



Date: May 22, 2023

Activity: Trip Hazard in Hallway

What Happened:

On a location with an electrical issue, an employee tripped over an extension cord laid across a hallway. The electrician doing the work needed to provide power to the room in which he was working and simply ran the cord from an outlet in the hallway to the room. An employee carrying a package didn't notice the cord and tripped over it but was able to maintain his balance and did not fall. The electrician heard the incident, went out into the hall, and saw the problem.

He rerouted the extension cord from across the hall to an adjacent room and ran it along the wall into the room he was working in.

Why it Happened:

- An extension cord was placed across a traffic path.
- Nobody was informed that it was there.
- A worker carrying an object did not see the cord.

Typical Hazards:

- Sprain, strain, bruising or worse:
- Concussion, fractures

Corrective Action:

During the next morning safety meeting, the near miss was reported and it was agreed that cords or any similar thing would be run close to walls when possible. If not, either an OSHA-approved power strip would be used or, if unavailable, the cord would be taped and a Wet Floor sign at minimum would be placed across the cord.