ALERT 09 – 21

SLIP & TRIP RESULTS IN MTO

WHAT HAPPENED:

A company Team Leader was visiting the project site. After viewing the Texas Deck in the fabrication area, the injured person (IP) was stepping off of the raised support that the structure was sitting on and was attempting to step on the flange of a large beam laying on its side about two feet (0.61 meters) away. His footing slipped and he fell onto the beam, face down, landing on both flanges. His left arm/wrist/hand struck one flange while his left thigh struck the other flange. In addition, it knocked the wind out of him. Other than some obvious soreness, there was no indication of injury. A couple of hours later there was some swelling and redness near the knuckle of the left index finger and a trip to the clinic was made, whereby an ice-pack and tensor bandage was applied. Upon arriving home his wrist was still tender, so he made a visit to the doctor and it was discovered that he had received a minor fracture to a bone in his wrist.

WHAT CAUSED IT:

• Lack of attention while walking through a construction area.
• Insufficient range of sizes available for PPE (boots) available for visitors at main office.
• Failure to communicate with main stores if additional stock was available.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS: To address this incident, this company instructed their employees in the following:

• Do not step over a gap onto an irregular walking surface, especially if there is nothing available to steady yourself, such as a handrail. Step down off of one level before stepping up onto another.
• Constantly assess your personal positioning when walking through, or between, project assemblies and materials. Make sure of your footing before you commit yourself.
• If properly sized PPE is not available, in this case safety boots, then do not proceed out to the worksite until adequate protection can be obtained.

The Corrective Actions stated in this alert are one company’s attempts to address the incident, and do not necessarily reflect the position of IADC or the IADC HSE Committee.