





Seminar

Slips and falls, anti-slip and comfort properties of footwear

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Slips, trips and falls are a considerable problem at workplaces, in our daily life, and among the elderly. It has been increasingly attracting attention in industrialized countries. Slip, trip and fall related occupational injuries range from 20 to 40% of disabling occupational injuries. The problem is of multifactor nature and needs a systems approach. Gait biomechanics is one of the intrinsic factors. Among other extrinsic factors footwear and underfoot surface interaction is considered to play a primary role for slips and falls. This presentation will cover the identification of risk factors, the measurement and evaluation of slipperiness, and protective measures. In addition the design of anti-slip and thermal comfort properties of work and casual footwear will be discussed.

Dr. Chuansi Gao received his B.Sc. in environmental medicine and M.Sc. in occupational health, and carried out research on VDT ergonomics, industrial and traffic safety in China. He received PhD in ergonomics at Lulea University of Technology, Sweden. He is currently a research fellow in the fields of protection, performance and comfort in thermal neutral and extreme environments, intervention of slips and falls among the elderly. He has acted as a reviewer of Ergonomics, Applied Ergonomics and Safety Science.

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