Safety Is No Accident

“Have a nice trip; see you next fall.” While these jokes may seem humorous when someone loses his or her footing and harmlessly stumbles or falls, there’s nothing funny about slips, trips and falls (STF) that lead to injuries.

OSHA statistics show that slips, trips and falls are responsible for the majority of nonfatal occupational injuries nationwide. More than half of those injuries result from falls on level surfaces.

Avoid Tripping Hazards.

While falls are among the most common accidents, they are also among the most preventable. The first step in preventing slips, trips and falls is always paying close attention to where you are stepping/walking at all times. Do not multitask while walking. When indoors, watch for clutter, debris, cords, wires crossing the floor and open file cabinet drawers. Be alert for unexpected changes in the floor level, such as a step up, loose tiles, protrusions from the floor, buckled or torn carpeting, as well as wet/recently washed or waxed flooring and greasy/oily surfaces. When walking outdoors, be aware of curbs, potholes, cracks in the pavement, dips in terrain, stones, debris, muddy areas, snow-covered hazards and standing water or ice.

When walking on a surface that is slippery or uneven, move slowly and take short shuffling steps. Be careful when you return indoors from inclement weather as your boots or shoes are likely to be slippery and there may be wet spots on the floors, a wet carpet, or wet door mats. Always wear shoes with slip-resistant soles.

Ensure that you can see where you are going. Avoid carrying a load that blocks your view and only walk in areas with well-lit walkways and stairways. Always turn on the lights before entering a room or a dark section of a building, using a...
Focus on Safety (continued)

- **Patience**
  Take the time to do things correctly every time — like always buckling your seatbelt, even on quick trips. There are no shortcuts to safety.

- **Responsibility**
  Accept responsibility for maintaining a safe work environment that benefits everyone. Immediately notify maintenance or management of any observed unsafe conditions or safety concerns, so that they can be addressed, and other employees can be alerted and advised of precautions that should be taken to avoid injury.

- **Think**
  Stop and think twice before acting. Accidents are not always the result of bad luck. They occur when someone decides — consciously or not — to take a chance. Be smart and avoid taking unnecessary risks and always “Think Safety First.”

**Safety as a Culture**

Safety in the workplace extends beyond preventing falls. Overall job safety is a concern for every employer and worker. The most successful workplace safety programs require a commitment from the entire company.

At Securitas, safety training is proactive, not reactive. To help keep safety fresh in the minds of security officers and supervisors, every Securitas district/branch is required to hold monthly safety meetings. Typically, the meetings are held at the local office and focus on specific topics involving safety awareness and accident prevention. Sometimes they identify or emphasize a need for additional precautions to address a specific safety concern that has been identified in the workplace.

Directors/managers have access to a variety of safety training materials, including training aids, handouts, and PowerPoint presentations. This gives each office the flexibility to choose its own monthly topic and customize training for each site.

The key to staying safe at work is to remember that safety is no accident. Always “Think Safety First” before undertaking any task, no matter how many times it’s been done before. When someone is seen acting in an unsafe manner, encourage them to consider the potential consequences of their actions. Offer assistance by explaining a safer way of performing the task.

This guide is for informational purposes only and does not contain SCIS’s complete policy and procedures. For more information, contact your SCIS supervisor or account manager.