workers.
**

4547 individuals lost their lives as a result of a work-related injury in 2010.
**

In 2009, hand tool incidents resulted in 6,590 injuries in the construction industry.

Source: OSHA.gov, 2011 BLS & National Safety Council, "Injury Fact" 2011

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Slips, Trips & Falls in Public Places

Slips and falls in public places are far and away the leading cause of premise liability injuries. Each year more than 3-million foodservice employees and 1-million guests are injured as a result of a slip and fall accident. **The Center for Disease Control (CDC) estimates that by the year 2020, the annual cost of fall injuries is expected to reach \$54.9 billion. It is estimated that the food service industry alone will spend more than \$2 billion each year for such injuries.**

For hospitality and general industry alike, even a minor slip, trip or fall related injury can result in a hefty payout.

The causes of these incidents are well understood and include: lack of slip resistance on walking surfaces, improper floor maintenance, poor walking surface conditions, lack of hand and guardrails, improper walking transitions, distractions, such as displays and advertisements, poor housekeeping, such as cluttered walkways and poor material storage.

Recommendations:

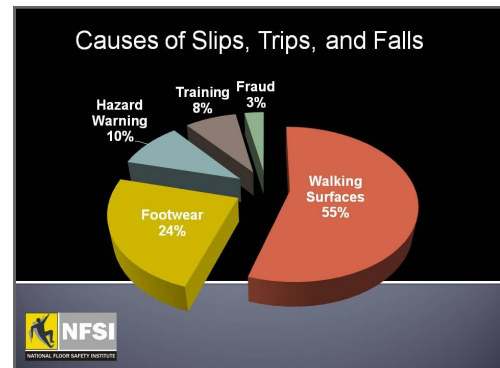
1. Select high traction, slip resistant flooring material when building, expanding or remodeling facilities.
2. Know what the out of box slip resistance is on the floor materials in a facility. They should conform to NFSI/ANSI slip resistance measurements.
3. Select floor treatment, cleaning and maintenance products with proven slip resistance characteristics that are certified by the National Floor Safety Institute.
4. Be alert for workers substituting cleaning material or supplies.
5. Ensure that floor cleaning and maintenance products are applied in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.
6. Verify with cleaning personnel that they are familiar with and are using the correct cleaning and maintenance product application procedures.
7. Remove any unauthorized or incompatible cleaning and maintenance products and educate staff on potentially dangerous consequences of using the wrong products on flooring surfaces.
8. Separate cleaning and maintenance materials and equipment between the heavily soiled areas, such as food and service areas.
9. Ensure that permanently installed features, like

carpet runners and mats, are included in the maintenance and housekeeping program. These items should be regularly inspected for buildup of contaminants that could lead to slip, trip or fall hazards.

10. Limit the difference in height between floor surfaces and mats to no more than 1/4" to 1/2" while frequently inspecting mats to ensure they have not buckled or curled.

11. Make sure each area has good lighting. Good visibility is essential—don't forget parking areas, stairways and loading docks.

12. Regularly review all slip-and-fall incident reports associated with a facility and understand the critical factors associated with them. Focus staff training on cleaning procedures and how to properly respond to a slip, trip or fall incident.



13. A walkway audit program can help identify trends within a facility that can result in slip resistance of flooring surfaces.

14. Make sure stairs comply with local building codes and that nosing's are easy to see.

15. Institute a program to regularly inspect all walkways, parking areas, stairs and indoor walking surfaces for condition and maintenance.

16. Maintain surveillance of potentially slippery areas and clean up spills before anyone falls. Instruct maintenance personnel to use "wet floor" signs to mark contaminated areas until the contaminants can be cleaned up.

Source: InControl Slips, Trips and Falls for Real Estate Industry. National Floor Safety Institute. April, 2011. Restaurant slip and fall prevention

New Guidance Helps Construction Employers & Workers Prevent Nail Gun Injuries:

Washington - The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) have developed new guidance, *Nail Gun Safety - A Guide for Construction Contractors*, to help construction employers and workers prevent work-related nail gun injuries.

How likely are nail gun injuries? **"Nail gun injuries are responsible for approximately 37,000 emergency visits annually."** A study of apprentice carpenters found that: 2 out of 5 were injured using a nail gun during their 4 years of training. "In some cases, workers have even died from their injuries," said Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health Dr. David Michaels. "This document will help construction employers make necessary changes to improve nail gun safety and protect their workers from preventable injuries and death."

Six Steps to Nail Gun Safety:

1. Use the full sequential trigger. The full sequential trigger is always the safest trigger mechanism for the job. It reduces the risk of unintentional nail discharge and double fires including injuries from bumping into co-workers.
2. Provide training. Be sure training includes the following items: How the nail gun works and how triggers differ, main causes of injuries-especially those among different trigger types, instructions provided by the manufacturer, how to properly load the nail gun and what to do when a nail gun malfunctions.
3. Establish nail gun work procedures. Make sure that manufacturers manuals are available, understood and followed. Check tools and power sources before operating, recognize the dangers of awkward positions working at heights which may take extra time and precautions. Don't ever bypass or disable nail gun safety features, encourage workers to keep their fingers off the trigger

when holding or carrying a nail gun, never lower the nail gun from above or drag the tool by the house and never use the nail gun with the non-dominant hand.

4. Provide personal protective equipment (PPE). Protective equipment for workers using nail guns should include hard hats, high impact eye protection and hearing protection— safety glasses or goggles marked ANSI Z87.1 and earplugs or earmuffs.
5. Encourage reporting and discussion of injuries and close calls. It helps identify unrecognized jobsite risk that could lead to additional injuries.
6. Provide first aid and medical treatment. **1 out of every 4 nail gun hand injuries can involve some type of structural damage such as bone fracture.** Materials such as nail strip glue or plastic or even clothing can get embedded in the injury and lead to infection. Barbs on the nail can cause secondary injury if the nail is removed incorrectly.

Source and for more info visit : www.osha.gov/SLTC/etools.html

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Energy Drink Facts

- Energy drinks were not designed to quench thirst and contain as much as six times the caffeine of soda.
- They do not hydrate the body; in fact they cause dehydration through excess sweat production and frequent urination.
- They can cause an imbalance in electrolytes.
- Consuming high doses of caffeine can disrupt normal sleep patterns and cause you to feel less rested in the morning.
- Caffeine raises the heart rate and when consumed in high quantities may cause death from altered heart rhythm.
- Most energy drinks contain Niacin which can intensify the risks of heart related illnesses.

OSHA NEWS: OSHA STEPS UP ENFORCMENT:

OSHA is stepping up compliance across the country. Here are some quick facts:

- Willful citations are up 217%.
- Average penalties have almost doubled in the last year.
- Multi-employer citations are on the rise.
- OSHA is now looking at a 5 year history rather than a 3 year history when writing repeat citations.
- Over 60% of OSHA's new severe violators enforcement program consist of contractors.

Source: www.OSHA.gov

Fatality Reports

- Worker taking measurements while walking backwards on a roof died after falling 30 feet without fall protection. Houston, TX. 09/03/11.
- Worker using an aerial lift to detach rigging was killed when a derrick hit the aerial lift basket, throwing the worker 20 feet. Houston, TX. 09/07/11.
- Worker was electrocuted when he plugged in a floor fan into an outlet while standing in water. Canton, OH. 09/08/11.
- Worker suffocated after being engulfed in corn inside a grain bin. Dickens, IA. 09/06/11.
- Worker died after falling more than 6 feet through an unprotected hatch door in a wind tower. Ocheyedan, IA. 08/22/11.
- Worker was struck and killed by a golf cart. Fort Mill, S.C. 8/24/11.
- Worker was working on a press and the cable snapped, crushing his head. Milwaukee ,WI. 8/30/11.
- Worker died when caught between rollers while working on a textile machine. Liberty, SC. 08/31/11.
- Worker repairing a lathe machine was killed when his head was caught between a junction box and piece of iron. Ville Platte, LA. 08/24/11.
- Worker serving as a flagger was struck by a car. Beaumont, TX. 08/17/11.

Source: www.OSHA.gov