

A photograph of a warehouse floor with several metal wire carts on wheels. The floor is marked with yellow safety lines. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent grid pattern.

10 Signs

You Need New Anti-Fatigue Mats

[View eBook >>](#)



1. Eroded surfaces



1. Eroded surfaces

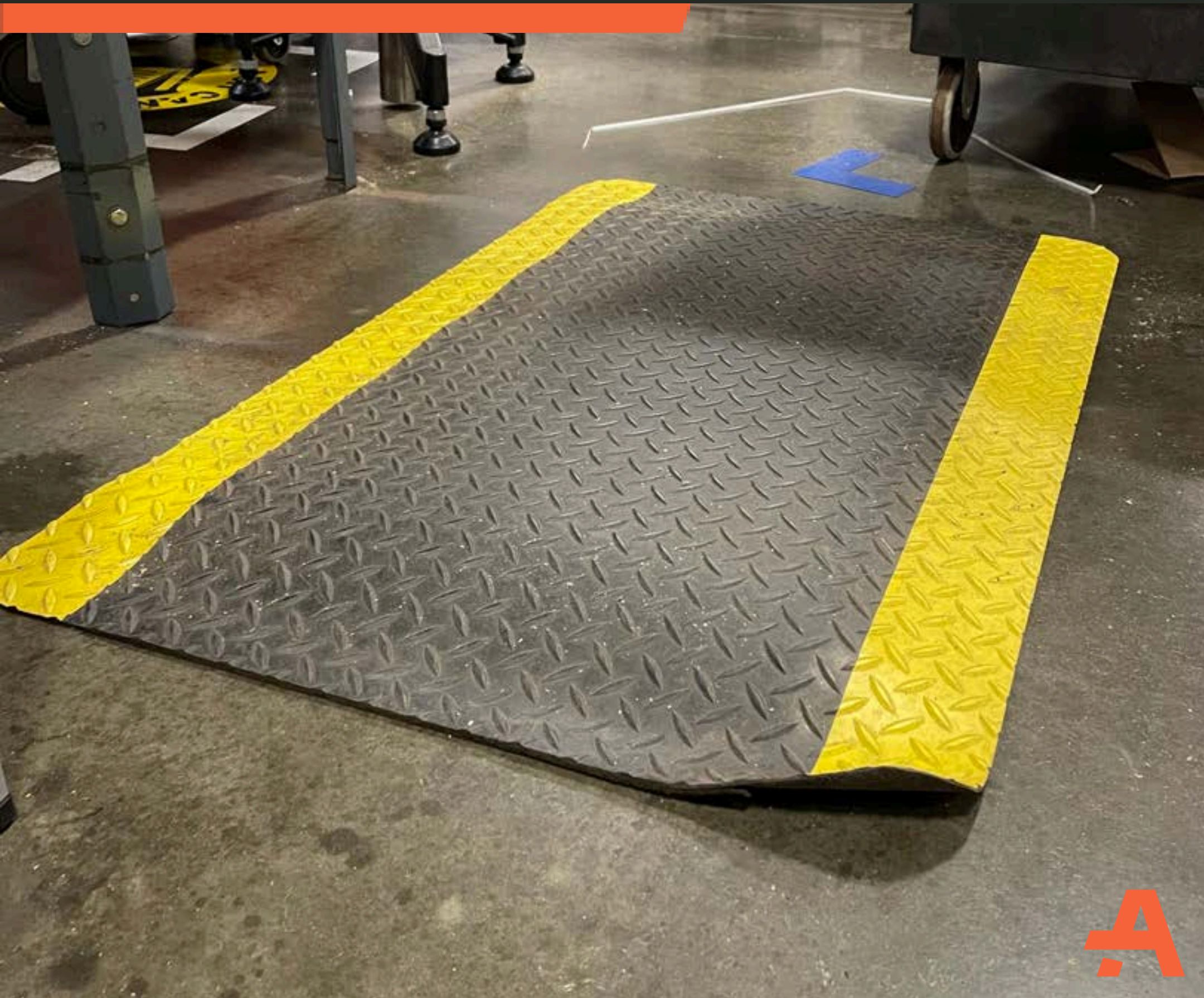
Erosion creates an uneven surface, inconsistent edges, and reduced traction. Consider mats made from 100% nitrile over PVC foam or PVC/nitrile blends. Pure nitrile is molded rather than extruded, closed cell, and impervious to liquids and chemicals. Conversely, PVC blends are open cell and prone to absorption, which leads to erosion, bloating and cracking.



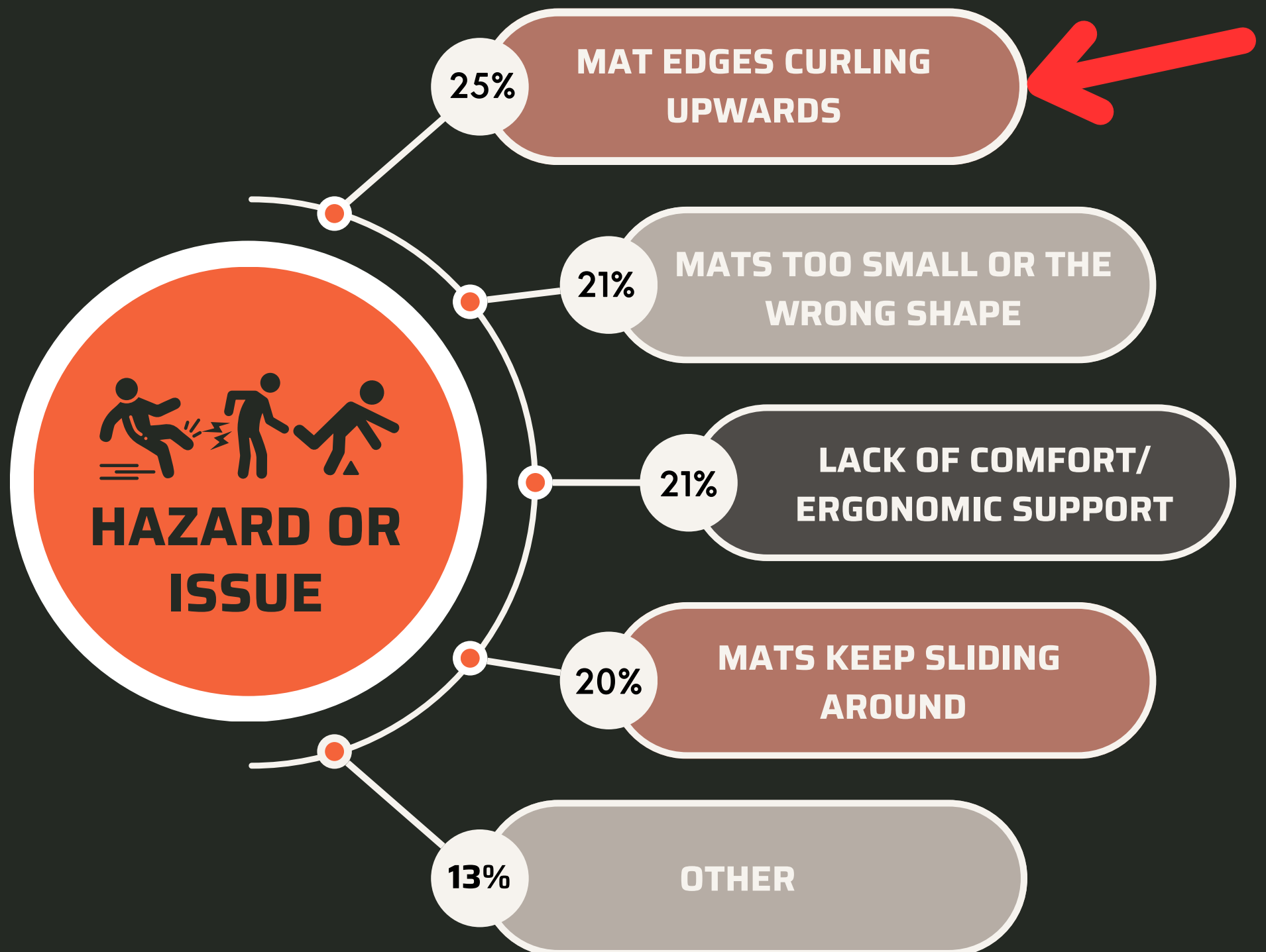
PVC foam vs. 100% nitrile



2. Curling borders



What's the most common complaint you receive about your ergo mats?



2. Curling borders

Curling is the most common anti-fatigue mat safety hazard. It's also entirely preventable. The durability of your mats – i.e., how they perform *in your particular environment* – is the most important factor in preventing curling. Design is 1A, followed by making sure your warranties protect against curling.

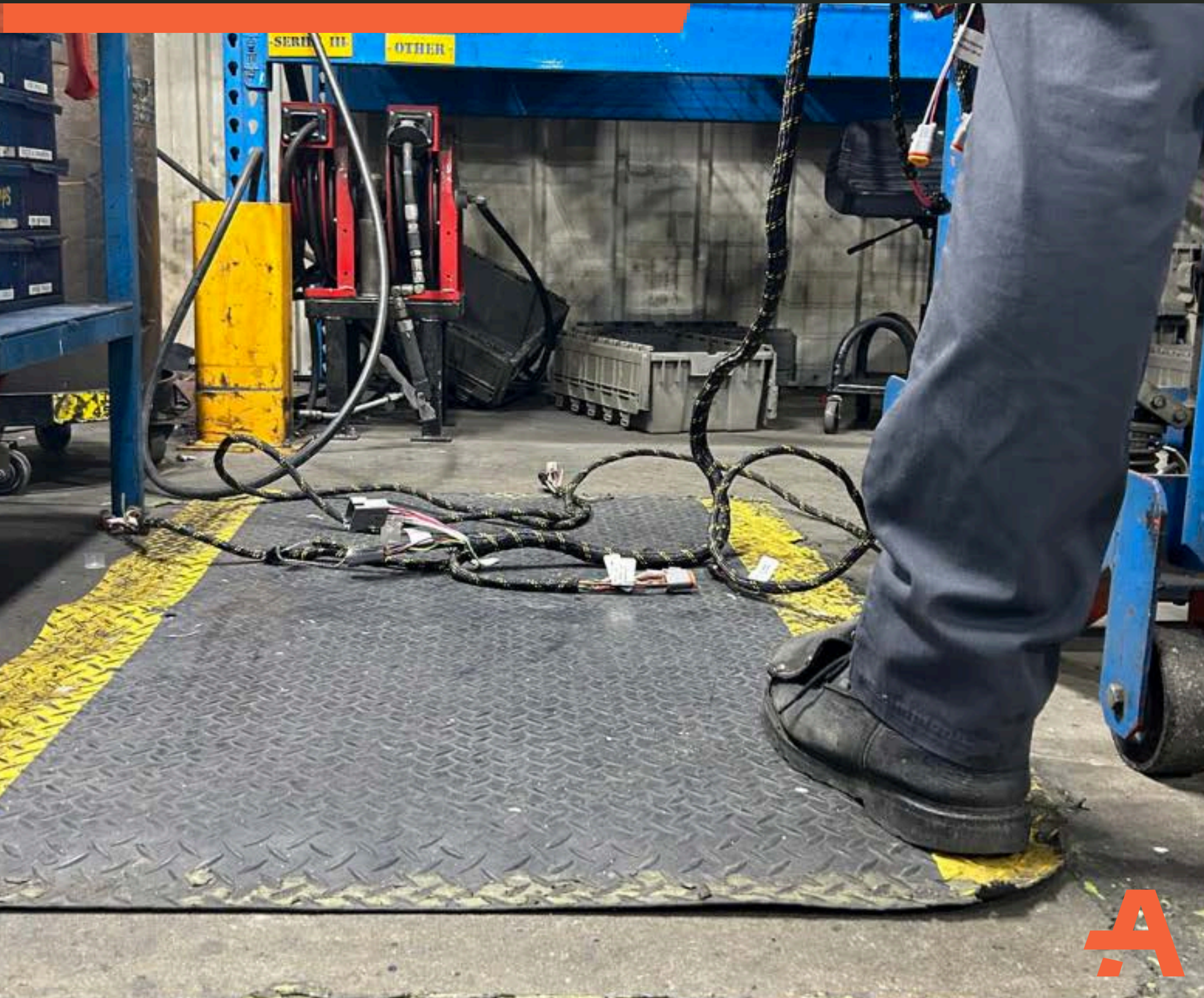


5 Ways to Stop Anti-Fatigue Mat Curling [eBook]

From materials to design, this eBook explores how to make sure your mats remain flat



3. Flat or sunken mats



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Flat mats offer no ergonomic support or comfort, increase MSD injury risks, and create an uneven surface which increases the risks of rolled ankles and tripping.



PVC foam vs. 100% nitrile



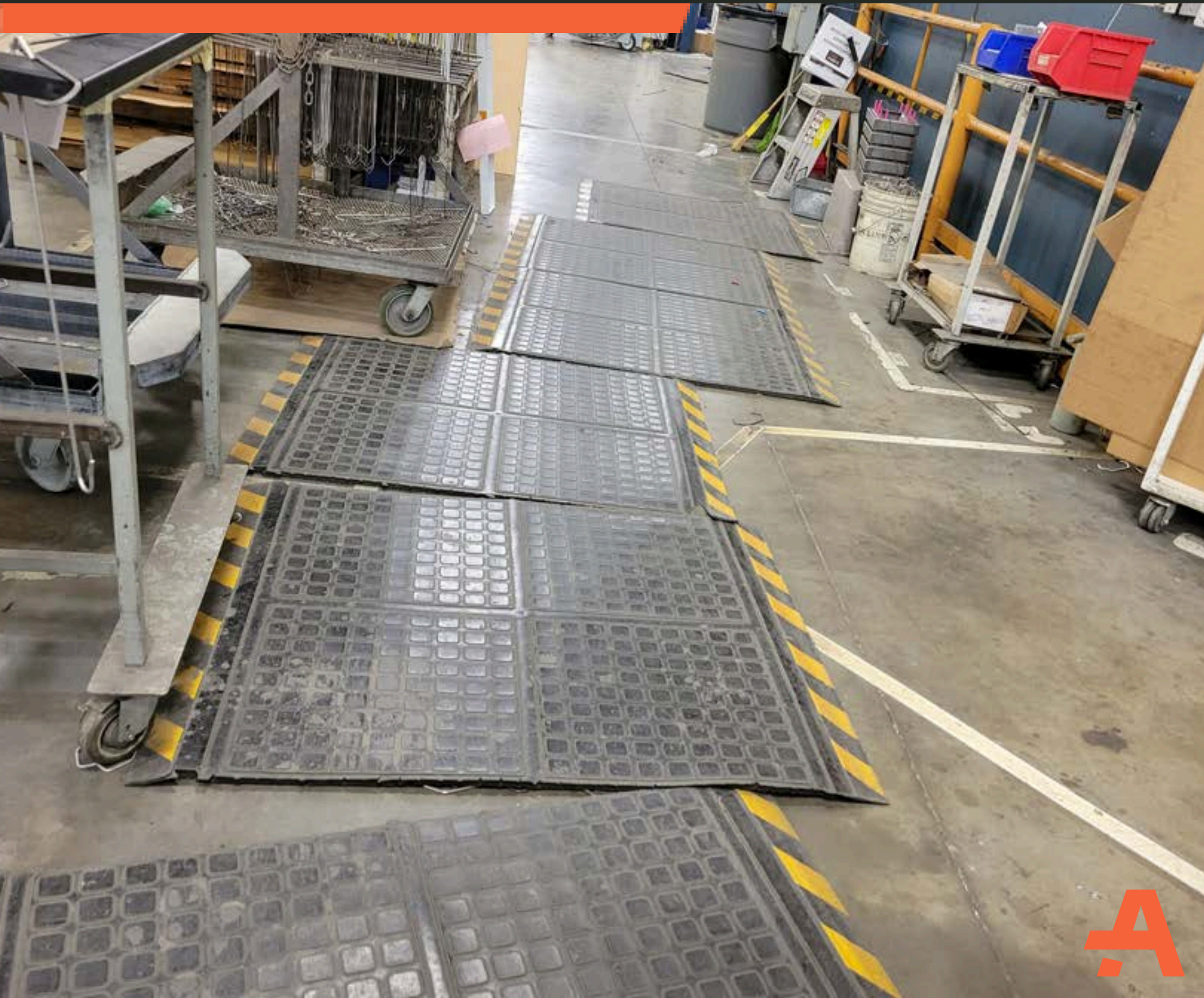
**PVC foam flattens
over time**



**100% nitrile
never flattens**



4. Pieced together mats

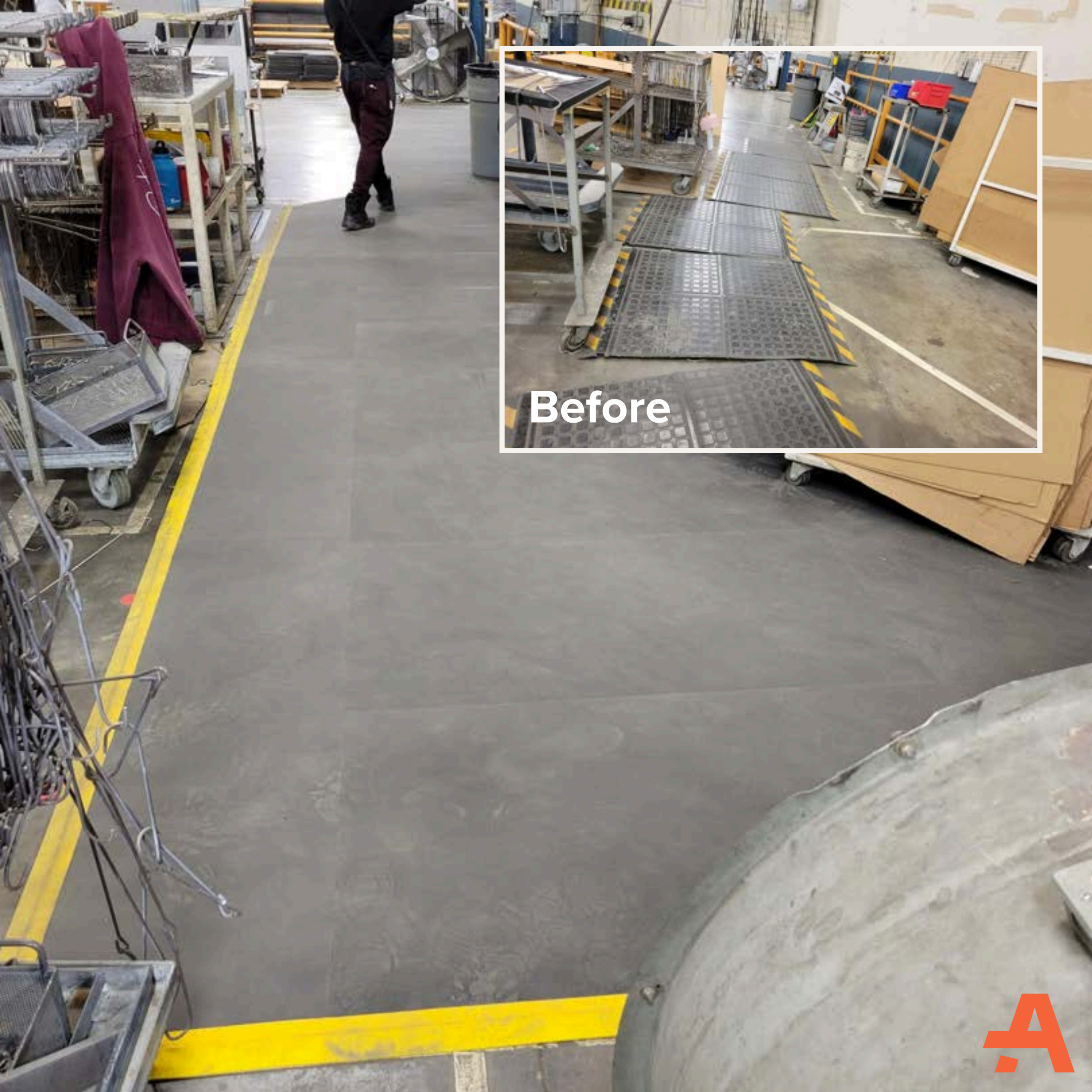


4. Pieced together mats

40% of safety and production leaders say “having to piece together rectangular mats” to cover complex workspaces is a major challenge with anti-fatigue mats.

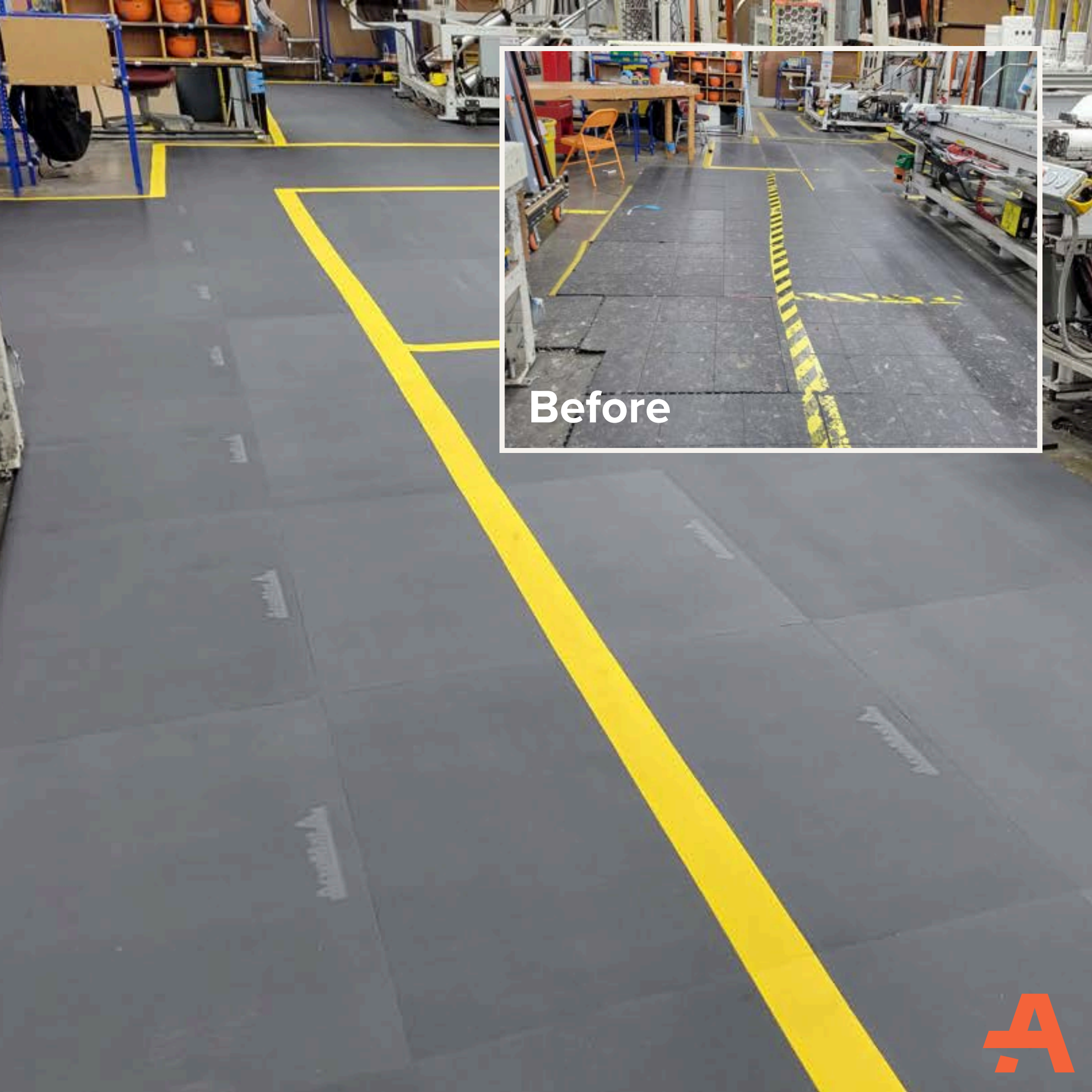
Disconnected mats are ‘out on an island,’ making them likely to slide, and the gaps create trip hazards. Designing one-piece, custom mats to fit ‘like a glove’ is one way to permanently eliminate this issue.





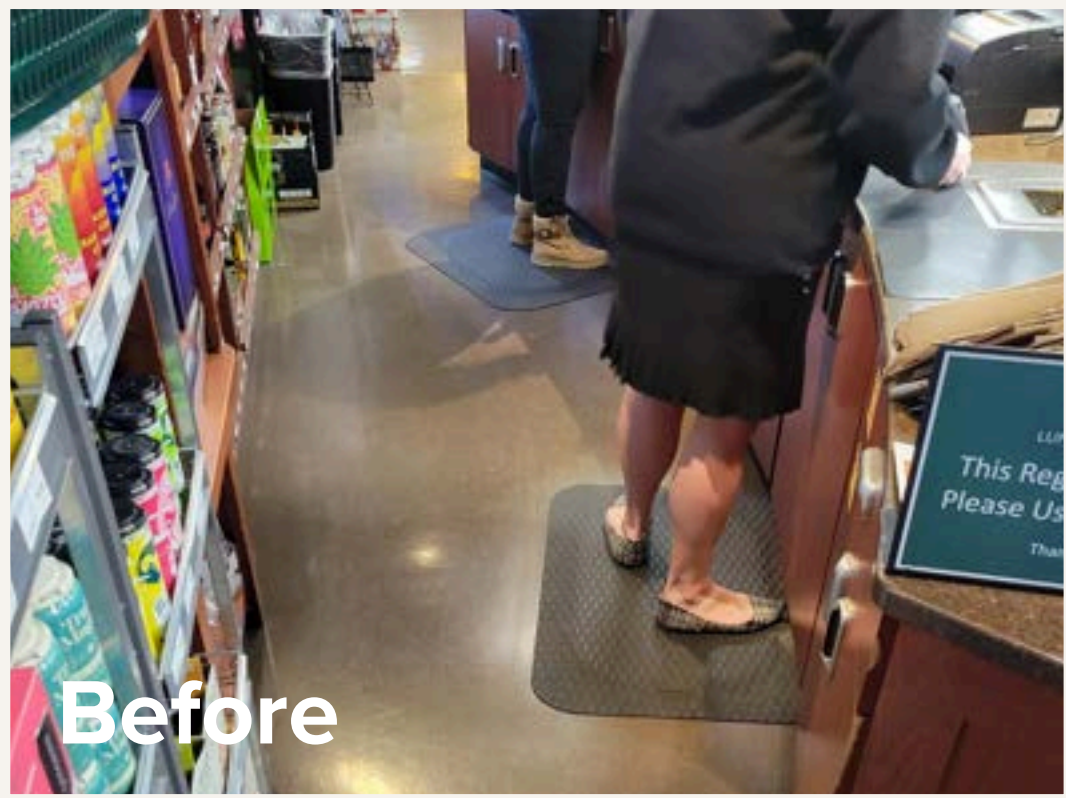
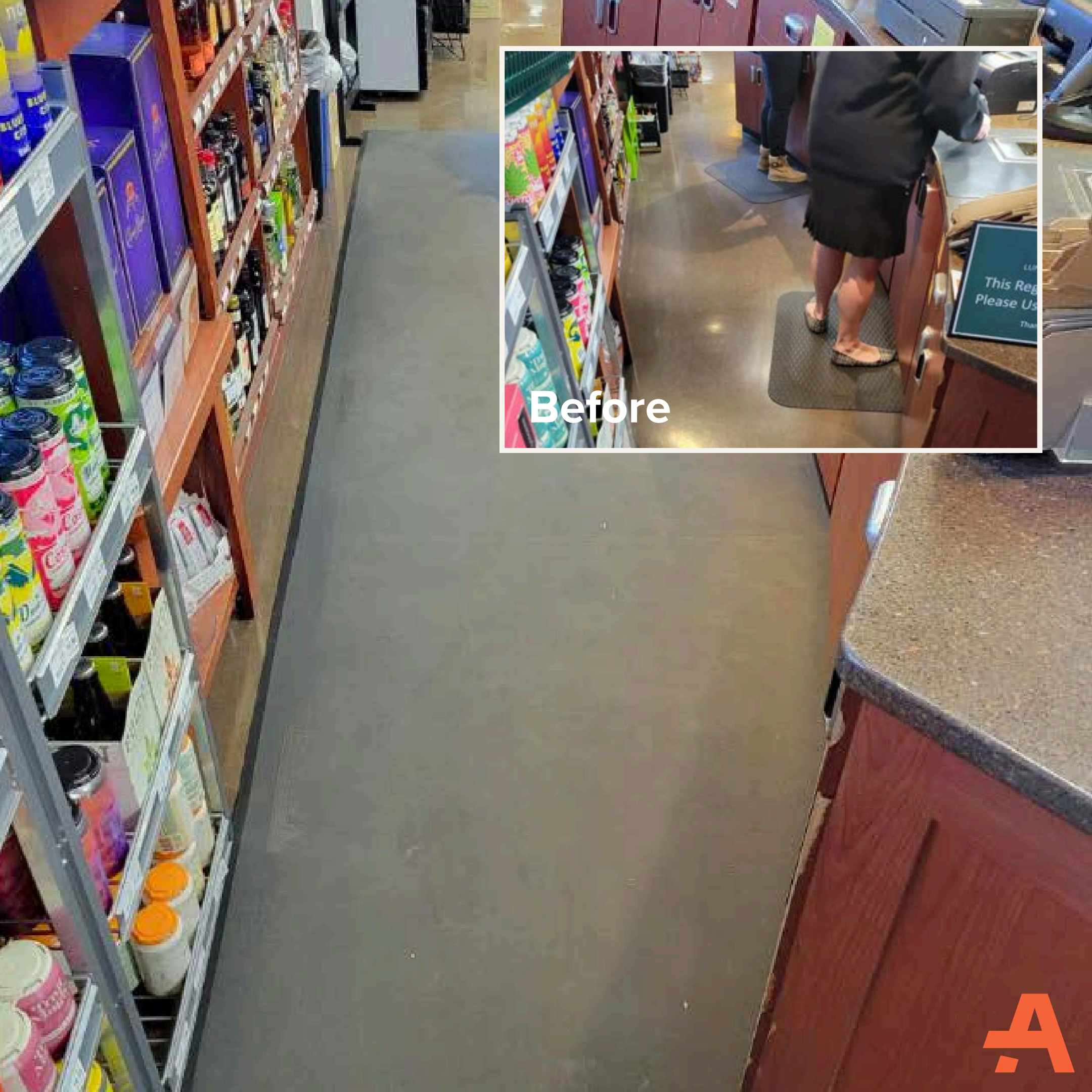
Before





Before

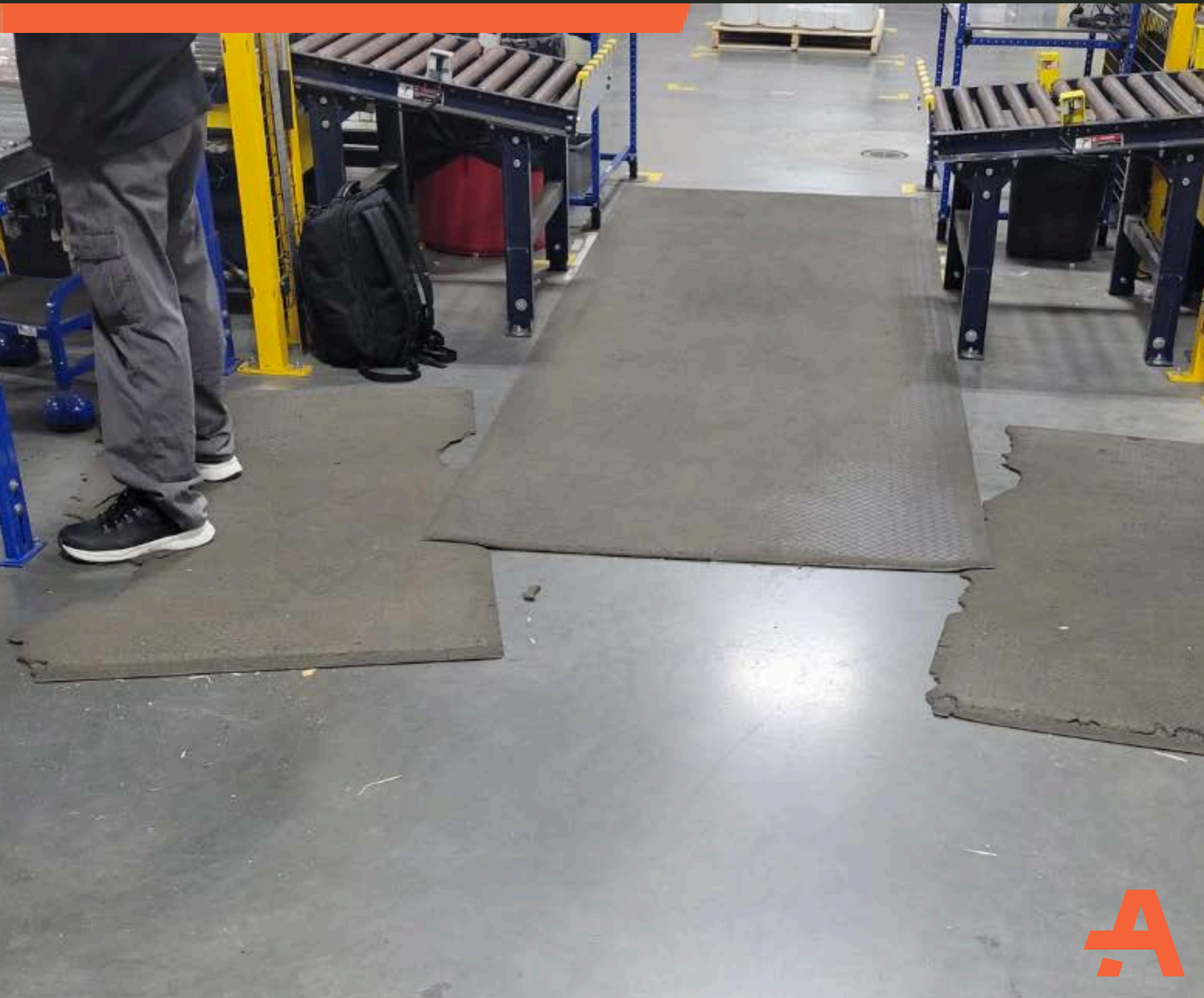




Before



5. Sliding mats



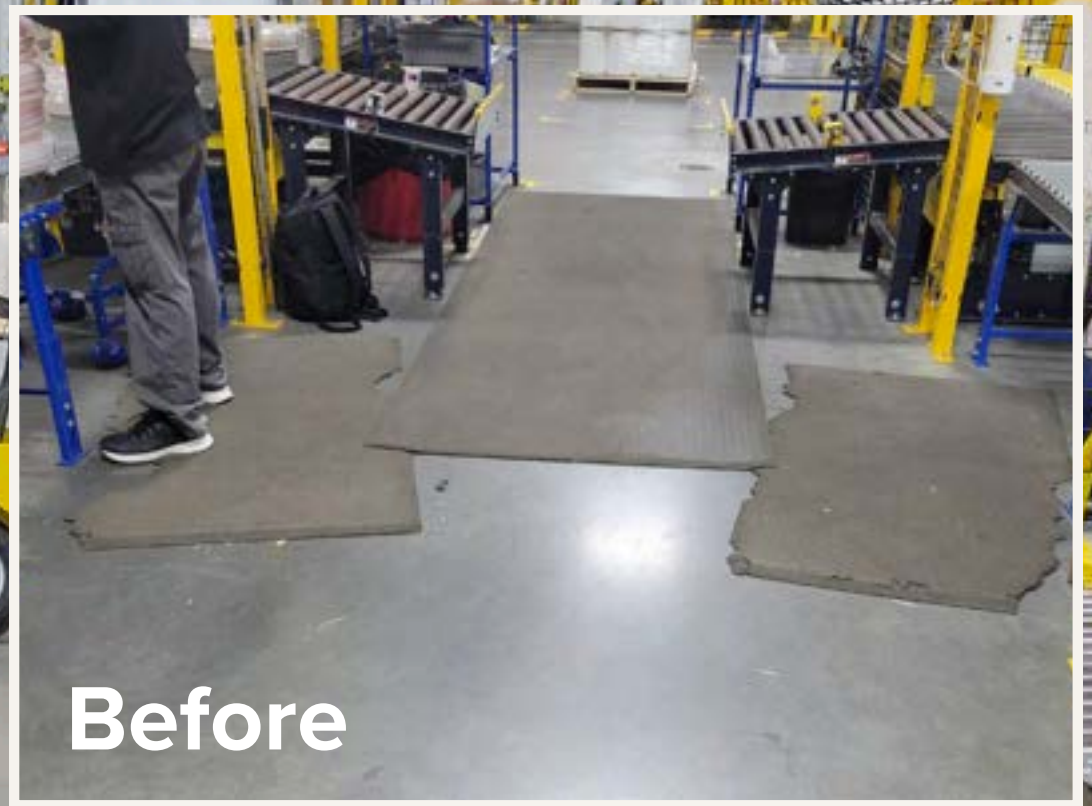
5. Sliding mats

1 in 5 manufacturing facilities are dealing with anti-fatigue mats that slide around – a clear safety hazard. The average slip, trip and fall injury claim? \$50,000 and 12 missed days.

Potential solutions:

- Create a glove-like fit
- Stop piecing together disconnected mats
- 100% nitrile over PVC foam or PVC blends
- Add a non-slip backing





Before

100% nitrile, glove-like fit, no sliding



6. Stacked mats



6. Stacked mats

Employees stack mats for two reasons. Either their mats have gone flat and they're looking for additional comfort, or the cushion is intact but inadequate. "Stacked mats may seem to have more cushion, but in reality it creates postural instability similar to working in high heels for hours at a time," says Ergonomist Mary Plehal. "It also creates a higher risk of slips, trips, falls and rolled ankles."



7. Edge standing



7. Edge standing

Nitrile anti-fatigue mats have proven to reduce pain and discomfort by as much as 50% compared to hard surfaces. If they're too small, however, they may be causing both. "Standing with only half the foot in contact with the mat promotes a non-neutral ankle posture similar to standing in high heels," says Ergonomist Mike Janak. "If the postures are static and the worker stands like this for long periods, it may result in MSD injury."



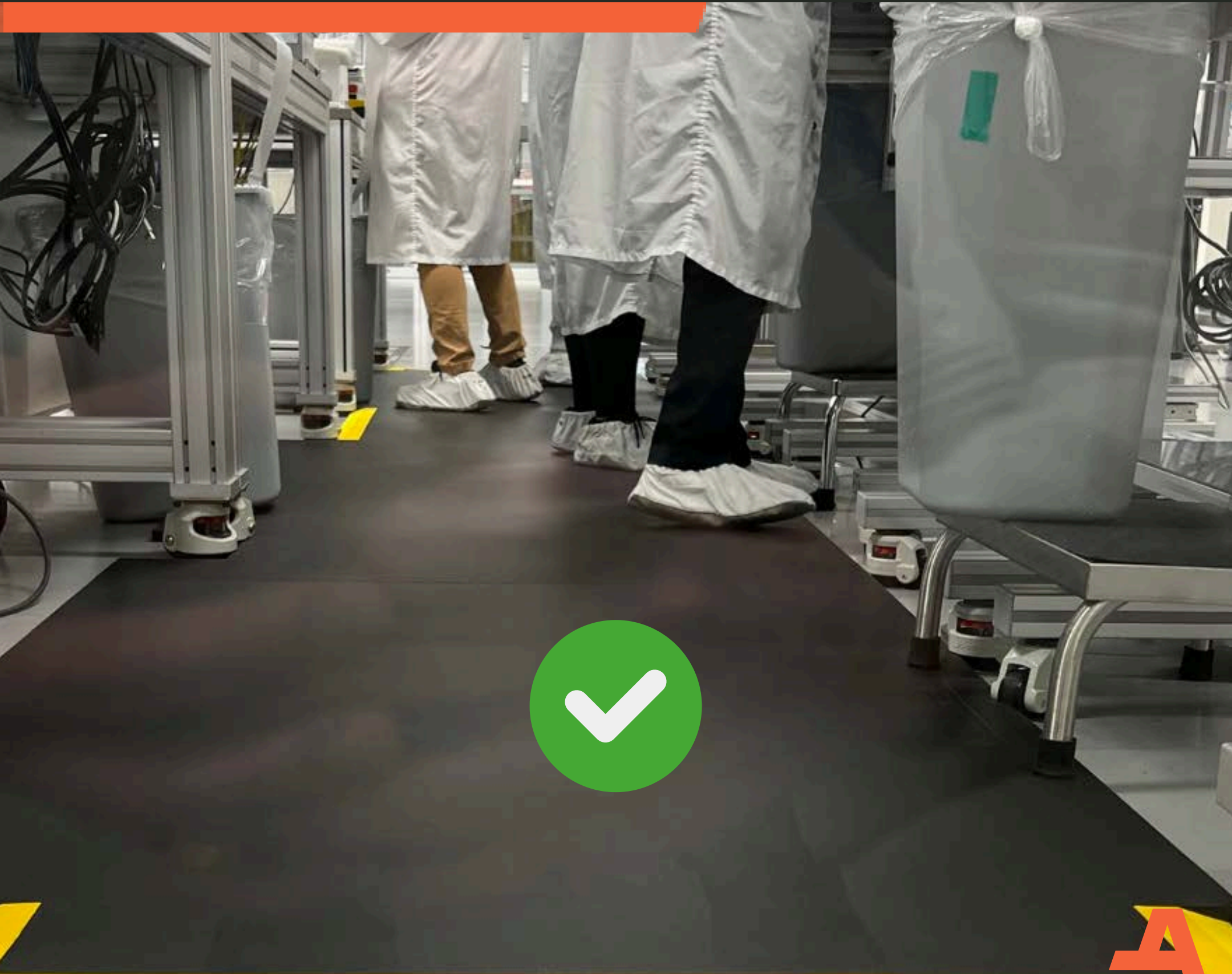
Edge standing



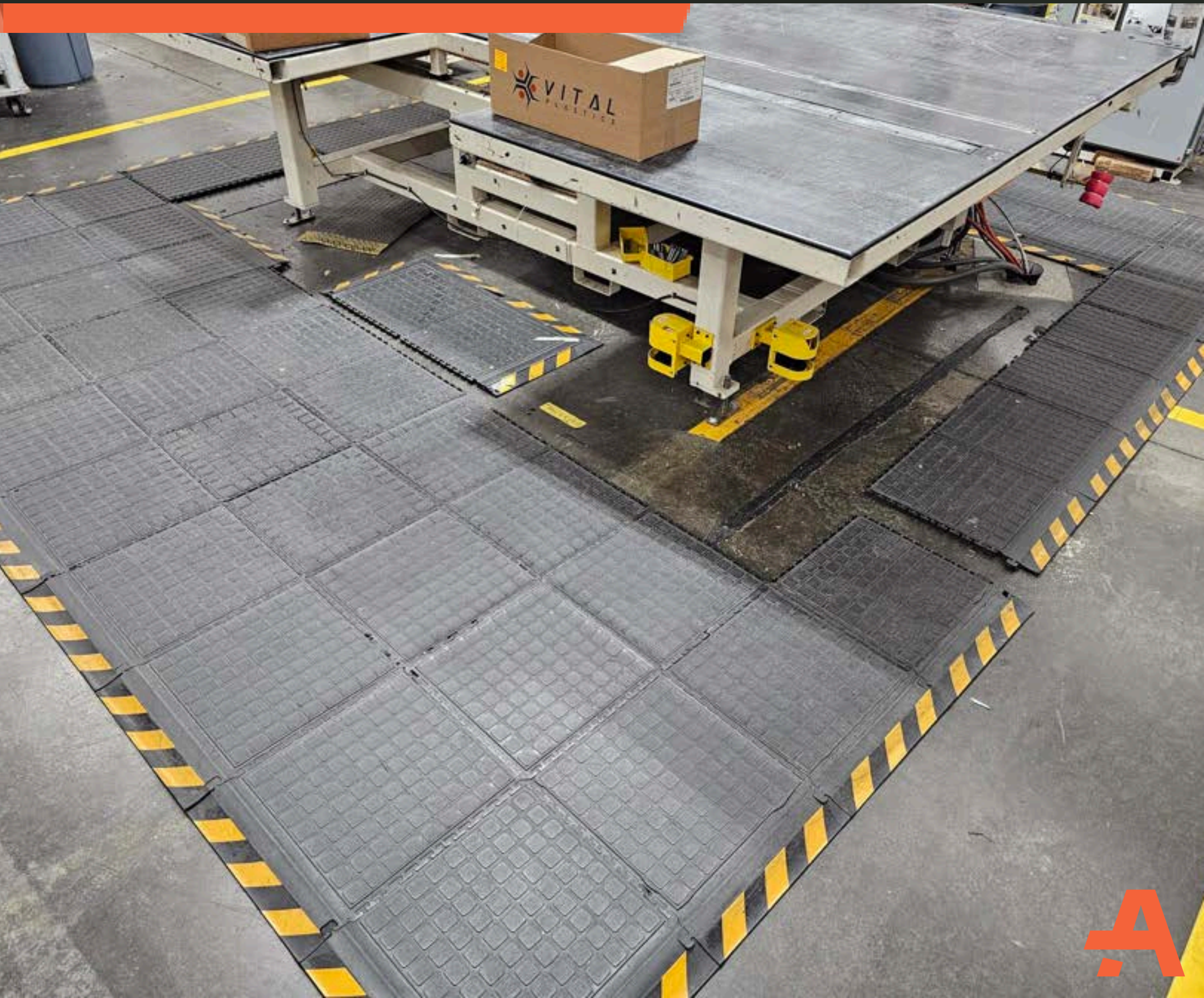
Edge standing



Custom design eliminates edge standing



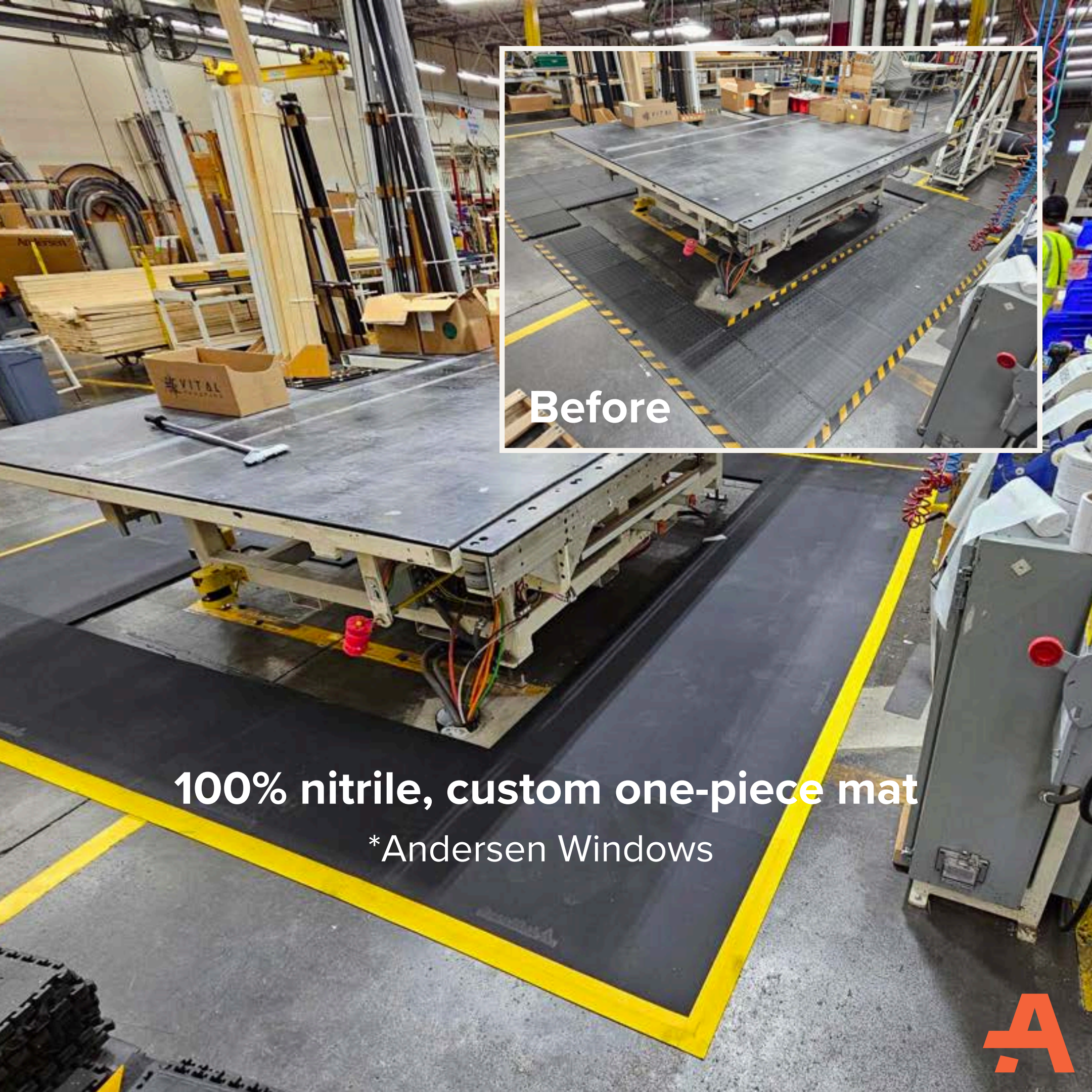
8. Tile seams pulling apart



8. Tile seams pulling apart

Unlike one-piece custom anti-fatigue mats, modular tiles have to be snapped together like a puzzle, meaning they're not airtight. They're also made from a PVC material that isn't impervious to liquids or chemicals. As products embed in the seams, they begin to pull apart – creating trip hazards.



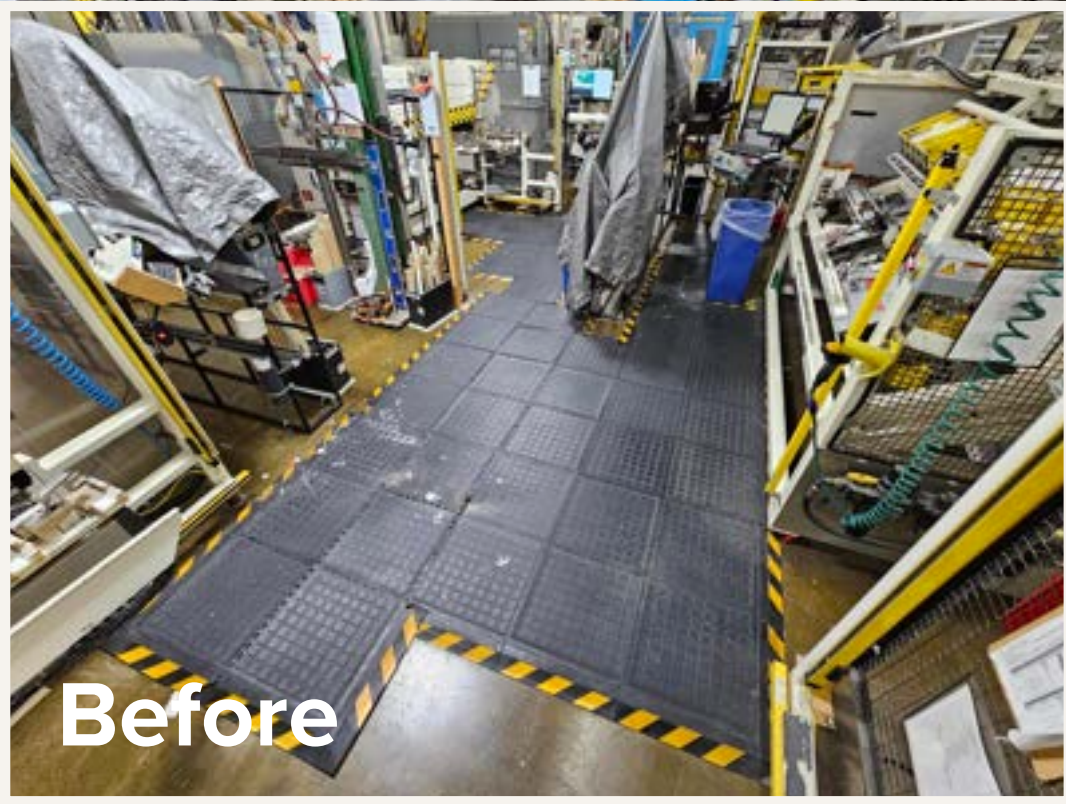


Before

100% nitrile, custom one-piece mat

*Andersen Windows





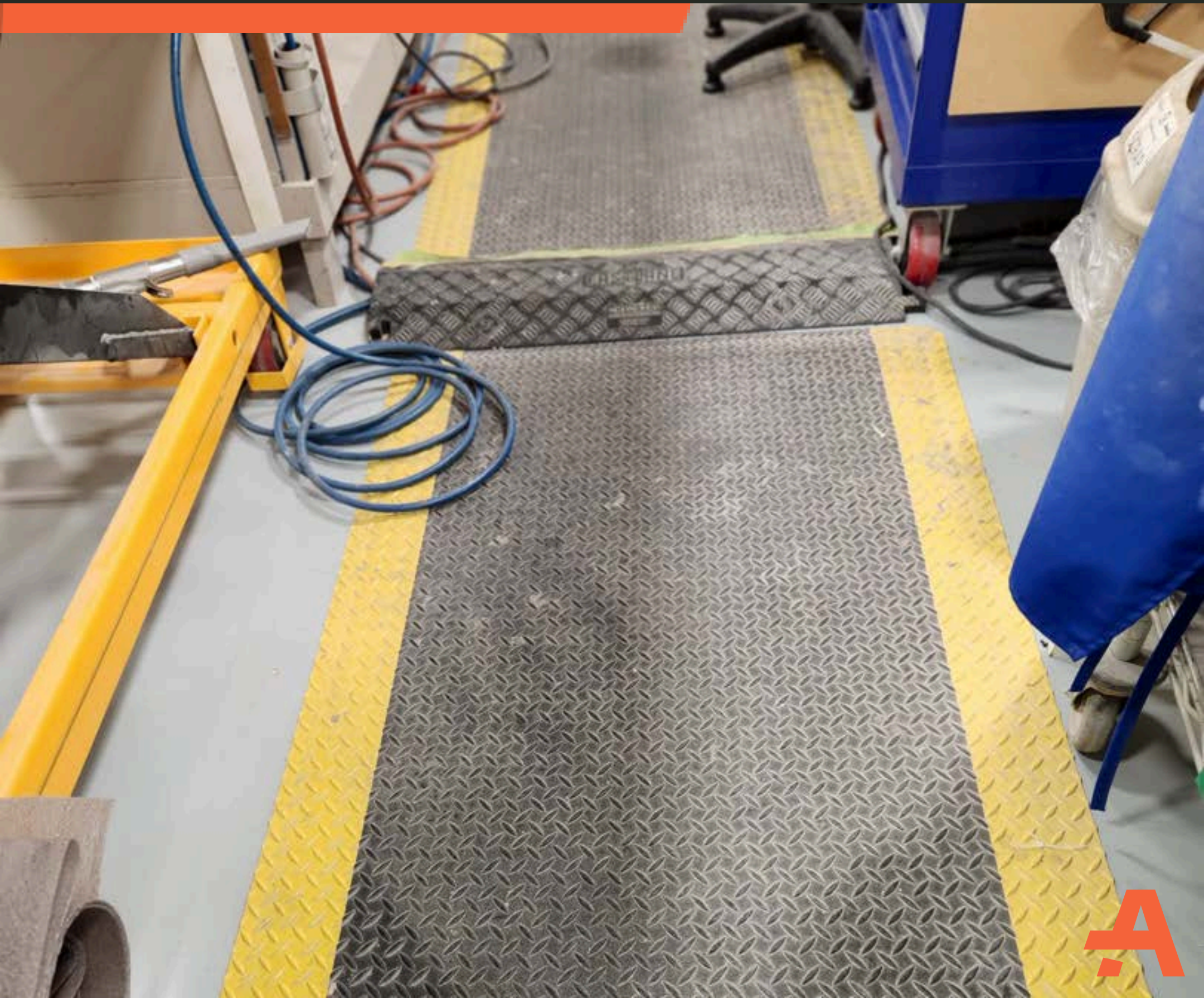
Before

100% nitrile, custom one-piece mat

*Andersen Windows



9. Exposed cords and cables



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According to the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health, one of the easiest ways to reduce slip, trip and fall hazards is to make sure cables don't cross walkways. Unfortunately, with anti-fatigue mats this is usually impossible. The traditional approach is to add a raised cable cover to the area, which creates an additional trip hazard.



9. Exposed cords and cables

One solution is to replace conventional mats with a custom mat that includes a built-in mat channel or cover. These lay as flat as the mat, eliminating trip hazards, and accommodate cart traffic without issue.

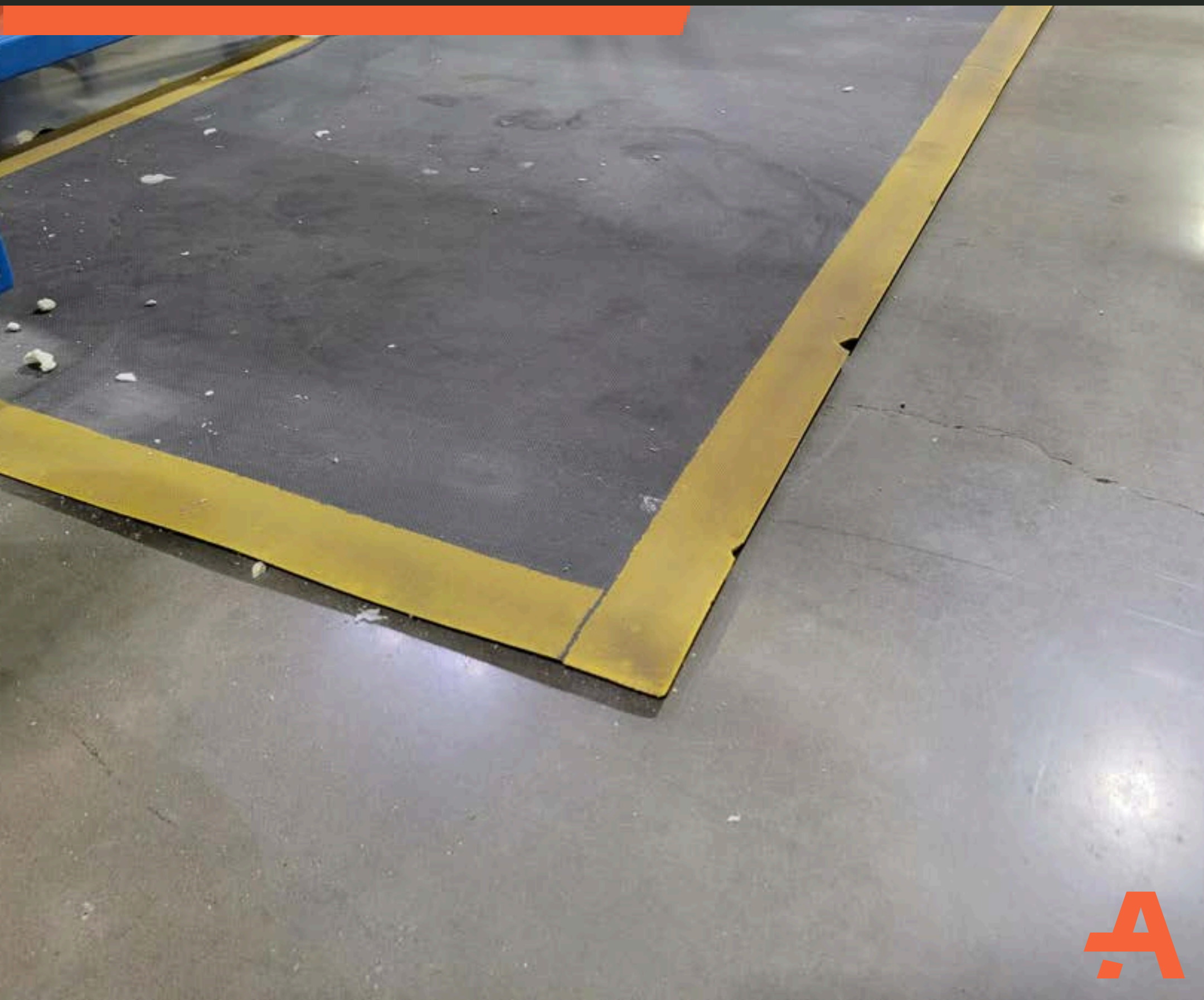




Before



10. Mats flipped upside down



10. Mats flipped upside down

Similar to stacked mats, it's common to find mats flipped upside down because employees are looking for a "fresh" side, or the top surface is severely damaged. Either way, this creates a trip hazard and is often a sign the mat has reached the end of its useful life.




Trip hazard



Mat Inspection Checklist

Assess your mats and know exactly what to look for with our printable checklist




Anti-Fatigue Mat Inspection Checklist 

Name: _____ Date: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Name of Area:	Incorrect Size/Gap/On-Off Stepping	Curving Borders/Missing Bevels	Visible Damage/Rips/Tears	Reduced Ergonomic Cushion/Flat	Exposed Cords and Cables	Eroded Surface/Lost Traction	Mat Needs Replacing (Y/N)
Comments:							
Comments:							
Comments:							
Comments:							
Comments:							
Comments:							
Comments:							

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