

Agency Worker Slip / Trip / Fall

Details of Incident

An agency employee had worked for CEMEX for six weeks in a precast floors factory where concrete is cast into large moulds, which are the full length of the factory.

There are designated walkways around the factory. In order to cross the production shop floor, rather than using the surrounding designated walkways, the injured person chose to take a shortcut, climbing over the precast moulds. When attempting to step down from the mould on the other side, his left foot landed awkwardly on the ground causing tendon damage.

Key Findings

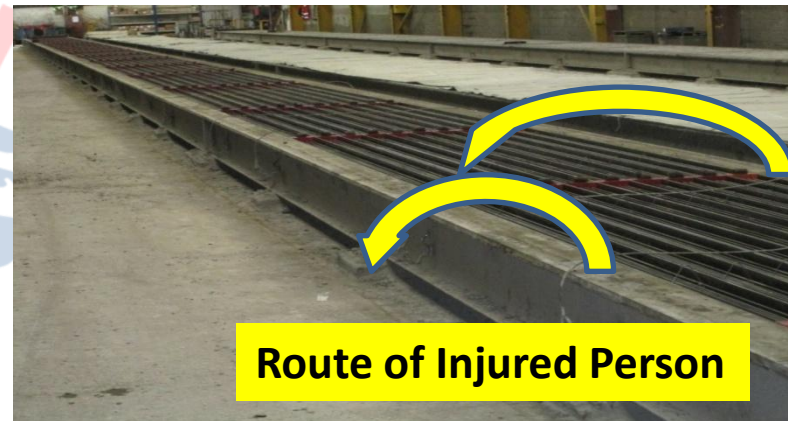
- The injured person was well trained and understood that walking across moulds was a prohibited activity.
- He was wearing laced-up ankle boots, which were worn correctly and likely reduced the severity of the injury.
- Unfortunately there wasn't another member of the team in proximity who could 'STEP-IN'.

How Could This Incident Have Been Avoided?

The safe systems of work for the various tasks state all work must be carried out from ground level, but don't explicitly state that people should not walk across the moulds.

Key Review Points

- During the initial investigation, the injured person did not state that he had taken a shortcut. The CCTV in the area provided valuable evidence as to the true circumstances. Review site CCTV coverage.
- The injured person didn't foresee crossing the bed as a risk. Emphasise the importance of risk assessments, safe systems of work and Worksafe assessments, clearly indentifying all foreseeable hazards.
- The safe systems of work for this area state that all work must be carried out from ground level, although they don't explicitly state that people should not walk across the moulds. Review all safe systems in this area to include the instruction of not walking across the moulds.



Look after yourself and each other 
Don't let anyone act unsafely, always stop unsafe practices.

Personal Protective Equipment 
Always wear the correct PPE.

Safe Systems 
Follow safe systems of work, site rules, signage and traffic signals.