

Avoiding Slips and Falls

Slips and falls account for many work related injuries. Employees should be on the lookout for unsafe conditions that could lead to slips and falls and report them immediately.

DO YOUR PART

Slips and falls account for many work-related injuries. It is important that employees are able to spot unsafe conditions that could lead to slips and falls, and do what they can to prevent them.

There are various ways to suffer slips and falls while working. Employees can slip and lose their balance, trip over objects left in the walkway or simply fall from an elevated position to the ground. To avoid slips and falls, have employees be on the lookout for foreign substances on the floor, such as:

- Deposits of water or ice
- Food or beverages
- Grease or oil
- Sawdust
- Soap
- Other manufacturing debris

Even small quantities are enough to make employees fall.

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING TIPS

Employees need to beware of tripping hazards. Below are some suggested housekeeping tips:

- Employees should avoid running, walk safely and avoid changing directions too sharply.
- When employees are entering a building from outside or from debris areas, they should clean their footwear thoroughly.
- Snowy and rainy weather requires a doormat at each entrance to allow for wiping of shoes.
- Trash, unused materials or any object left in aisles designed for pedestrian traffic invites falls.
- Extension cords, tools, carts and other items should be removed or properly barricaded off.
- If equipment or supplies are left in walkways, employees should report it so the proper personnel can remove it.
- Have employees keep passageways clean of debris by using trash barrels and recycling bins.

WHAT TO DO IF SOMEONE SLIPS, TRIPS OR FALLS



- 1 Assist the injured person in finding medical treatment. Call an ambulance if necessary.
- 2 Record the names and contact information of any witnesses. Obtain and record detailed descriptions of the incident from the victim and witnesses.
- 3 Refer any discussions with the claimant to your insurer. **NEVER ADMIT LIABILITY!**
- 4 Take pictures of the area where the incident occurred. If possible, photograph the footwear that the injured person was wearing.
- 5 Document the incident. This may help to establish a defense for a claim presented at a later date and help your insurer analyze the cause of the incident.
- 6 Report the incident to your insurer. Provide them with:
a. Details of the incident
b. Information about what you did to avoid the incident.
- 7 Investigate potential causes and take steps to prevent and/or respond better to similar incidents in the future.

PRACTICE PREVENTION

Employees need to beware of tripping hazards. Below are some suggested preventative Slip and Fall measures:

- Make sure employees are walking in designated walking areas as short cuts through machine or other manufacturing areas can cause accidents
- Employees should concentrate on where they are going – horseplay and inattention leaves them vulnerable to unsafe conditions.
- Have employees hold on to handrails when using stairs or ramps – they are there to help them if they fall.
- If they are carrying a heavy load that hampers their ability to properly ascend or descend stairs, they should use the elevator or find help.

The worst falls are from elevated positions such as ladders, and can result in serious injury or death. Employees need to learn and practice ladder safety and the proper use of scaffolding. For example:

- When climbing, use a ladder of proper length that is in good condition, keep it placed on a firm surface, and not climb a ladder placed on machinery, crates, stock or boxes.
- Employees should keep the ladder's base one-fourth meter away from the wall for every one meter of height and not overreach (They need to always have control of their balance when working from a ladder).
- Employee should never climb a ladder with their hands full, and always transport tools in their proper carrying devices.

Slips and falls occur every day. The extent of injuries and their recurrence can be minimized through proper safety knowledge, good housekeeping and practicing prevention.



Even if you take all the right precautions, incidents can still occur. Contact Lloyd Sadd today to learn about your coverage options when it comes to Real Estate risks.

LOCAL TOUCH

Founded in 1941, Lloyd Sadd is built on relationships. With the client at the center of all we do, we take a holistic approach to our service model.

- Service team specialized in the clients industry that have a 360 degree view of your account
- "Ownership" of accounts through employee empowerment and accountability
- Cohesive, streamlined communication with all team members aligned

NATIONAL STRENGTH

Navacord is a national insurance brokerage offering risk management and consulting solutions for commercial and personal insurance, surety, employee benefits and retirement consulting. Navacord is one of Canada's largest commercial insurance brokers with over \$1 Billion in revenue and teams of industry specialized advisors.

As a Navacord Broker Partner, one of Canada's largest commercial brokers, Lloyd Sadd offers increased sector expertise, expanded product offerings and stronger relationships with insurance companies.

LET US HELP YOU MANAGE YOUR RISK

10240 124 Street Suite 700
Edmonton, AB T5N 3W6
1.800.665.5243

lloydsadd.com
navacord.com
info@lloydsadd.com