

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Fort Worth District
Safety & Occupational Health Office**

Lessons Learned

ACCIDENT: Tripping

Date: 29 Oct 2001

WHAT HAPPENED: Worker was unloading operator covers (metal motor covers) from cardboard boxes with a coworker. He was tearing the boxes open for easier access to the covers when he stepped back tripping over part of the box and 1X4's on the ground.

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS:

- Poor housekeeping.
- Not paying attention to his surroundings.

RESULTS: Broken right hip.

LESSONS LEARNED:

Reference- EM 385-1-1, USACE SAFETY & HEALTH Requirements Manual

- **Work areas should be kept as clean as possible to minimize possibility of injury. Educate employees about possible safety hazards.**
14.C.01 Work areas and means of access shall be maintained safe and orderly.

14.C.04 Tools, materials, extension cords, hoses, or debris shall not cause tripping or other hazards.

14.C.07 Form and scrap lumber and debris shall be cleared from work areas and accessways in and around building storage yards and other structures.