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## Winter Accidents Prevented by Award-Winning Handi-Treads™

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Released By *Handi-Products*

As the icy winter season approaches, Handi-Treads ([www.handitreads.com](http://www.handitreads.com)), *Hardware Retailing* magazine's 2009 "Retailers' Choice" award-winning safety product, provide unmatched protection on stairs, decks, porches, ramps, walkways and other potentially slippery surfaces.

The Center for Disease Control estimates that two million people are treated for slip-and-fall injuries in emergency rooms annually and that over 19,000 deaths result from these accidents. The National Safety Council puts the yearly cost of these accidents to the U.S. economy at over \$30 billion. Not included in that figure is the \$50,000 it costs to defend the average slip and fall liability lawsuit.

These facts aren't lost on Charles Swabey, a landlord whose firm owns 15 buildings with 84 units in western Massachusetts. "Homeowners and landlords alike shouldn't hesitate to protect themselves financially while keeping their families and tenants safe," Swabey said. "After experimenting with other products, Handi-Treads are the only product I would recommend to protect exterior stairs from slip and fall risks due to ice, snow and rain slickness."

"As the country ages, slip-and-fall accidents and the associated productivity and liability costs are increasing at an alarming rate," said Thom Disch, CEO of Handi-Products, the firm that developed Hand-Treads. "Out-dated solutions such as non-slip tape and paint offer very limited protection, wear-off in a short period of time and can't even be applied when the weather turns bad."

Handi-Treads are 1/8" thick dimpled aluminum strips that can be installed in a few minutes, exceed OSHA and ANSI recommended standards and carry a lifetime warranty. Used by homeowners, schools, churches, hospitals, small and large businesses and public facilities, Hand-Treads are also key safety features at numerous military installations in the U.S. and abroad.

### About Handi-Products

Handi-Products of Libertyville, Ill. has been designing and manufacturing safety and accessibility products for home and business use since 1958. The company's products are used by home owners, governmental agencies, schools, churches and hotels, as well as other public and commercial facilities for a wide range of purposes. For more information, visit <http://www.handiprducts.com> or call 800 733-4726.

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