

Lessons Learned

Slip on Ice



Activity: Employee was performing boiler plant checks when he slipped on some ice and suffered a broken ankle.

Direct Cause:

- Loss of traction while walking on ice covered walking surface.

Communication and Teaching Points:

- In cold temperatures, approach with caution and assume all wet, dark areas on pavements are slippery and icy
- Assume there is ice under the snow
- During inclement weather, avoid boots or shoes with smooth soles and heels. Instead, wear shoes or boots that provide traction on snow and ice; boots made of nonslip rubber or neoprene with grooved soles provide ideal traction
- Consider wearing a traction supplement device on your shoes
- Use special care when entering and exiting vehicles, using the vehicle for support, if needed
- Walk in designated and cleared walkways as much as possible. Taking shortcuts over snow piles and other frozen areas introduces unnecessary hazards
- Take short choppy steps
- Keep hands out of pockets to increase your center of gravity and balance