

## There are Various Slip Resistance Test Methods

Slip Resistance Tests provide important information about a tile and its suitability to be used in different environments. This is particularly important information when recommending a tile to be used on the floors of commercial, leisure and hospitality projects. Please note that not all tiles are tested for slip resistance, and therefore will not have a slip resistant value or reading. There are a number of recognised test methods including:

- Ramp Test (Shod Foot)
- Ramp Test (Bare Foot)
- Pendulum Test Method (PTV)

Please note the PTV Test is now the preferred test method of consideration, in relation to slip resistance of floor tile surfaces, by both

- The Health and Safety Executive (UK)

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/geis2.pdf>

[http://www.hse.gov.uk/SLIPS/step/general/advanced/8E7F777B-3B84-49FE-A3D6-D0324E25A801/HSLCourseTemplate/28531/slidetype1\\_280757.htm](http://www.hse.gov.uk/SLIPS/step/general/advanced/8E7F777B-3B84-49FE-A3D6-D0324E25A801/HSLCourseTemplate/28531/slidetype1_280757.htm)

AND

- The Health and Safety Authority (ROI)

[http://www.hsa.ie/eng/Topics/Slips\\_Trips\\_Falls/Pedestrian\\_Surfaces/Measuring\\_Slip\\_Resistance/](http://www.hsa.ie/eng/Topics/Slips_Trips_Falls/Pedestrian_Surfaces/Measuring_Slip_Resistance/)

## The Pendulum Test Method

The Pendulum Test Method determines the dynamic friction between the tile surface and the rubber slider on the end of a swinging pendulum. It is designed to replicate a pedestrian heel strike, the point at which most slips occur. Working in wet conditions because it generates a similar fluid film between the slider and the floor. It can be used to accurately test the slip potential on both clean and dry or contaminated floors.



**The Pendulum Test is The Health & Safety Executive's (HSE) preferred method of testing, because it is portable and works in the conditions that slip accidents happen.**

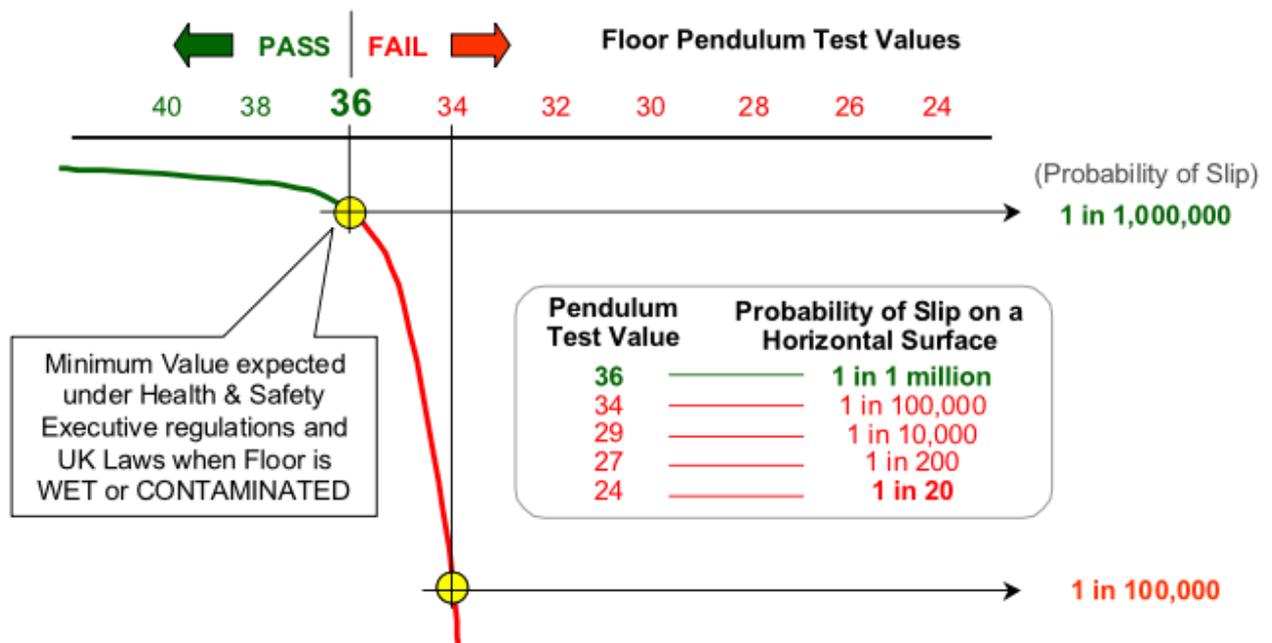
[http://www.hse.gov.uk/SLIPS/step/general/advanced/8E7F777B-3B84-49FE-A3D6-D0324E25A801/HSLCourseTemplate/28531/slidetype1\\_280757.htm](http://www.hse.gov.uk/SLIPS/step/general/advanced/8E7F777B-3B84-49FE-A3D6-D0324E25A801/HSLCourseTemplate/28531/slidetype1_280757.htm)

The Slip Resistance Value (SRV) produced by the Pendulum Test Method is sometimes called the Co-Efficiency of Friction (CoF), and the measurement from the Pendulum Test can be expressed as either SRV, PTV or Co-Efficiency of Friction on data sheets from tile suppliers with the following values (UKSRG 2011);

#### Slip Resistance Values (SRV's)

- 0-24 - Higher Potential for Slipping (>1in20 in wet/contaminated conditions)
- 25-35 - Moderate Potential for Slipping
- 36+ - Low Potential for Slipping (<1in1,000,000)

For commercial projects where the surface is often wet or contaminated (eg a butchery) **The Health & Safety Executive (HSE) recommend that tiles used in such meet PTV36+ when tested in wet and contaminated conditions.**



#### Advantages of The Pendulum Test

- Apparatus is portable and can be used on/off site
- Does not tend to overestimate slip-resistance in the wet, unlike Tortus
- Preferred method of testing by HSE (UK) & HAS (ROI)

#### Disadvantages of The Pendulum Test

- Caution should be used when using results for barefoot applications or heavily textured surfaces
- Boundary levels between one value and another are not significant in themselves. For example there is no major difference between a tile with SRV of 24 or one with an SRV 26, even though one is classified as high potential for slipping and the other is classified in the moderate category

#### Technical Advice

If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact our friendly and knowledgeable team.

**armatile**, Station Road Industrial Estate, Loughgall Road, Armagh, BT61 7NP

Tel: 028 37527007 (Head Office) Email: [design@armatile.com](mailto:design@armatile.com) Website: [www.armatile.com](http://www.armatile.com)