ILAE-USMEX JOINT SAFETY COMMITTEE

OSH Circular 2018-09  (12 September 2018)

Slips, Trips & Falls

SLIPS, TRIPS & FALLS: 15% of all accidents*

SLIPS, TRIPS & FALLS on the same level are the 2\textsuperscript{nd} LEADING CAUSE OF INJURY**

25,000 SLIP, TRIP & FALL ACCIDENTS occur DAILY in the US*  

* National Safety Council  ** Bureau of Labor Statistics

For as long as OSH observers within our industry can remember, Slips, Trips & Falls (on the same level) have been way up there among the types of accidents that are experienced annually by our workers and managers\(^1\). And while those types of accidents may sound comparatively tame, their effects can be persistently painful, long lasting and costly in a number of different ways.

Here are some tips that may be helpful to all workers & managers in avoiding those hazards:

- Wear OSHA–compliant safety footwear while at work;
- Be mindful of the surface you’re walking on (Watch your step!);
- Always make sure you maintain at least three points of contact (2 legs and a hand/2 hands and a leg), especially when climbing on or off equipment;
- Terminal operators must make good housekeeping practices a top priority, clearing away spills, ice, snow & clutter promptly; and
- Ensure that the work area is well illuminated, consistent with OSHA regulations

Got an OSH-related question? Write to the JSC at: blueoceana@optonline.net

\(^1\) In the period Jan 2014 through June 2018, slip/trip/fall accidents at ILA-USMEX ports have totaled 1,056 or 28.5\% of all lost time incidents [Source: ILA-USMEX Lost Time Incidence Database]