

risk mapping for slips and trips

The Health and Safety Commission (HSC) has made the reduction of slips, trips and falls at work a priority target.

Slips and trips are the single most common cause of injury accounting for a third of all reported major injuries. 95% of those injuries involve fractures of arms, wrists and ankles.

Slips and trips are particularly serious in the service industries like retail where both workers and members of the public are at risk.

Usdaw supports the HSC campaign. This leaflet explains to safety reps how to use Risk Mapping to help clean up the workplace safety record.

Risk Mapping is a tool that safety reps can use to involve members in identifying problems and hazards in the workplace using their knowledge and experience.

How to Use the Risk Mapping Tool

- Draw a rough sketch map of the area (The diagram does not need to be a work of art or even to scale so long as it represents the workplace affected).

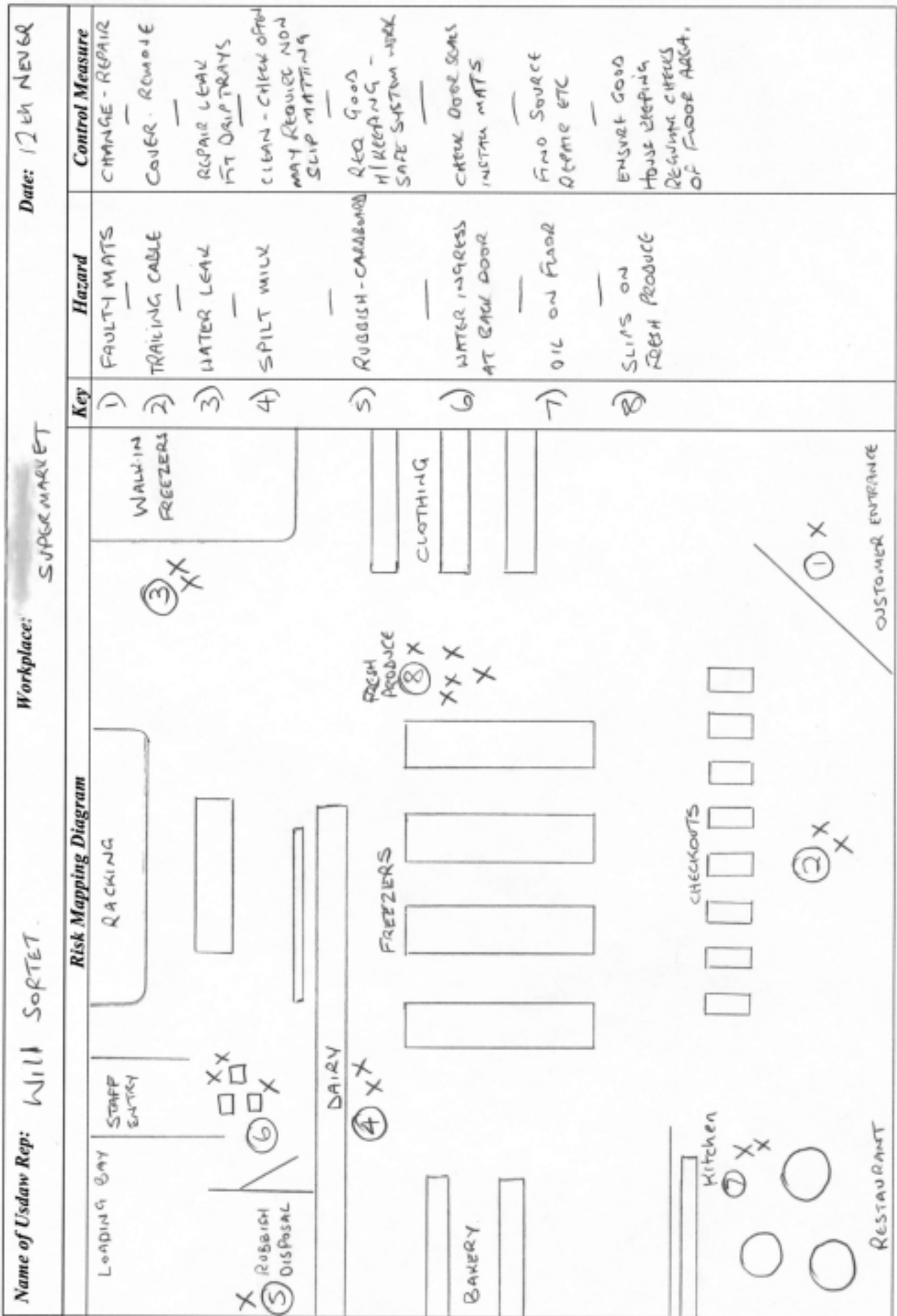
- Mark on all the slips and trips reported in the last 12 months (or any relevant period) with crosses.
- Talk to members to identify any 'near misses' and add them to the chart.
- Find out from members what is causing people to slip or trip in that area.

Any 'hotspots' will quickly show up on the chart. Once the problems and their causes have been identified:

- Discuss them with management.
- Decide what action needs to be taken.
- Continue to monitor to ensure control measures put in place are working.
- Make sure improvements are communicated to members to show what the union has achieved.

The Risk Mapping technique can be used in any workplace or work area and can be a very effective tool in helping reduce injuries at work for Usdaw members.

The example below shows how the Risk Mapping tool works.



| <i>Name of Usdaw rep</i> | <i>Workplace</i> | <i>Date</i> | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|---------------|------------------------|
| | | <i>Key</i> | <i>Hazard</i> | <i>Control Measure</i> |
| | <i>Risk Mapping Diagram</i> | | | |

we're **not**
falling for it!

safety reps
can deliver
on **slips** and
trips

For further advice or assistance please contact the
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