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Alert #: SA 5-16

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Trip Hazards & Material Handling



This safety alert stems from a recent incident where two pieces of scaffold bar were being carried by one employee in a congested area. The employee tripped and was unable to catch his balance because both of his hands were carrying material.

What have we learned from this incident?

When working in congested areas and areas where movement is restricted caution must be taken. It is important to identify these congested areas that may make it difficult to carry and handle material. Once we have identified these areas we must make sure to get help handling materials. GIS' recommended best practice is that employees have a free hand when working in congested areas in the event that a trip hazard is presented.

THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- Stop and upgrade hazard identification when job scope changes
- Get assistance when carrying awkward loads or an abundance of material
- When carrying materials in a congested area, be sure to visually scan pathway for obstructions



SAFETY ALERT