

## Safety & Health Awareness Day 24.02.05

### 1 Slips and Trips

Accidents are not usually fatal, but can be serious. Disregard flooring guaranteed by Sled Test figures - unacceptable to HSE. However, Pendulum Test results, where slip resistance is measured and BS is available, can be trusted.

Consider type of flooring near entry where people may have wet shoe soles, coats, umbrellas, etc. Provide a large enough mat to dry shoes before entry onto less slip resistant flooring

Slip assessment tool for download from: [www.HSESAT.INFO](http://www.HSESAT.INFO)

### 2 Asbestos

Our duty is to manage asbestos, not remove it. If any asbestos is in good condition and has remained undisturbed, leave it alone. Asbestos was used extensively in buildings 1950s to 1980s as an excellent insulator and fire-proofer; it was added to many different materials. If in doubt, assume it's an ACM (asbestos-containing material). Check presence of asbestos in fire blankets.

Anyone doing any kind of work close to asbestos is susceptible. Consult your architect and check building plans for incidence of asbestos. If commissioning a survey, make sure the surveyor is accredited (local authority may be able to help) and uses accredited labs for sample analysis.

We are responsible, and our duty is to:

- Survey
- Assess risk
- Detail incidence and manage the problem

We are not obliged to remove stable asbestos from buildings, but we must manage it properly and inform workmen so it remains undisturbed.

Action plan:

- Tell people where there is asbestos
- Check state of asbestos regularly and document it
- Record when/if asbestos is removed or covered

Most work involving asbestos requires a local authority licence - keep them informed. Draw up a plan marking incidence or prepare a document detailing incidence.

Potential problems:

- Unnecessary and costly removal
- Inappropriate precautions
- Poor quality survey

Further information from: 08701 545500  
[www.hse.gov.uk/campaigns/asbestos](http://www.hse.gov.uk/campaigns/asbestos)

Various Health & Safety leaflets that may be of help re asbestos, working at height, etc, are kept in the TVN file