

NBSIA Member Services Safety Bulletin

September 2017

MOPPING AND FLOOR HAZARDS

Cleaning floors can present employees with many slip, trip and fall hazards. **These accidents are preventable.** Follow these safety tips while performing floor maintenance:

- Make sure walking and working areas are well lit. Replace dead light bulbs immediately. Use supplemental flood lighting connected to a ground-fault circuit interrupter to protect employees from falls and electric shock.
- Take extra care around flooring transitions between buildings, they are especially dangerous during stripping. **Wear your slip-resistant Shoes for Crews Bull Frog boots designed for stripping and buffing floors.**
- Never allow untrained employees into a dangerous area. Slips on tile and concrete floors can be very serious.
- Never operate floor care equipment without proper training.
- Limit access to work areas during floor maintenance. Set up barrier tape and signage to warn and keep others out of the area.
- Pay attention to extension cords to avoid tripping on them.
- Keep cords from becoming tangled in the buffer or around your feet. Make sure buffer hand controls work correctly.
- Minimize carrying items when walking across slick floors. Take small steps, lean slightly forward and be conscientious when rounding corners.
- Minimize steps needed to carry buckets, hand tools and mops.
- Keep the work area well ventilated. Well-placed high velocity fans can assist in drying wet floors.
- Concentrate on your walking path. Horseplay is strictly prohibited.
- Report any slips that occur while you're at work.



***The right shoes
can prevent
minor slips
that result in
major injuries.***

Contact NBSIA to learn about our Slip Resistant Shoe program for Custodians and Food Services.

- Clean up any wet or slick spots on the floor. Report any problems that you can't clean up.
- Be careful. Three major factors that contribute to slips are poor choice of footwear, contaminated floor surfaces and fast strides.
- Check your footwear. Footwear with poor slip resistance such as high heels, slip-on sandals and flip flops can contribute to slips.
- Inspect the floor surfaces and change out mats regularly in your work area
- Keep mops, squeegees and fans ready to dry wet floors immediately. Place warning signs at damp or wet areas.
- Do not text and walk.

Sources :
www.worksafecenter.com

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