

SLIP RISK - TEAM CHALLENGE

Q1. Floors in your business

1a) Which floors do you need to test in your business? Make a list of all the different floor areas specific to your chosen business. Highlight any that you think may be a particular slip risk - e.g. poolside floor in a swimming pool.

1b) How and why might these floors in your business change? (specify particularly what you think may be different about each area of floor)

1c) Do all these floors need testing every day? How could you determine which floors are most prone to change? And which have the highest risks?

Q2) Varnishing a floor in your business

You have a floor that measures SlipAlert Test Value (STV) of 117 in the dry and 150 in the wet. The floor is very rarely wet. There have been no reported slip accidents on this floor. The floor surface has been damaged, so it is scheduled for repair and re-coating with varnish. Ideally floors should have a STV of 130 or better in the condition they will be used. How will you know if the floor is safe after the varnish has been applied?

Q3. Installing a replacement floor

You have to install a new floor in one of the busiest areas of your business. The floor is likely to get a lot of foot traffic and may get contamination from feet and water. What STV should you specify for this new flooring? How and when will you test that it meets your specification?

Q4) Real slip experience

Discuss in your group any experiences you have of real slip accidents, the causes and how these might be prevented. How do these real experiences shape the thinking about floor safety in this test business?

Q5) Interpreting SlipAlert results...

- a) a small area of floor seems different from the rest
SlipAlert delivers very consistent results on a floor. You are testing a large area of floor that you have tested before and always achieved a very consistent set of results. Today, one small area of floor seems to exhibit variable results and they differ from the results that you normally get. What do you do?

- b) Testing worn areas of floor
You notice that an area of tiled floor near the staff entrance to your building seems more worn than the rest of the floor. The slip resistance measure for that area of floor is slightly worse than for the rest of the floor. What should you do? What would be different if the worn area of floor had better slip resistance than the rest of the floor?

- c) You have one area of floor that regularly measures STV of 150. Another area of floor usually measures 125 but occasionally tests on this area of floor rise to 180 STV. Which do you think is the greater slip risk and why?

Q5) Testing a floor that has been treated with anti-slip...

How often should you test a floor that has been a high slip risk but has now been treated with ant-slip?

Q6) Recording slip accidents and near misses...

- a) How could it help your business to record the location and time/date of each slip accident and near miss?
- b) Would you test the floor after the slip accident?
- c) How would it help to compare this with test data from regular testing?

Trend Graphs

The following trend graphs represent SlipAlert tests taken each week in real businesses.

What could they be telling you about your floors?

