

# Slip, Trip and Fall

## Training Program



Presented by: Gallagher Bassett Services, Inc.



## Introduction

- ❖ Slips, trips, and falls are among the most common accidents that occur in the workplace.
- ❖ According to the NSC, slips, trips, and falls account for:
  - 15% of all accidental deaths
  - 20% of all disabling injuries
- ❖ Every year, falls cause an estimated 564,000 disabling injuries.
- ❖ A large number of people receive disabling injuries just from falling down the stairs.





## Introduction

- ❖ If the injuries are severe:
  - Large medical bills
  - Loss of wages because of lost work time
  
- ❖ Prevent such accidents and injuries in the workplace:
  - Identify responsibilities of both employees and management in reducing the incidence of slips, trips and falls in the workplace



## Objectives

- ❖ After successfully completing this course you will be able to:
  - Recognize the costs associated with slip, trip, and fall related injuries, and the scope of the problem.
  - Identify the leading causes for slip, trip, and fall injuries associated with the physical workplace environment.
  - Identify the leading causes for slip, trip, and fall injuries associated with employee behaviors.



## Objectives

- ❖ After completing this course you will also be able to:
  - Understand employer responsibilities associated with preventing slips, trips, and falls in the workplace.
  - Recognize actions employees should take to reduce risk for slip, trip, and fall related injuries in the workplace.



## Causes of Slips, Trips and Falls

- ❖ To help prevent slips, trips, and falls in the workplace, we must be aware of the causes.
- ❖ These accidents occur because of:
  - Unsafe physical conditions on property.
  - Unsafe acts by team members.





## Unsafe Physical Conditions

- ❖ Many fall injuries are caused by unsafe physical conditions such as:
  - Poor lighting
  - Objects that are not put in a proper place
  - Walkways with inadequate clearance and overhead obstacles
  - Dead-end corridors



## Unsafe Physical Conditions

- ❖ Many of the accidents due to unsafe physical conditions occur:
  - On the floor
  - In the stairway
  - While working on an elevated area





## Unsafe Physical Conditions

### ❖ On the floor:

- Uneven floors or holes in floors
- Worn out floor coverings that are not replaced
- Slippery floors caused by oil spills, water, ice, etc.
- Waxed floors or floors with smooth tiles that are slippery

### ❖ In the stairway:

- Steep or irregular stairs
- Low handrails on stairs



## Unsafe Physical Conditions

### ❖ While working on an elevated area:

- Absence of guard rails or toe boards on raised work platforms or floors
- Unsafe ladders and stools
- Unsafe angle of a ramp or ladder





## Identify Who is Responsible

*Who is responsible for these unsafe physical conditions in the workplace?*

- ❖ We all have a responsibility to provide a safe workplace.
- ❖ Ensure that the facility and equipment are safe.
- ❖ The following conditions are the responsibility of the employer:

- Damaged floors
- Stairways
- Absence of handrails



## Identify Who is Responsible

*Employees all have a major role in preventing unsafe physical conditions.*

- ❖ Ensure that there are no obstructions in the walkways and stairwells.
- ❖ Follow appropriate safety procedures while using ladders and work platforms.
- ❖ Report unsafe conditions such as:

- Damaged floors
- Floor coverings
- Inadequate lighting
- Unsafe stairs





## Unsafe Employee Acts

*Many slip, trip and fall injuries are caused by the carelessness of employees.*

- ❖ Some employee acts that cause slip, trip and fall accidents include:
  - Running up or down stairs
  - Rushing around to get things done
  - Carrying very large objects that reduce visibility
  - Not removing things that block walkways
  - Horseplay
  - Not taking adequate precautions while using ladders



## Unsafe Conditions and Unsafe Acts

- ❖ Tim tripped on a bucket left by another employee in a poorly lit corridor.
- ❖ Was this accident caused by an:
  - unsafe physical condition or an
  - unsafe employee act?



*The inadequate lighting was an unsafe physical condition.*

*The bucket left in the corridor was an unsafe employee act.*



## Unsafe Conditions and Unsafe Acts

- ❖ Most fall injuries are caused by a combination of unsafe physical conditions and unsafe employee acts.



## Preventing Falls

- ❖ Both management and employees have to work together to ensure a safe workplace.
- ❖ A good slip, trip and fall prevention program will help reduce injuries in the workplace.







## Responsibilities of Employers and Employees

<u>Responsibilities</u>	
Employer	Employee
The facilities and equipment are safe	Follow good housekeeping practices and all the safety rules
The housekeeping practices and safety rules are well-defined	Wear appropriate clothes and fall protection



## Employer Responsibilities

- ❖ We must ensure that the floors and floor covering are not damaged.
- ❖ We must also take special precautions if the workplace activities involve:
  - Spray painting
  - Chemical sprays or mists
  - Dusts
  - Vapors
  - Other operations that create slippery conditions.





## Employer Responsibilities

### ❖ We must also ensure that:

- All walkways and working surfaces are free from fall hazards.
- All access routes, especially stairwells and exits, must be free of obstructions.
- Equipment and machinery such as forklifts and conveyors should not obstruct walkways.
- All elevated working spaces such as raised floors and work platforms must have guardrails.
- The railings are high enough to provide prevention for falls.



## Employer Responsibilities

### ❖ In addition, we must also ensure that:

- The stairs and ladders are not worn or broken.
- The parking and other external areas are free from fall hazards.
- There is adequate lighting, especially near stairwells and confined spaces.
- PPE such as hard hats and shoes with rubber soles that help prevent fall injuries are available and in good condition.



## Employee Responsibilities

- ❖ We can avoid many slips, trips, and falls by practicing good housekeeping:
  - Put away things in their proper places.
  - Don't leave anything lying around, especially in aisles and near stairwells.
  - Don't leave power cords, cables or hoses in walkways.
  - Never leave drawers open.
  - Mop any leaks, spills, or drips immediately.
  - To avoid slips due to icy floors, sand or salt the area.



## Employee Responsibilities

- ❖ Don't rush
- ❖ Use railings for support
- ❖ Be on alert for:
  - Damaged stairs
  - Floors
  - Floor coverings





## Employee Responsibilities

- ❖ Avoid carrying objects that prevent you from seeing ahead.
- ❖ Don't work or move around in the dark.
- ❖ Use flashlights.

*These practices are your responsibility.*

*We must all do our part to create a safe workplace!*



## Employee Responsibilities

- ❖ We must be dressed appropriately for our workplace to prevent fall injuries:
  - We must not wear clothes that are too tight or too loose.
  - We must wear comfortable footwear that doesn't skid.



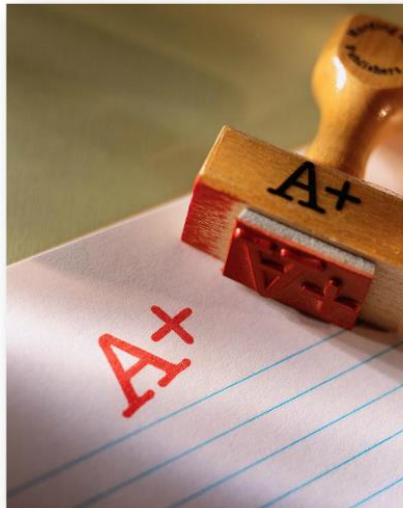


## Employee Responsibilities

- ❖ Visitors are often exposed to or cause fall injuries.
- ❖ Post warning signs to indicate potential fall hazards.
- ❖ Be alert to any new potential hazards and report anything that could cause a slip, trip, or fall to the supervisor.



## Quiz





Thank you

If you have any questions about slips, trips and falls, or the content of this presentation, please contact your Gallagher Bassett Loss Control Consultant.



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