

Safety strategies

for the
Graphic Communications Industry

Avoiding Falls

Falling Frequency

Falls are the leading cause of the most serious injuries of printers. In fact, slips, trips and falls account for 12 percent of all printing injuries and 11 percent of costs.

That's not surprising since the area surrounding printing presses can become very slippery from spilled inks, solvents, oil and greases. Railings and handrails also can become ink smeared, increasing the risk of a fall.

Prevention is Easy

Many falls can be prevented—primarily through good housekeeping. Keeping walkways, steps and platforms clean and clear helps. Requiring suitable, safe footwear is another helpful measure.

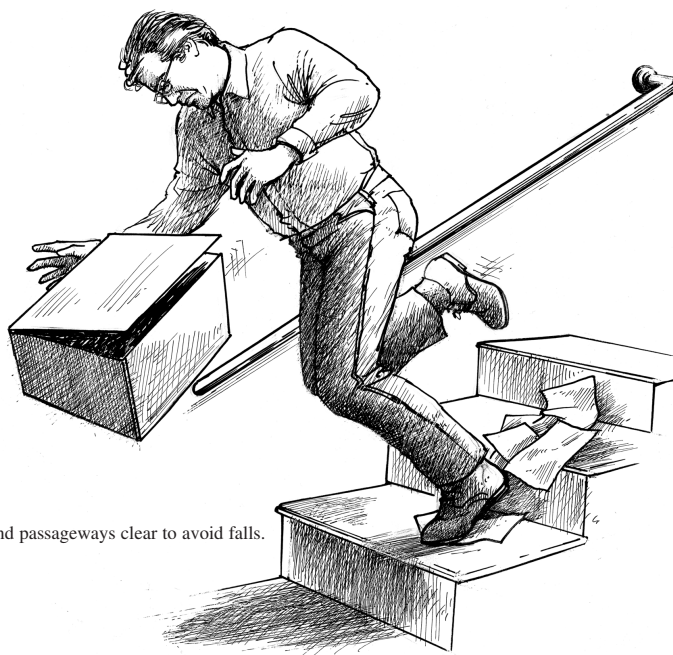
It's important to maintain adequate space in aisles. Storing tools and materials properly and stowing trash removes tripping obstacles. It's also wise to ensure that frequently traveled paths are located away from the presses.

When workers must climb on presses, they can use handholds and steps. Or use portable steps if necessary.

Jumping from one elevation to another is an unsafe practice which can lead to injury.

Things to Look For

- Adequate clear aisle space.
- Steps, platforms and passage ways clear of tools, materials and trash.
- Frequently traveled paths located away from machinery.
- Handholds and steps—used for climbing on or off a press.
- No jumping from one elevation to another.
- Suitable, safe footwear worn.



Keep stairs and passageways clear to avoid falls.



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