Trip Injuries and Prevention Stats and Facts

FACTS

- 1. Slips and falls do not constitute a primary cause of fatal occupational injuries, but represent the primary cause of lost days from work.
- 2. People working in predominantly wet conditions should wear footwear with a pattern that is deep enough to penetrate surface water and make direct contact with a floor. However, people working in predominantly dry conditions should use footwear having flat-bottom construction to ensure maximum contact area with the floor.
- 3. Ten common slipping hazards include spills of liquid or solid materials; wet cleaning methods; rain or snow inside doorways; changes in floor surfaces, such as joins between carpeting and wood flooring; a change from a wet to a dry surface; dusty or sandy surfaces; the incline of a ramp; loose/bumpy flooring; low light; and unsuitable footwear.
- 4. Five housekeeping practices that can help reduce slipping hazards in the workplace include removal of debris, snow and ice; prompt cleanup of spills; regular cleaning of floors; providing mats in areas prone to getting wet—such as building entrances; and cleaning the casters on wheeled carts.
- 5. It takes about seven minutes for a wet-mopped spill to dry, meaning that the area is going to be extremely slippery during that time.
- 6. According to the American Trucking Association, slips and falls are the leading cause of compensable injury in the trucking industry.
- 7. Falls occur in virtually all manufacturing and service sectors.

STATS

- •57% of deaths from ladders occur in the construction industry.
- 43% of deaths from slips, trips, and falls occur in the construction industry.
- 20% of falls on the same level are due to trips and 13% are due to slips.
- 11% of falls to a lower level happen when someone falls through a surface or existing opening.
- According to the United States Department of Labor, there has been an increase of over nine percent of fatal slip, trip, and fall accidents from 2013 to 2014.
- The Department of Labor issued a preliminary count of 793 fatal slip, trip, and fall accidents in 2014 (across all industries). Construction sees the highest frequency of both fatal and non-fatal slip, trip, and fall accidents.
- 37% of all reported workplace injuries were as a result of a slip, trip or fall, with 28% of all fatalities in the workplace being caused by a slip, trip or fall.
- On average approximately 50 people die each year from a slip, trip or fall and a great many more are injured some critically.