


A worker in a tire shop is shown from the waist down, wearing blue jeans, a black shirt, and a yellow safety vest. He is working on a large black tire mounted on a green machine. The tire is positioned on a wooden platform. The worker is wearing a black cap and has a tattoo on his left arm. The background shows a computer monitor and other equipment in the shop.

6 Ways to Stop Your Ergo Mats From Sliding





1 in 5 safety and production leaders are dealing with anti-fatigue mats that slide around – a clear and preventable slip, trip and fall (STF) hazard. The average STF injury claim? \$50,000 per injury, including 12 missed days of work. Ahead, 6 ways to prevent your mats from sliding.





1. Stop piecing together disconnected mats

40% of safety and production leaders say “having to piece together rectangular mats” to cover a work area is their No. 1 anti-fatigue mat challenge, specifically the STF risks this creates. Piecing mats together leaves each individual piece out on an island rather than part of a whole, making them significantly more likely to slide.





Faced with sliding mats, nVent designed a custom one-piece mat to a precise shape and size to eliminate the need to piece together rectangular mats that didn't properly fit. The size, shape and material combined to ensure the mat remains in place with no threat of sliding.





Before





After





2. Re-visit the mat materials

Mats made from PVC foam and PVC/nitrile blends are more likely to slide because they aren't designed *not* to slide. The materials aren't impervious to liquids and chemicals, which make them prone to buckling, curling and eroding over time. As the bottom surface breaks down and loses its non-slip properties, they begin to slide underfoot – especially in wet/oily environments.



Erosion

Sliding around

Gaps / ergonomic risk

Torn borders

PVC foam





At AcroMat, we make our mats from closed cell, 100% nitrile rubber foam. Unlike PVC blends, pure nitrile is impervious to liquids and chemicals, which aids in adhering the mat to the floor by eliminating the risk of buckling and erosion. Precise materials along with specific shape and size work together to eliminate any risk of sliding.





100% nitrile, custom shape/size



3. Create a glove-like fit





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Rectangular mats too small for a workstation are often pieced together, stacked and overlapped. This creates trip and slip hazards. It also makes mats more likely to slide because they aren't naturally adhered to the floor, as intended, but instead piled on top of each other. Conversely, as previously touched on, mats designed to fit the workspace have nowhere to slide.



Stacked, no grip on floor



Sign of sliding



Overlapping, trip hazard





1-piece custom design. Glove-like fit, which removes risk of sliding. 100% nitrile impervious to liquids and chemicals, which eliminates threat of erosion or breakdown of non-slip qualities.





4. Add a non-slip backing

Non-slip coatings can be painted or rolled on to the bottom of your anti-fatigue mats, adding a higher coefficient of friction in vulnerable areas. There are a number of quality options available on the market. At AcroMat, we use GripCoteX, a water- and oil-resistant coating. “These mats aren't moving,” shared Amanda Eskew, EHS Specialist with Nokian Tyres.





5. Look for non-slip certified products

The National Floor Safety Institute (NFSI) is the leading independent agency for anti-fatigue product testing and certification. NFSI uses an intricate system to test and certify mat slip-resistance. The assessment results provide you with objective insight related to sliding risks.



NFSI

HIGH-TRACTION



NFSI's testing system provides mats with a Transitional Coefficient of Friction rating:

- **Lower than 0.4** – Low traction / high probability of sliding
- **Between 0.4 and 0.6** – Moderate / avg. probability
- **Greater than 0.6** – High traction / low probability of sliding

According to NFSI, mats in the “low traction” category are more prone to sliding. Mats in the “high-traction” category have proven to reduce wet-slip claims by 50-90%. AcroMat mats grade at the top end of the “high traction” category.





NFSI has a public database of every anti-fatigue mat and flooring product certified for “high traction.” If the mats you're considering are certified, you will find them in the NFSI database.



nfsi.org/certifications/certified-products/





6. Keep your work area clean

Over 40% of our audience doesn't have a formal cleaning cadence. Laying mats on unclean surfaces increases the risk of sliding; puddles are obviously slippery, but even particle buildup can create a mini-wheel effect under your mats. This not only increases the risk of sliding but reduces the life expectancy of your mats.





Summary



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Re-visit the mat materials



Create a glove-like fit



Add a non-slip backing



Look for non-slip certified products



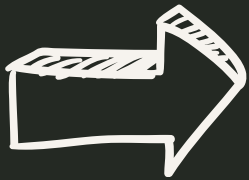
Keep your work area clean





ACROMAT

OUTPERFORM. OUTLAST.



Creating a new standard in comfort and durability, precision cut to fit your workspace.