



## GROCERY INDUSTRY

# SLIP, TRIP AND FALL SAFETY

Slip, trip and fall incidents are a common cause of injury, and grocery stores have many hazards that can contribute to these accidents.



### Slips vs. Trips

Slips occur when there is a lack of traction between a person's shoe and the floor. This lack of traction may be caused by wet or oily surfaces. In grocery stores, hazardous slip conditions may occur when the floor is wet due to weather or when something has been spilled on the floor.

Trips occur when a person's foot collides with an object and the person loses balance. In grocery stores, hazardous trip conditions may occur when cords, hoses or other items are placed in walkways. Loose or broken flooring may also contribute to tripping hazards.


#### Indoor Safety

- Keep walkways clear of cords and other tripping hazards.
- Provide entry mats to help keep areas dry during bad weather.
- Have employees check for spills and other hazards regularly.
- Use "wet floor" signs when the floor is slippery from rain or spills.
- Repair any cracks, breaks or tears in flooring or steps.
- Maintain documentation of maintenance work and regular inspections.

#### Outdoor Safety

- Provide ample lighting in parking lots and other outer areas.
- Have damaged surfaces or wheel stops repaired.
- Keep walkways free of snow and ice.
- Use bright paint to draw attention to steps and other tripping hazards.
- If you are not responsible for outer areas, report problems to the entity that is responsible. Document your request for repairs.

#### Incident Response



If someone falls, the right response is essential to mitigating the damage.

- If someone is injured, help the person and make sure proper medical care is provided.
- Avoid admitting fault.
- Document the incident. File a report, get witness testimony, take photographs and secure footage from security cameras.

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