

DAVID COLLETTE, WACH

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SLIP, TRIP, AND FALL INVESTIGATION EXPERIENCE

- Investigated incidents for both defense and plaintiff
- Have performed investigations in over 160 cases
- Qualified in court as an expert in slips, trips, and falls
- Cases have included walkway/bathing surfaces, stairways, ramps, curb ramps, sidewalks, parking lots, handrails, guards, lighting, chair glides, bath and walk-off mats, walkway/bathing surface coefficient of friction, surface roughness, cleaning procedures, wheel stops, and bollards
- Walkway surfaces have included interior and exterior concrete, tile, vinyl, epoxy, and floor finish with wet, dry, oily, icy, coated, treated, painted, vertically/horizontally misaligned and uneven surfaces
- Bathing surfaces have included bathtubs, showers, and barefoot surfaces including pool decks
- Stairways have included interior and exterior stairs with concrete, metal, wood, and carpeted walkway surfaces, one and two riser stairs, and wood and metal handrails and guards
- Coefficient of friction measurements have included wet and dry walkway and bathing surfaces, chair glides, and bath and walk-off mats using static and dynamic coefficients of friction
- Investigated indoor and outdoor slip, trip, and fall incidents in locations including retail (food and nonfood), commercial, residential, restaurant, office, education, healthcare, parking lot (paved, gravel), parking garage, aquarium, amusement, and theater
- References used to conduct investigation include applicable local ordinances and building code, life safety code, ASTM, ANSI, NFSI, OSHA, ADA, and IES (Illuminating Engineering Society)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Mr. Collette has a degree in Mechanical Engineering and is a qualified Walkway Auditor. He has over 18 years of experience in developing, commercializing, analyzing, and troubleshooting walkway solutions including chemistry, tools, mats (walk-off, bath), cleaning processes, coatings, treatments, and flooring material selection. He worked in global innovation, product management/development, and customer solution development for DiverseyLever (institutional chemical business of Unilever), JohnsonDiversey (now Diversey), and Cintas.

Mr. Collette is a Walkway Audit Certificate Holder (#31) and has a Certificate in Assessing Walkway Safety from the University of Northern Texas. He provides walkway management services to commercial and institutional facilities across North America. As President of Substratum Group, Mr. Collette is responsible for providing walkway management consulting and services to customers designing, planning, building, maintaining, and insuring facilities. Consulting services include flooring material testing and specifying for facilities, maintenance processes, new product development, walkway audits, online and in-person training on slip meters, walkway auditing, material selection, and incident investigation. He conducts research to advance the science of walkway safety including the development and evaluation of methods to measure the slip resistance of floormats, bath mats, and chair glides.

He was on the Board of the National Floor Safety Institute (NFSI) from 2012-2014 and a past voting member of the ANSI/NFSI B101 main committee (2014-2016). He is a Member of ICC (2018), NFPA (2021), ASTM (2014), ASSP (2021), Intern of APEGM (2020), Associate of IES (2021), Fellow of the Claims and Litigation Management Alliance (2016), and Adviser to the Storefront Safety Council (2020).



He is a voting member of the following technical committees:

- ANSI/NFSI B101.4 Test Method for Measuring the Wet Barefoot Condition of Surfaces (2019)
- ASTM D21 Polishes (manages D2047 standard) (2014)
- ASTM F06 Resilient Floor Coverings (2018)
- ASTM F08 Sports Equipment, Playing Surfaces, and Facilities (manages F1292 standard specification for impact attenuation of surfacing materials within the use zone of playground equipment) (2019)
- ASTM F12.1 Security Systems and Equipment (manages F3016 standard test method for vehicle impact protective devices at low speeds) (2020)
- ASTM F13 Pedestrian/Walkway Safety and Footwear (standards managed include F2508, F1646, F1637, F2948, F2966) (2014)
- ASTM F15.03 Consumer Products (manages F462 Safety Standards for Bathtubs and Shower Structures) (2016)
- ASTM D13 Textiles (manages bathmat specifications and testing, developing bathmat COF test standard) (2019)
- ANSI A108 American National Specifications for the installation, test methods, and physical properties of Ceramic Tile (manages A137.1 and A326.3 ceramic and porcelain tile standards) (2016)
- ANSI D01 Paint and Related Coatings, Materials, and Applications (2023)

EDUCATION/CERTIFICATES

- Bachelor of Science, Mechanical Engineering: University of Manitoba, Canada, 1992
- Masters of Business Administration: University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois, 2008
- Walkway Auditor Certificate Holder: #31, ANSI/NFSI, 2014 to present (recert 11/22/23, valid until 11/22/26)
- Certificate in Assessing Walkway Safety: University of North Texas, 2015 (no expiration)

FACILITY SERVICES/WALKWAY MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

Substratum Group
President, Loveland, OH
01/14-Present

- Provide customers with services and products to support their Walkway Management programs
- Lead development of proprietary products and services related to the selection, testing, care, and maintenance of walkways (e.g. floors, sidewalks, ramps, stairways) and bathing surfaces (e.g. tubs, showers)
- Committee Member of ANSI/NFSI B101.4, ASTM F12.1, F13, D21, F06.6, F15.03, F08, D13, and A108 (Past main committee member for NFSI B101)
- Conduct walkway and bathing surface Safety Audits/Assessments and provide incident investigations services using ANSI/ASTM standards, building and life safety codes, local ordinances, OSHA regulations, and ADA/accessibility code (A117.1)
- Write and teach courses on slip meter use, auditing walkways, flooring material selection and design considerations, flooring cleaning/maintenance, and pedestrian safety
- Member ICC, ASTM, NFPA, Intern of APEGM, Associate of IES, Fellow of CLM
- Provide testing services to evaluate the frictional and roughness characteristics of materials using published standards including walkway and bathing surfaces, coatings, bath mats, walk-off mats, and chair glides
- Research and develop test methodologies to evaluate frictional and roughness characteristics (e.g. chair glides, bath mats, walk-off mats, bathing surfaces, hard surface flooring)

**Cintas****Director, Marketing and Strategy, Cincinnati, OH****07/09-01/14**

- Assessed, developed and led execution of national account Foodservice segment business strategy, products, and services including chemical, floor mats, and cleaning service
- Led marketing strategy and execution for Cintas Managed Solutions division (cleaned all CVS stores)
- Developed, tested, and launched new cleaning products and services (2011 - Rubbermaid Commercial Products for janitorial equipment and co-brand microfiber, 2012 - autoscrubber rental repair, 2013 - autoscrubber systems, 2013 - floor care agitation tool)
- Developed and launched NFSI-certified "High Traction" floor care programs including tools, chemicals, and training
- National Floor Safety Institute Board member (2012-2014)

JohnsonDiversey (originally an operating company of Unilever acquired by JohnsonWax in 2002)**Senior Marketing Manager, Tools, Machines and Carpet Care, Racine, WI****03/06-07/09**

- Led development, field testing, and launch of floor cleaning systems including microfiber mops and wipes, floor finish applicators (ProSpeed, Trailblazer), and autoscrubbers
- Led innovation stage-gate process for product development using international cross-functional teams and off-shore contract manufacturing (2 "new to the world" systems in 2008, first system won 2008 Innovative Tool of the Year award from ISSA, first 1st place for JohnsonDiversey, recognized by JD Chairman)
- Evaluated and executed business development, new venture and alliance activities for cleaning chemicals, tools, and services for internal M&A team
- Wrote and launched updated carpet care chemical program and training manual
- Field-tested floor cleaning, floor finish, and carpet care programs in retail (e.g., Walmart, Walgreens, Target, c-store), education (K-12, College), healthcare (e.g. hospital, age-in-place), foodservice (e.g., QSR, full service, fast casual), and office

Senior Product Manager, Marketing, Racine, WI**10/03-03/06**

- Managed system innovation projects (chemical, equipment, packaging, business model) from ideation to field roll-out
- Managed equipment capital and expense budget to support North American operations
- Led cross-functional teams developing improved business systems and tools (customer profitability analysis, pricing, strategic partnering with external vendors, managerial financial reporting, process mapping) resulting in reduced transactional costs (people, process time, working capital)
- Marketing member for JD Edwards/PeopleSoft ERP implementation team
- Member of project teams moving JDNA HQ activities from Southfield to Racine in FY03/04, divestiture and exit of chemical and service business in FY06



**Product Manager, Marketing, Racine, WI
10/02-10/03**

- Developed equipment portfolio strategy for post-merger warewash and laundry applications within North America
- Initiated cost savings and innovation projects
- Initiated development of financial analysis model to forecast business costs by customer profile
- Launched consumer brand products within JohnsonDiversey to initiate cross-sell opportunities with SC Johnson

**Senior Product Manager, Marketing, JohnsonDiversey Equipment, Santa Cruz, CA
10/00-10/02**

- Managed global product portfolio for large laundry, food and industrial electronic chemical dispensing equipment from concept to launch
- Sales lead for global corporate accounts for JohnsonDiversey Large Laundry, Food, and Industrial (surface and water treatment) business groups
- Developed product development strategy to expand commercial business opportunities

PRESENTATIONS/PUBLICATIONS

Technical Note - "Standardized measurement of surface dry particle thickness for walkway slip resistance", Journal of Forensic Science. 2025;00:1-7

Presentation – “Mat Testing – Analysis Using Static Coefficient of Friction”, ASTM D13.63 Subcommittee Meeting, June, 2019

Article – Get Agitated About Mopping - Cleaning Maintenance Magazine, May, 2018
<https://www.cmmonline.com/articles/get-agitated-about-mopping>

Article – 3 Ways To Avoid The Half Million Dollar French Fry - Stay Out of Court With A Walkway Audit – Cleaning Maintenance Magazine 2017

Article – Get Agitated About Mopping – ISSA Today 2016

White Paper – Dual Tool Delivers Safer Cleaner Floors in One Simple Solution – 2016

Lecture – Cleaning with Microfiber – ACUHO-i 2013

Article – Cintas Floor Care Management Program First to Earn NFSI High-Traction Certification – Reuters 2013

Webinar – Safe Floors for Foodservice, Managing Slips, Trips, and Falls – Cintas 2013

Lecture – Best Practices in Restroom Cleaning – ACUHO-i 2012

Article – Study Finds Americans Reluctant to Dine at Restaurants Where a Slip and Fall Accident Occurred – Cleaning and Maintenance Management 2012

Lecture - Safe Floor Solutions for Foodservice – RFMA 2011



COURSES TAUGHT

Walkway Safety Professional Course - 3 Day Course (meets ASTM 2948 - Standard Guide for Walkway Auditor Qualifications)

Flooring: Design Considerations and Material Selection for Health, Safety, & Welfare - 3-hour Online CEU Course (course approved by the International Design Continuing Education Council that approves CEU courses for ASID and IIDA members)

American Slip Meter 825A Operator Certificate Course Level I - Online Course

American Slip Meter 825A Operator Certificate Course Level I and II - 1-day In-Person Course

American Slip Meter 925 Operator Certificate Course Level 1 - Online Course

American Slip Meter 925 Operator Certificate Course Level I and II - 1-day In-Person Course

Johnson Forensics GS-1 Operator Certificate Course Level I - Online Course

Johnson Forensics GS-1 Operator Certificate Course Level I and II - 1-day In-person Course

Regan Scientific BOT3000E Operator Certificate Course Level I - Online Course

Regan Scientific BOT3000E Operator Certificate Course Level I and II - 1-day In-Person Course