

Talk No: 2 Title: SITE HOUSEKEEPING

**Introduction:** The Health and Safety Regulations require that sites be maintained in good order. Poor housekeeping is a common, but easily preventable, cause of accidents.

## Main points:

- There should be a place for everything, and everything should be in its place.
- Do not rely on others to clean up they won't.
- Put tools away when not in use, as well as reducing a trip hazard it will keep them safe.
- If working with oils/lubricants, then have some means of cleaning up any spillages at hand.
- Suspend power/light cables where practicable. Where not practicable avoid trailing them across walkways if possible.

## **Discussion points:**

- Remove all nails from dismantled/unused timber where not possible then hammer flat.
- Stack both stores and waste neatly ensure that walkways/escape routes are not obstructed.
- Clean up waste as it is created; small waste can be bagged, larger waste stacked and then skipped as soon as is practicable.
- Use racks when storing tools and equipment. Where pallets are used then do not stack too high.
- If working at height then loose objects must not be left on walkways, platforms, etc. where they
  could fall and injure persons below.
- Beware muddy sites these will greatly increase risk of slips. Keep footwear as clean as is reasonably practicable; ensure loose mud is removed prior to climbing ladders, etc.
- Try and allocate a set period each day to general housekeeping (possibly at the end of the day?)

IF YOU THINK AND ACT SAFELY,
THE NEXT LIFE YOU SAVE COULD BE YOURS!

Notes:		