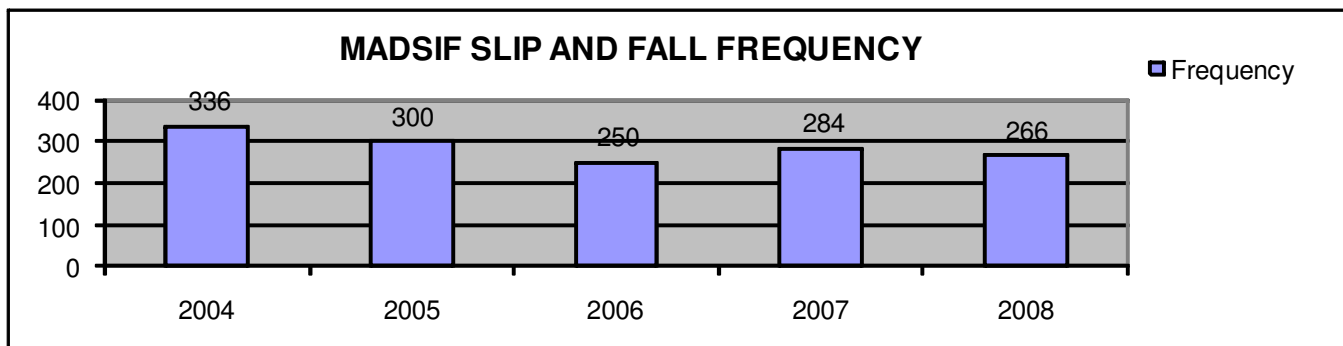
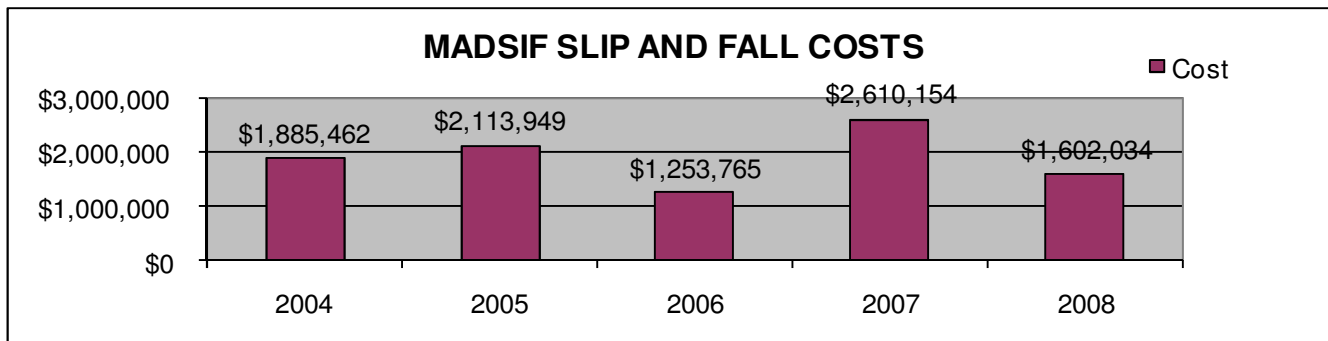


## **SLIP AND FALL SEASON IS HERE!**

According to the National Safety Council there are 9 million disabling slip and fall injuries every year. These injuries result in over 9000 deaths per year. The slip and falls account for 95 million lost workdays per year and about \$3.5 million per hour every day of the year. Needless to say this area represents a significant opportunity to insurers and employers for reducing their costs through injury prevention.

Although we have seen improvement, slips, trips and falls remain a significant source of claims expense for MADSIF. Dealerships can reduce their MOD factors and premium payments by identifying the possible causes and taking corrective actions for these types of accidents. These savings increase the dealerships bottom line.

The following charts detail the trends in MADSIF slip and fall accidents:



Below is a list of the most common causes of slip and falls:

- 1) Poor or improper floor maintenance—Grease, oil or other slippery products on walking surfaces. Potholes, broken steps, rug edges and other uneven surfaces. Failure to use non-slip wax on floors.
- 2) Improper indoor/outdoor footwear— Workers wearing slippery soled shoes.
- 3) Unauthorized Entrance— Ensure sales and clerical employees are not unnecessarily entering or going through the service areas.
- 4) Poor ice or snow control or removal— Ensure sidewalks and driveways are cleared of snow and salted to control ice.
- 5) Poor lighting

## **SLIP AND FALLS CONTINUED**

Common causes of slip, trips and falls continued:

- 6) Failure to identify wet floors with signs
- 7) Hoses, tools and cords haphazardly placed in walkways
- 8) Failure to use handrails on slippery stairs
- 9) Carrying objects that are too large for one person or that obstruct the carrier's view of his intended walking path

Slips, trips and falls are preventable by following proper safety practices. This includes identifying and correcting the causes of slips and falls. Below is a list of common safety practices that are effective in preventing slip, trips and falls.

- 1) Ensure spills are cleaned up immediately. Ensure drain covers and exhaust port covers are in place and level with the floor. Ensure air lines, cords and other trip hazards are identified and secured.
- 2) Ensure all employees entering service areas are wearing work shoes/boots with oil resistant, non-slip soles.
- 3) Ensure sales and clerical employees are not unnecessarily entering or going through the service areas.
- 4) Ensure sidewalks and driveways are cleared of snow and salted to control ice
- 5) Ensure non-slip footwear is worn by all employees inside and outside
- 6) Post signs to warn of wet floors and slippery surfaces
- 7) Install handrails and non-slip coverings to stairs
- 8) Provide proper lighting in stairways and halls
- 9) Ensure employees ask for help carrying large and awkward objects
- 10) Fix broken walkways, warped floors, potholes and secure rug edges
- 11) Apply non-slip waxes and floor coatings

Please call your MADSIF Risk Management Specialist with any questions on preventing slip and fall accidents.

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