

UK SAFETY ALERT

UK SA14/2019 – 09.09.19

Display Until:
18.10.19



LTI - EMPLOYEE INJURED AFTER TRIPPING ON STEP

DETAILS OF THE INCIDENT:

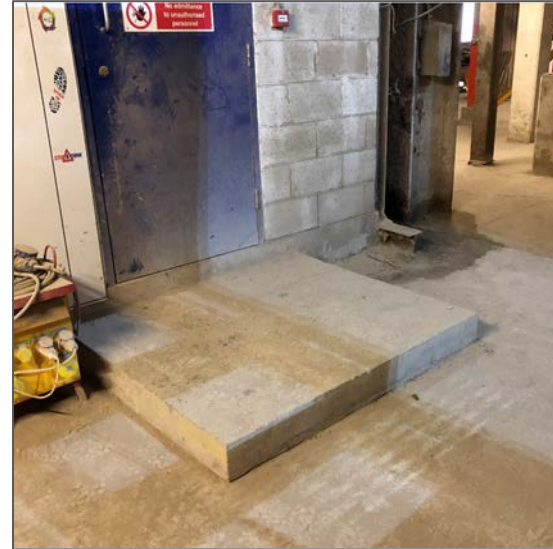
A mechanical fitter had been working with a colleague on a task in the kiln building and after completion was travelling to the next job. As he walked along the same route he had travelled several times in the morning, he passed too close to a concrete plinth outside a switch room and he stumbled on the step, falling on to his knee. He continued working for the rest of the day but the pain continued to worsen overnight and he was later diagnosed with possible ligament damage.

KEY FINDINGS:

- The fitter was familiar with the route and was not intending to walk over the step.
- The layout allowed a direct approach to the step, giving him clear visibility of the obstruction.
- Lighting levels were low, and the step was partially in shadow.
- The step was highlighted with paint but this was worn and covered in dust.
- The IP has a history of musculoskeletal problems.

HOW COULD THIS HAVE BEEN AVOIDED?

- Improved lighting.
- Maintaining hazard identification controls.
- Good housekeeping – keeping floors dust free.
- Consider where we are placing our feet.



KEY REVIEW POINTS:

- Are walkways, especially hazard areas, appropriately illuminated
- Are hazard controls such as highlight paint maintained and kept dust and spillage free?
- Where hazard controls are not effective do we warn others by using the Near miss/ Hazard alert system?
- Do we consider routes to and from the workplace and personal capabilities when carrying out Worksafe/ point of work assessments?
- Do we all look where we are placing our feet?
- Do you Get a Grip and always maintain 3 points of contact on steps and stairways?

Housekeeping



Keep designated access routes and work areas tidy and free from trip/slip hazards.

Get a grip



Hold handrails on stairways and use three points of contact when getting into/out of vehicles.

Incident/Hazard alerts



Report all incidents/hazards immediately.

Look after yourself and each other



Don't let anyone act unsafely, always stop unsafe practices.

