

FLOOR SAFETY COMPLIANCE GUIDE

According to OSHA, all places of employment, passageways, storerooms and service rooms must be kept clean, orderly and sanitary. If floors are not maintained, there is a higher chance of slips, trips or falls occurring. These incidents are usually caused by slippery, uneven surfaces, obstacles on the floor or unidentified hazard areas.

Top 3 Hazards to Floor Safety:

SLIP

Too little friction or traction between the footwear and the walking surface.

TRIP

When a foot or lower leg collides with an object causing you to lose balance and fall.

FALL

Too far off center of balance, resulting in a descent to the floor, into or against an object, or to a surface at a lower level than original surface.

Walking/Working Surfaces

OSHA 29 CFR 1910.22

This standard supports worker safety by keeping workplaces clean and safe from hazards. Regulations in place include the following:

- Keeping facilities clean, dry and orderly
- Providing draining, platforms, mats or other dry standing places where wet processes are used
- Keeping floors and workplaces free from protruding nails, splinters, holes and loose boards
- Keeping aisles clear and in good condition
- Permanently marking aisles and passageways
- Using covers and guardrails to protect workers from open pits, tanks, vats, etc.
- Marking loads with approved plates and maintaining safe load weights



Means of Egress

OSHA 29 CFR 1910.36 & 37

This standard supports the safety and exit routes. Some key elements of this standard that apply to slips, trips and falls include the following:

- In instances where a fall hazard exists, the outdoor exit route must have guardrails to protect unenclosed sides
- Outdoor exit routes must be reasonably straight and have smooth, solid and level walkways
- The outdoor exit route must be covered if snow or ice is likely to accumulate along the route, unless the employer can demonstrate that any snow or ice accumulation will be removed before it becomes a slipping hazard

Provision for the Slip Resistance on Walking/Working Surfaces

ANSI A1264.2-2012

This standard sets forth provisions for protecting persons where there is potential for slips and falls as a result of surface characteristics or conditions. It requires:

- Consideration of the use of slip resistant footwear to maximize traction
- Mats and runner to be used in areas where individuals may encounter slippery contaminants or foreign materials on the floor surface
- Housekeeping programs should include appropriate cleaning and maintenance procedures and employee training in order to maintain safe walking surfaces
- Warnings provided where a slip/fall hazard has been identified