

SLIPS TRIPS AND FALLS

On Windfarms and other remote and isolated locations

Recently there have been several incidents, including RIDDOR's, on Galliford Try sites attributed to slips trips and falls - some of these incidents occurred on Windfarms.

Every year in construction many injuries occur due to slips trips and falls. Most of these injuries could have been easily prevented with a little care. This TBT covers some of the main reasons for the incidents and preventative measures that can be taken to reduce the likelihood of an injury especially when walking over soft, uneven or rough ground.



Some Common Causes of SLIPS, TRIPS and FALLS;

Poor house keeping

- Leaving materials and work equipment in the work area e.g. on scaffolds or walkways
- Leaving surplus materials in the work area e.g. timber off-cuts, concrete blocks, packaging, etc
- Cable, air lines and hose management
- Spilt materials

Soft and uneven ground

- Areas where timber has been harvested where furrows and ditches are hidden and felled timber and roots become slippery when wet
- Boggy, Muddy or rocky areas of the site.
- Steep banking or ground
- In and around borrow pits or quarries

Other causes

- Poor or inadequate lighting
- Snow, ice and strong wind
- Glair from the sun
- Poor edge protection or safe access for working at height e.g. unloading deliveries

DO



- Keep the site tidy remember "A Tidy Site Is A Safe Site"
- Wear supportive safety footwear when working on uneven ground
- Pick your route carefully and avoid possible hazards - this is not always the quickest route.
- Use the safe access provided and make sure your footwear is free from mud when using ladders or climbing onto plant.
- Follow the safe systems in the M/S & R/A
- Be aware of your surroundings and the activities being carried out on your site.
- Pay attention at the first ten minute briefing
- Report anything that you think is unsafe as soon as you can or complete a Near Miss Card if you would prefer.
- Challenge unsafe working by carrying out a SBD

DON'T



- Leave materials and work equipment in the work area
- Leave surplus materials in the work area
- Leave extension cables, air lines and hoses in an untidy and unsafe manner
- Leave spilt materials, oil / fuel / grease ... clean it up.
- Interfere with or misuse safety equipment including scaffold and other access systems.
- Jump from vehicles, plant or access platforms
- Walk down a steep bank if stairs or an access ramp is provided
- Turn a blind eye to unsafe working.
- Be defensive if challenged on unsafe working ... appreciate that someone cares.

REMEMBER TO TIDY UP AS YOU GO ... YOUR UNTIDINESS OR CARELESSNESS MAY INJURE YOUR FRIENDS OR WORK COLLEAGUES