

Curriculum Vitae

John C. Sotter

Vice President

Consultant and Expert Witness — Slip, Trip and Fall

SOTTER ENGINEERING CORPORATION

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Vice President John Sotter graduated from the University of California at San Diego in 1992 with a Bachelor of Arts in Urban Planning. His studies there included work in floor friction and in chemistry.

He has 17 years of experience in responsible safety work for the City of San Clemente, California.

He has trained in floor slip resistance testing in the U.S. and the U.K. (including pendulum and Tortus manufacturing facilities) and has done most of Sotter Engineering's floor slip resistance testing work for the past twenty years, doing testing for over to 1,000 individual clients, both in our laboratory and in the field from Hawaii to New Hampshire, British Columbia to Mexico, New York to Florida, and everywhere in between. He has tested floors and road surfaces for some of the world's largest international corporations including Apple, Amazon, Ford Motorcars, Disney, General Motors, LAX and SEA airports, The Ritz Carlton, Montage Resorts, Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines, the United States Navy and Space Force, Carnival Cruise Lines, Virgin, Great Wolf Lodges, Porsche, and Universal Studios, to name a few.

John's twenty years of extensive experience with floor slip resistance testing using the BOT-3000E, British Pendulum Tester, Tortus digital tribometer, SlipAlert, and ASTM C1028 static friction test device is unmatched both in the United States and in the Americas. He has worked in floor friction testing and floor friction treatment in the USA, Canada, Mexico, and on the high seas. He helped develop an anti-slip floor coating that has now been sold in dozens of countries.

John has testified in court once and has been deposed twice. He has worked with dozens and dozens of lawyers on slip and fall lawsuits, almost all of which were settled before deposition or trial was required. This is probably in large part because John uses internationally accepted and peer-reviewed science, and he is very knowledgeable about the withdrawn, expired and unreliable test methods used by most American slip and fall "experts", also known as "liars for hire". He works behind the scenes with lawyers to get testimony from unscrupulous experts with their unreliable instruments and data thrown out of court. Settling a lawsuit when one expert is presenting internationally accepted testing data, and the other is using an old, withdrawn American standard with poor precision (or an instrument that doesn't have a published standard in any nation) can be quick and easy.

John's background includes many miles barefoot on wet surfaces: years of competitive swimming, international sailing, water polo (a high school All-American), and surf lifeguarding. John has traveled extensively in 25 nations. He is also a member of four different committees with the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM). He recently made substantial revisions and updates to the American slip and skid resistance test method – ASTM E303 – which was published by the ASTM in June of 2022. He is also a member of the United Kingdom's Slip Resistance Group (UKSRG), who helps create slip resistance test standards for the entire European Union as well as the United Kingdom.

John calibrates pendulum testers after having been trained to do so in the United Kingdom by a major pendulum manufacturer there. He has now calibrated pendulums for private corporations and governmental agencies in several countries.

PUBLICATION: "[Specifying Anti-Slip Floor Coatings](#)", March 2020, pg. 24

["The New Slip Resistance Requirements in IBC,"](#) July 2016, pg. 72.

Numerous educational blog posts published at
<https://safetydirectamerica.com/author/johnsotter/>

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