



Working environment

The work environment can make manual tasks more hazardous.



- Rough or slippery surfaces increase the risk of slips and trips.
- Slopes, stairs and different ground levels make it difficult to move loads and can obscure a workers view.
- Wet, hot, humid or cold weather place a person's body at greater risk of injury due to decreased flexibility of muscles and joints, and the effect on the body's physical ability to do work. Wind can make it difficult to control loads.
- Postural constraints due to space restrictions affect a workers ability to do a task in a safe posture by causing twisting or leaning.
- Poor lighting can make it harder to see trip hazards or to be able to position the body to see the task and locate tools. Loud noise makes it harder to talk with colleagues helping with a task.
- Narrow thoroughfares make it harder to move loads and can force workers to get into uncomfortable postures.

