

# CONTRACTOR SAFETY ALERT



## Slips, trips & falls

Number: 62

Issued: 22/04/2022

### Background:

17th March on an FPC worksite, a contractors employee slipped whilst exiting the cab of their truck.

It resulted in a lost time injury from a muscular strain sustained during the incident.

A key factor of the incident was that dust build up on the step of the truck had attributed to it being slippery and their boot lost grip.

Three points of contact were being maintained at the time of the incident.

### Key Points:

Since 1 July 2019 to date 45 slip, trip and fall incidents have been recorded:

- 27% resulted in a Lost Time Injury.
- 36% required medical treatment.
- 33% required first aid treatment.
- Two of these incidents were high potential, no injury was sustained but there was potential for significant injury.
- 84% related to field-based activities.
- 55% of slip/trip/falls occurred during the winter months.

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As we transition into the winter months, it's a good time to reassess work practices and the working environment, paying particular attention to the hazards which may lead to a slip, trip or fall injury:

- Don't rush, take your time to perform the task safely.
- Always maintain good housekeeping e.g. machinery, work space.
- Consider terrain conditions and works program.
- Manage fatigue and be physically prepared – take regular rest periods when walking long distances.
- Wear appropriate footwear with ankle support and good sole tread.
- Work in adequate lighting whether ambient or artificial.
- Be observant for slip, trip and fall hazards, concentrate on walking rather than using mobile phones or reading the minutes, agenda or papers while walking.
- Report all hazards - if you see a damaged or hazardous stair, path or other walkway, always report it as a hazard through the FPC94 Hazard Report Part A.
- Always report slips, trips and falls using the FPC80 Incident Report Part A.