

## Slips, Trips and Falls

More than a third of injuries to employees at work are caused by slips, trips and falls, making it the most common cause of injury in the workplace.

Around half of major or specific injuries that must be reported to the HSE are due to slips, trips or falls.

### Whose responsibility?

It is not just down to the employer to reduce the numbers of slips, trips and falls hazards. **Everyone is responsible for doing so.**

Sorting the problem is often simple and cheap and can lead to other benefits.

Most slips, trips and falls happen because of poor housekeeping.

We are all responsible for keeping a good standard of housekeeping on any site or in any office.

A good system will help identify areas where there are issues and can help decide what actions should be taken.

### Slips, Trips and Falls Hazards

All of the following can cause slips, trips and falls

- Coiled cables
- Hand tools
- Piping or timber
- Rubbish
- Spills, such as oils or grease
- Slopes
- Debris such as bricks or blocks
- Trailing cables
- Site hoses
- Mud left on the rungs of ladders
- Poor light
- Unsuitable footwear
- Changing from wet to dry weather

### What can you do to help?

- Clear up waste as you create it
- Do not leave tools, materials or equipment lying around
- Store materials correctly and in the right storage area
- Clear up spillages promptly and correctly – if you are using a substance that may spill, have the clear up equipment to hand before you start the work

