

INTERMODAL SAFETY BRIEFING

Slips, Trips and Falls: Causes & Prevention

Slips, trips and falls are among the leading causes of injuries in the intermodal industry. And while it's impossible to eliminate 100% of workplace accidents, there are steps that can be taken to reduce them. It's critical that workers remain vigilant regarding workplace safety processes and procedures, in place to help everyone avoid injuries and accidents

Importance

Workplace safety should be a top priority for all employers so their workers can perform at their best instead of focusing on recovering from injuries. Slips, trips and falls can happen for a variety of reasons. Some of the most common are uneven ground or walking surfaces, slick walking surfaces, improper footwear, and being distracted with devices like smartphones. Another contributing factor is employees who become complacent with workplace safety.

Stakeholders

This safety briefing is designed to assist :

- **Everyone in the Intermodal Industry**

Safety Tips

Proper footwear is a key element in helping to reduce incidents of slipping. Surfaces can be slick for a variety of reasons including grease, ice, oil and water, so non-slip shoes are important. It's also helpful to have footwear that covers the ankle and laces to the top to help decrease foot and ankle injuries.

A focus on safety awareness, on a daily basis, is another important factor in reducing these types of injuries. Companies need to find creative ways to help keep a safety culture top of mind for their workforce. This is especially important when people, such as drivers, have little control over the environment they operate in each day, from truck stops, to rail and port yards, to shippers and receivers' locations.

Limiting distractions while walking plays a role in reducing accidents, as well. Situational awareness is important when navigating a large, open intermodal facility with activity going on at ground level and overhead. Reducing the use of handheld devices, such as smartphones, even while walking will help increase a person's awareness of the activity going on around them.

Disclaimer: This Intermodal Safety Briefing is not exclusive and is offered for general guidance. It does not constitute industry standards or best practices.

