

# Risky Business – Finish the Day Safe

## Custodians – Wax Removal and Replacement

### At-Risk Behavior

Deep cleaning of floors (stripping) using unsafe practices.

### Why We Care

Every summer the stripping and waxing process results in numerous custodians being injured

### What Am I About To Do?

- Removing wax and cleaning floors using a chemical stripper and water.

### How Could I Get Hurt?

- You could slip on the wet floor resulting in bruises, strains or fractures.
- You could strain your back handling the stripping machine.
- You could splash water or chemical stripper in your eyes.

### What Am I Going To Do To Prevent Injury?

- Wear no-slip foot wear and proper personal protective equipment.
- Apply only the amount of chemical necessary for the job; do not use an excessive amount.
- Work small sections of the floor from the far corner back to the doorway, limiting walking through stripper (wet floor).
- Operate equipment only after you have been trained and have demonstrated proper safe use of equipment.

### Discussion Points

- What is the procedure we are supposed to use?
- How does that compare to how we have done it in the past?
- How big of a section should we work at a time?
- How much is enough chemical stripper?

