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HEALTH SAFETY ENVIRONMENTAL



Alert #: SA 42-25

Date: October 13, 2025

Trip Hazards and Walking/Working Surfaces

The Hazard

Trips and falls continue to be one of the leading causes of workplace injuries—often resulting in sprains, fractures, and lost time incidents.

Most of these incidents happen **on level ground** and are **completely preventable**.

Common Causes

- Uneven or cluttered walking surfaces
- Tools, materials, or cords left in walkways
- Wet, oily, or muddy surfaces
- Unsecured floor mats or grating
- Poor lighting or obscured pathways
- Damaged or missing handrails, steps, or platforms

Safe Work Practices

Keep It Clear: Maintain clean, organized pathways at all times. Pick up hoses, cords, and tools immediately after use.

Inspect Before You Step: Walk your area before starting work. Identify holes, uneven ground, or temporary obstructions.

Stay Alert: Avoid distractions like phones when walking on site.

Report Hazards: Notify supervision immediately about damaged floors, loose mats, or lighting issues.

Use Designated Walkways: Never shortcut through work zones or areas not intended for foot traffic.

Housekeeping Matters: Regularly clean up debris, mud, or fluids that can cause slips or trips.

OSHA 29 CFR 1910.22(a) States: “All places of employment, passageways, storerooms, and service rooms shall be kept clean, orderly, and in a sanitary condition.”

GIS Company Policies **LLCP-115 Walking and Working Surfaces** and **LLCP-080 Housekeeping and Work Conditions** cover these OSHA Regulations.

Remember - A few seconds of prevention can save weeks of pain and lost time.
Watch your step—the ground beneath you deserves your attention.



SAFETY ALERT