

**Health  
& Safety**

# Risk Mapping for Slips and Trips



**Legal  
Plus**

**Usdaw**  
*Union of Shop, Distributive  
and Allied Workers*

# Risk Mapping for Slips and Trips

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) 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 HSE campaign. This leaflet explains to Health and Safety Reps how to use Risk Mapping to help clean up the workplace safety record.

Risk Mapping is a tool that Health and 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.

For further advice or assistance please contact the Health and Safety Section at Usdaw, 188 Wilmslow Road, Manchester M14 6LJ. Tel: 0161 249 2441 or email [healthandsafety@usdaw.org.uk](mailto:healthandsafety@usdaw.org.uk)

Name of Usdaw Rep: Will SORTET Workplace: SUPERMARKET Date: 12th NOV 08

Risk Mapping Diagram		Key	Hazard	Control Measure
	1	FAULTY MATS	CHANGE - REPAIR	
	2	TRAILING CABLE	COVER REMOVE	
	3	WATER LEAK	REPAIR LEAK IF DRAIN TRAYS	
	4	SPLILT MILK	CLEAN - CHECK OFFER MAY REQUIRE NON SLIP MATTING	
	5	RUBBISH - CARDBOARD	REQ GOOD M/KEEPING - SAFE SYSTEM WORK	
	6	WATER INGRESS AT BACK DOOR	CHECK DOOR SEALS INSTALL MATS	
	7	OIL ON FLOOR	FIND SOURCE REPAIR ETC	
	8	SLIPS ON FRESH PRODUCE	ENSURE GOOD HOUSE KEEPING REGULAR CHECKS OF FLOOR AREA.	

Name of Usdaw rep	Workplace	Date			
		Risk Mapping Diagram	Key	Hazard	Control Measure



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