

Is There a Mat Season?

YES and it runs from January through December each year.

- The estimated cost of finding and removing a kilogram of dirt from a supermarket is \$1000
- 70-80 per cent of dust, grime and dirt is tracked in from the outside by customers' feet damaging your floors
- Without effective entrance matting 1500 people can remove 42 per cent of the finish from a floor and slip and fall exposure is increased. This can increase twofold in inclement weather



The reality is that little attention is paid to proper entrance matting in most supermarkets. The mats are often too small to be effective and have outlived their useful life and are not doing what they were intended for.

Entrance matting should cover an entrance, preventing 80 to 85 per cent of dirt from coming into the facility. There is also a standard formula for entrance matting, the order of which is important in ensuring an efficient matting system:

An aggressive type of matting should be placed in traffic entry points outside a building. Scraper mats are your first line of defence and should remove up to 50 per cent of dirt off shoes.

The second line of defense, is indoor/outdoor matting strategically placed at entrance points. It is typically comprised of heavy-duty polypropylene and should be placed right inside the door. This matting will dust and dry shoes and should extend two metres in.

OHS Training Sessions

Part of the Master Grocers service is in-store training. Allison is travelling to metro stores to conduct Responsible Service of Alcohol for groups of ten or more, and I recently conducted an OHS session for all of Alan Fishers management team in Mildura.



Pictured are our 'injured' employee and concerned colleague.

We have written several sessions over the years, specifically for members. These include Sexual Harassment training, OHS, and Bullying and Harassment. On one occasion I delivered bullying and harassment training to just one employee and his manager after a series of staff complaints. Following a subsequent incidence of bullying in the store the employee was dismissed, and the employer was fully covered from any comeback. This was the extreme, but it does highlight the degree of service your Master Grocers membership provides.

Alan Fisher and Greg Earle identified that they needed all of their management team to hear the same story, and participate in the same discussion, at the same time for greatest effectiveness and consistency. True, it was a very full-on day, however we all enjoyed the discussion and banter, while at the same time effectively covering many areas of the NSW and Victoria OHS Act's.

Jennifer Flanagan

SAFETY BEGINS ON THE FLOOR

The majority of shop injuries are caused by slips and falls on floors without proper matting.

Be prepared call Bardwell's TODAY!

Barry Bardwell

2/169 Grange Road, Fairfield Victoria 3078

Phone: 9499 5991 Fax: 9499 5961 Mobile: 0408 364 491

Email: bardwell@bardwellmatting.com.au

www.bardwellmatting.com.au

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