

How do you prevent workers at a heavy engineering plant from slipping on oil, grease and grime?

Like most heavy engineering plants, UK-based Howco Whitham uses cutting fluid in their processes, resulting in oily floors and a build up of grease and grime. Factory management wanted to find a permanent solution that would keep floors safe, as well as provide standing employees with comfort underfoot.

The problem

Howco Whitham is a heavy engineering plant in South Yorkshire, England, and one of the area's leading steel stockholders. The cutting fluids used in their engineering processes meant a large volume of oil, grease and grime was ending up on the production floor, creating slippery surfaces near the workbenches and machinery. In addition, employees had voiced concerns about standing for prolonged periods on the hard flooring. The company needed to find a permanent flooring solution that would not only help prevent accidents, but also provide workers with comfort underfoot.

The checklist

- ✓ Sits flush against machinery and production lines
- ✓ Provides anti-fatigue properties and comfort underfoot
- ✓ Quickly drains and dissipates spilled liquids
- ✓ Resistant to oils and chemicals
- ✓ Can be easily rolled up for daily cleaning

At a glance



Client

Howco Whitham

Brief

A permanent, slip-resistant flooring solution for a heavy-duty engineering plant.

Location

South Yorkshire, UK

Environment

Workplace

Industry

Industrial

Needs

Anti-fatigue, drainage, fall through, heavy duty, slip resistance

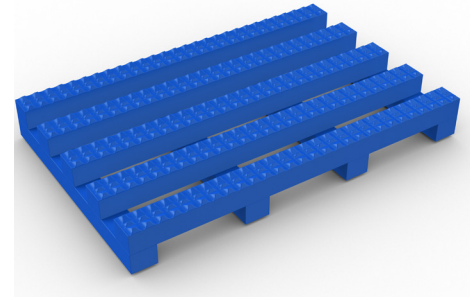
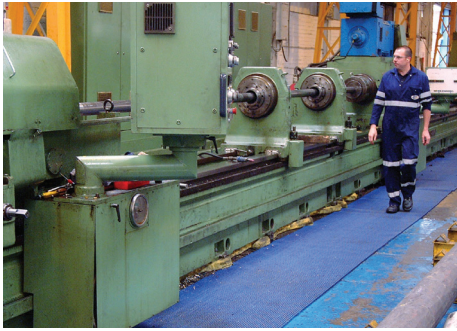
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Case Study

Vynagrip



The solution

We worked closely with the distributor, Rubber Safety Hygiene Ltd, to find the best solution for Howso Whitham's heavy-duty environment. After testing several options, Vynagrip was installed against and around the machinery, as well as along the full length of the steel processing lines.

Made from non-porous PVC, Vynagrip is impermeable to oils, acids and chemicals, making it ideal for factory environments with high volumes of production waste. Its open-grid construction allows maximum drainage, while the diamond cut pattern provides superior grip and slip resistance. It's also perfect for workplaces with standing employees: the two-layer construction provides comfortable cushioning and anti-fatigue properties proven to help boost productivity.

"Because of our heavy engineering processes, there's constant use of cutting oil. Inevitably, this used to create a problem with slippery surfaces, particularly near the workbenches and around the machinery. Vynagrip has proved to be the ideal solution, making the environment much safer to work in. Our employees are delighted!"

Andrew Marwood, engineering and manufacturing director, Howco Group



Product spotlight: Vynagrip

Our number one defence against slippery environments, Vynagrip is a heavy-duty mat that delivers both slip resistance and anti-fatigue properties.

Features:



Diamond cut pattern



Two layer open-grid construction



Made from non-porous PVC



Proven anti-fatigue properties



Comes in 10m (33') rolls or ramped modules

Benefits:



Certified slip resistant
(DIN 51130:RI I, ASTM I677: 1.0/0.9)



Excellent drainage (DIN 51130:V10)



Resistant to chemicals, acids, oils



Boosts productivity



Contours to uneven surfaces