

LFI: Trip & Fall @ Central Control Room



IOD **LTI** – 31 December 2023

- Central Control Room @ 20H45 -

What Happened..?

- o Colleague walking towards exit of CCR.
- o At staircase at the end of the corridor, the employee mis-stepped and fell.
- o Fire Dept stabilised and recovered patient to Medical Station with ambulance.
- o Sprain to left ankle, booked off by Occupational Medical Practitioner for 2 shift working days.

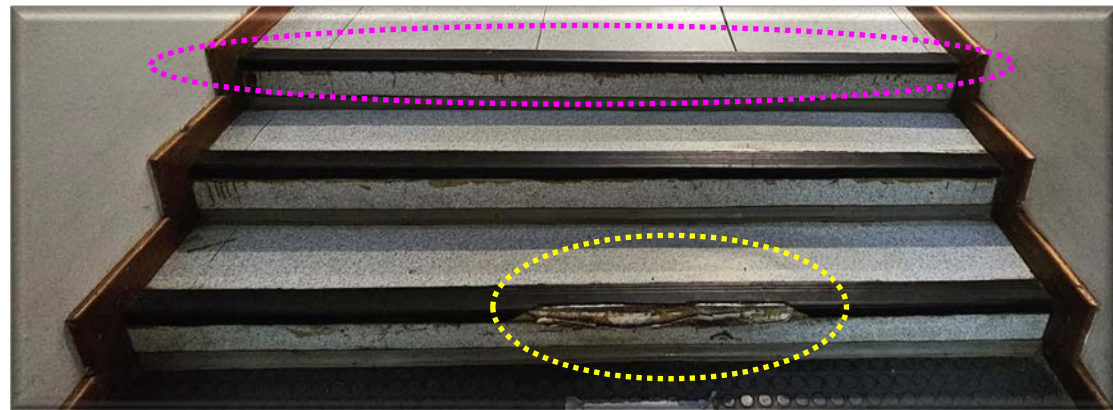
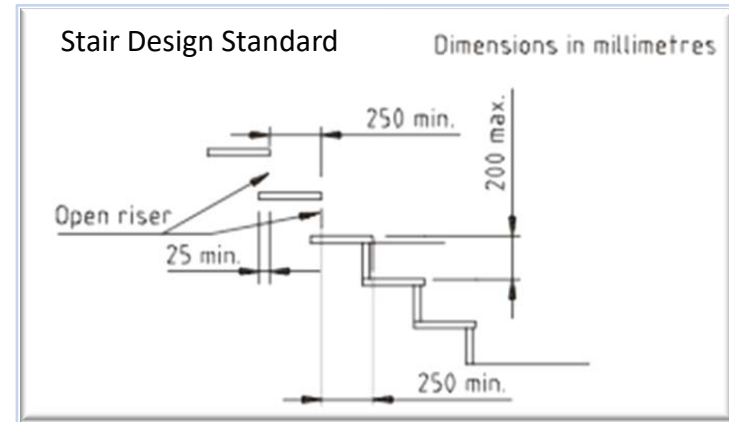
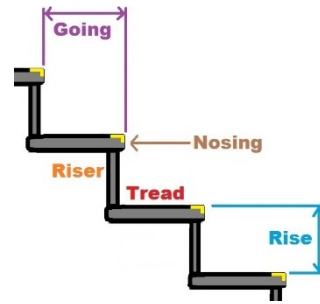
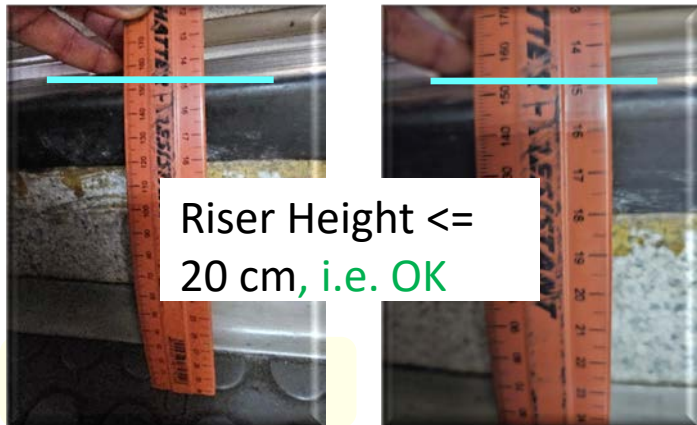


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Possible reasons why this Happened..?

- o Staircase design per SANS 10400 standard?



Rubber nosings tight and intact everywhere - but at step 2, the outer part of the nosing edge has broken off – which could have been a causal factor for this incident.

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Right Light
Reduces Fatigue
Reduces Incidences
Reduces Risk

Why this injury Happened..?

- o Lighting: illuminance for staircases inside offices per SANS 10114-1 requires minimum 150 lux.
- o **Lux at staircase = 37 average.**
- o Illuminance below required SANS standard of 150 min and 100 min at tread.
- o Inadequate illuminance is a causal factor.
- o *Near Miss for light not working was not reported – thus hazard not identified, and risk not recognised.*



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Why this injury Happened..?

- o Safety Signs: there is **no safety warning sign installed** either above the staircase, on the floor, or on the wall of the corridor.
- o Safety warning signs identifies a hazard and warns thereof in a proactive manner – thus preventing human error.
- o *Absence of safety warning sign not reported as non-conforming Near Miss – thus hazard not identified, & risk not recognised.*

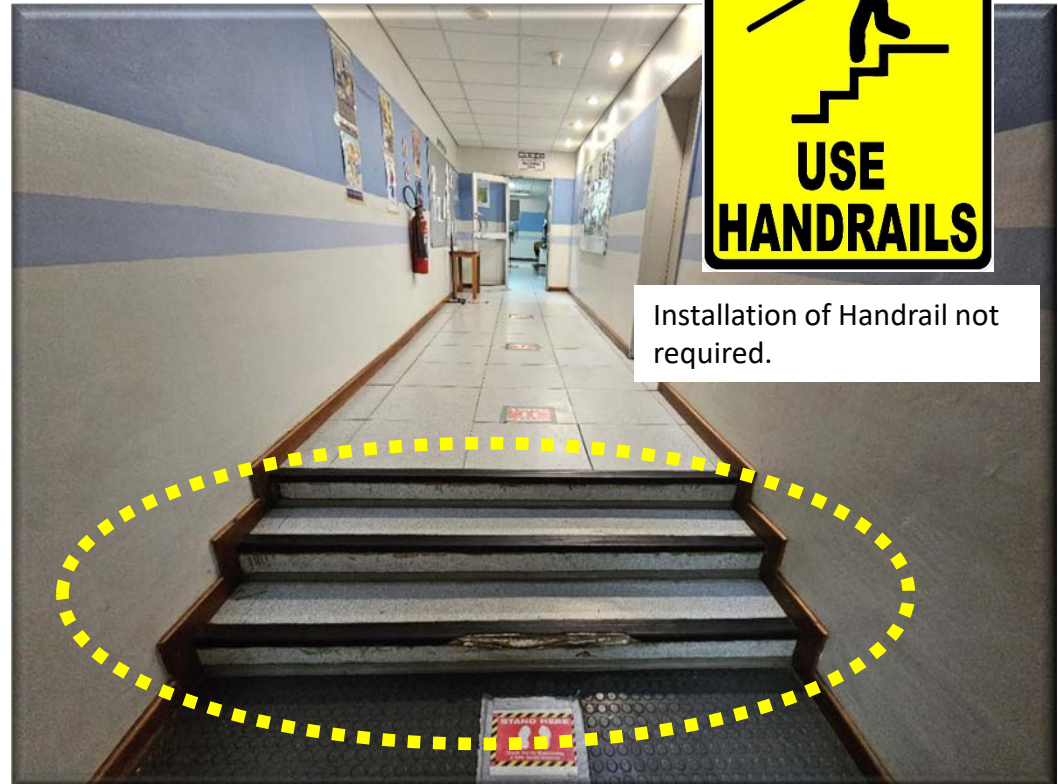


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Possible reason why this injury Happened..?

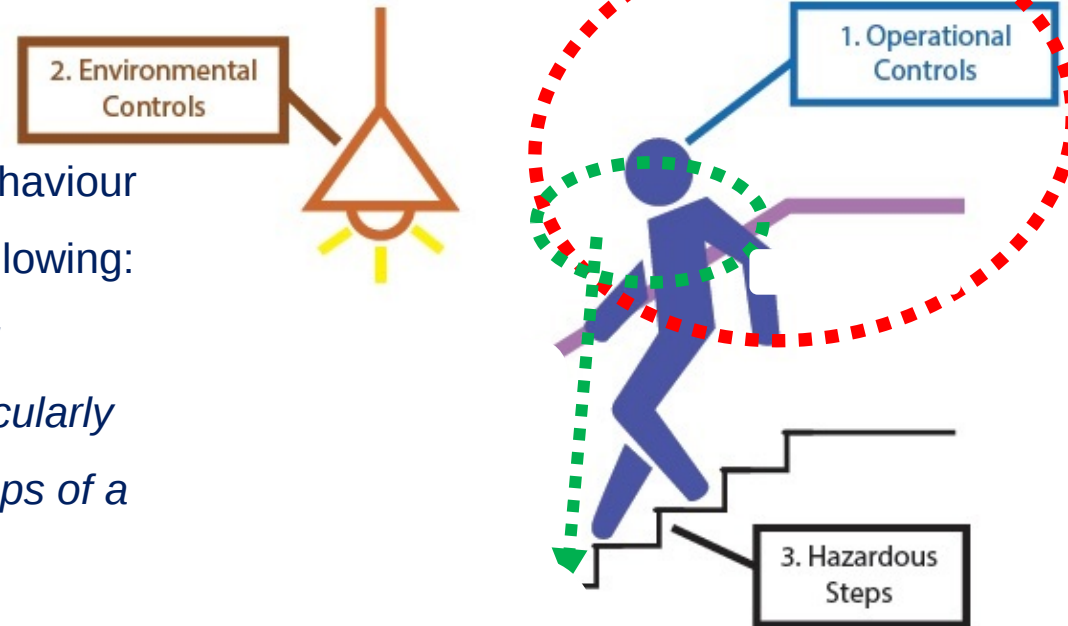
- o Handrail Requirement: there is no handrail installed along the wall at the staircase.
- o SANS 10400 does not require handrail installation for staircases of 3 steps or less.
- o Also, no previous injuries at this staircase – i.e. no repeat incidents.
- o Handrail installation is not necessary at this staircase – risk based.



Lessons Learned?

- o Human Behavioural Errors: unsafe behaviour errors at this staircase would be the following:
- o *Eyes Not on Task at Stairs: Not paying attention to the surroundings and particularly – the placement of your foot on the steps of a staircase.*

Operational Control of Ourselves as Individuals rests with Each One of Us personally – thus we must align with the safe behaviours to avoid getting injured.



Critical Considerations for a Staircase

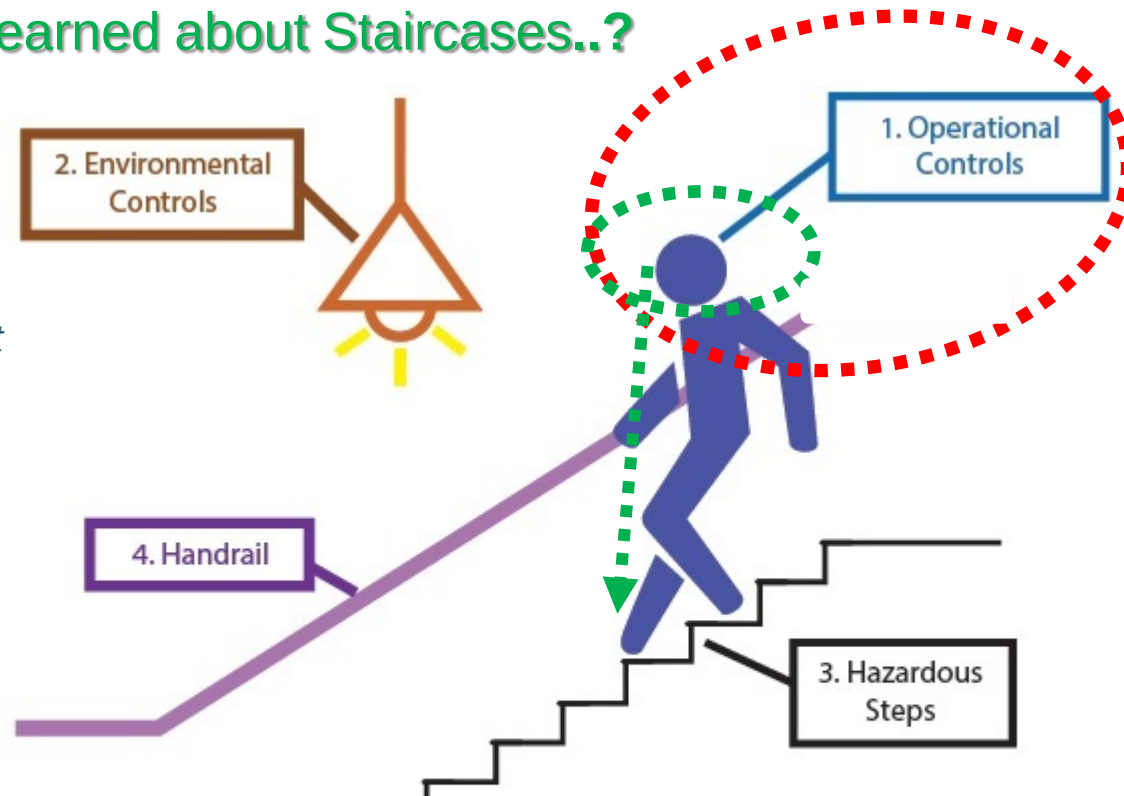
Operational Control = User's Behaviour

Reminder of Previous Lessons Learned about Staircases..?

Critical Human Behaviours necessary to safely use a staircase:

- o **Eyes on Task at Stairs:** Pay attention to the surroundings and particularly the placement of your foot on the steps of a staircase.
- o **Use the Handrails** when such is installed at a staircase. If not, Eyes on Feet becomes critical for your safety.

Operational Control of Ourselves as Individuals rests with Each One of Us personally – thus the need to align ourselves to the safety behaviour necessary.



Critical Considerations for Staircases

Operational Control = User's Behaviour

Reminder: CCR staircase does not require a handrail.

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