

LFI: Slip & Fall at Workshop Staircase



What went Wrong and Why?

- Service Provider staffer was descending the stairs in the workshop with a filled drum used in fumigating workspaces to limit COVID-19 transmission at work.
- *He miss-stepped on the staircase, his right foot twisted, resulting in loss of movement control, and he fell.*
- Sustained injuries to shoulder, ankle and his back. Injured treated and booked off work - LTI. He is recovering well.
- *Carrying the Drum and spray lance in his 2 hands, and not as backpack – could not use 3-point contact on staircase.*
- Drum max weight 20kg - at the time 11 kg which is more than 5kg max weight per hand – added to the severity of injuries.



Lessons Learned?

Unsafe Act / Critical Safe Behaviour: Use 3-Point Contact.

The three points of contact rule is simple.

*When climbing or descending ladders, trucks and equipment, always maintain contact with one hand and two feet, **or** two hands and one foot.*

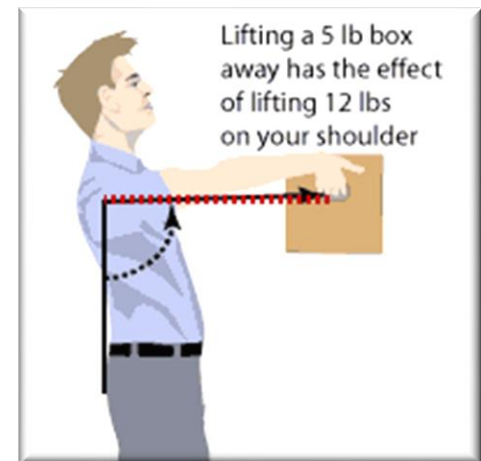
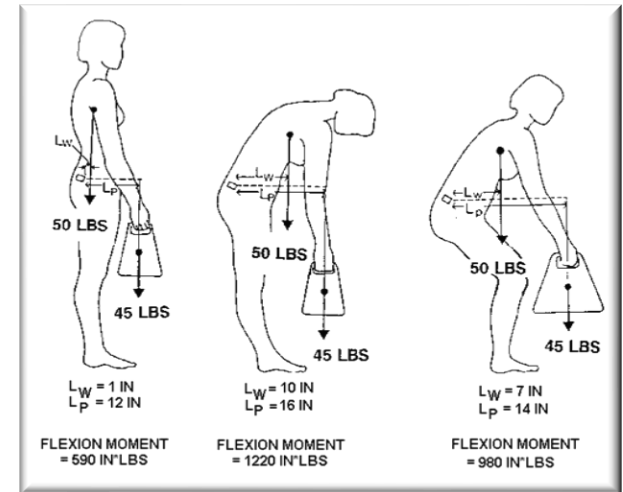
If you maintain three points of contact while you climb or descend stairs, you limit your exposure to slips, trips and falls on stairs.



Lessons Learned?

Risk Assessment Update:

- *A filled Fumigation Drum Backpack must always be worn on back when in use or carrying it – especially on stairs.*
- *Change in backpack strap design – add waist strap to shift carrying point to waist.*
- *Pipe and lance must be latched to drum as per design intent.*
- *Fumigation drum backpack must be inspected before use by the user.*
- *The use of 25 litre drum backpacks to be discontinued. Use max 5 litre drums.*



Thank You



“Do your little bit of good where you are;
its those little bits of good
that when put together
can change the world”

Desmond Tutu