## **Dealing with a spillage**

- Covered by primary authority assured advice

Cloth	N/A
PPE	• Disposable gloves • Disposable apron • Face mask
Chemicals	Cleaner and degreaser
Reference	Safety policies • COSHH manual • Risk assessment manual     SOP B0008 - How to complete hourly toilet checks     SOP B0080 - Use of the Henry carpet and upholstery cleaning machine • A4 Handwash poster
Equipment	<ul> <li>Yellow hazard warning sign (Wet Floor or Cleaning in Progress)</li> <li>Blue mop and bucket for all other areas</li> <li>Blue roll</li> <li>Dust pan and brush</li> <li>Bin liners</li> <li>Stiff bristled broom</li> </ul>
<b>▶</b> VideoSOP	To be used together with this written SOP:  'Dealing with a spillage' video. Tap here to play
	'Preventing slips, trips and falls' video. Tap here to play

### Step 1



- As soon as a spillage is reported, place a hazard warning sign immediately at the scene of the spillage.
- Seek assistance from a colleague to supervise the area where the spillage has occurred until the area has been made safe.
- High risk, high traffic areas such as dance floors must be checked for spillages frequently during peak times.
- Arrange an alternative bypass route for customers/employees.
- If the spillage involves any bodily fluid eg, blood, vomit, faeces, then spill powder must be used. Go to Step 5.

### Step 2



#### For spillages on hard surfaces:

- Using a clean colour coded mop and bucket (with chemical if required), mop up the spillage.
- Dispose of all dirty water from the bucket as soon as mopping is completed.
- Store the mop bucket in a safe location.

#### For spillages on carpets:



- Use the carpet upholstery cleaning machine to remove excess liquid from the carpet. Take care to ensure that trailing cables do not present a trip hazard.
   Refer to SOP B0080 - Use of the Henry carpet and upholstery cleaning machine.
- Pay particular attention to any hard surfaces such as tiles or wooden flooring around the edge of the carpet, and ensure that these are dried.
- If a breakage has occurred eg, glass/crockery use a dust pan and brush to remove the debris and dispose of in the appropriate bin.

### Step 3



- Wearing disposable gloves, wipe the area with blue roll to dry the floor.
- Dispose of the blue roll immediately.

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### Step 4



• Leave the hazard warning sign in place until the floor is completely dry.

# Step



• If the spillage involves any bodily fluid eg, blood, vomit, faeces, then spill powder must be used.

- Do not use the carpet upholstery cleaning machine to remove spillages involving bodily fluids.
- Wearing disposable gloves, face mask and a disposable apron, pour the powder in front of the spill, not directly onto it, partially surrounding it.
- The amount used will depend on the amount of liquid spillage.

### Step 6



• Using a stiff bristled broom push the powder onto the surface of the spill and mix until all the liquid is absorbed.

# Step 7



- When the spill is fully absorbed remove with a dustpan and stiff bristled broom.
- Empty the contents of the dustpan into a bin liner and tie.
- Place this inside another bin liner which must also be tied.
- Dispose in a general refuse wheelie bin.

### Step 8



- Disposable gloves, face mask and a disposable apron must be worn when spill powder is in use.
- Ensure all equipment used with spill powder, including broom, dust pan and brush are thoroughly cleaned in hot soapy water, sprayed with sanitiser and allowed to air dry after use.
- Once the task is completed, dispose of gloves, apron and face mask immediately in a general waste bin and wash hands.
- Ensure that the hazard warning sign is removed once the floor is dry.
- Yellow hazard warning sign (Wet Floor or Cleaning in Progress) must be cleaned regularly using hot soapy water and a clean blue cloth.

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