False floors: real dangers

What happened
The number of incidents/accidents at CERN associated with the use of false floors is on the rise. Falls have been caused by various factors: tiles which were too small, an insufficient number of supports or even an absence of signage. On another occasion the false floor itself collapsed under the weight of a heavy load.

The consequences
The various falls have resulted in several cases of bruised legs and backs, as well as a considerable amount of material damage.

What you must do
Regardless of whether the false floor is of a metal structure or pedestal type, you should always check that the tiles are properly supported. A visual check of the condition of a false floor is recommended in all circumstances. If you have any doubts about its stability, mark out the affected area and inform the relevant TSO.

Signage must be erected whenever a false floor is absent. The maximum permissible load for a false floor must be indicated and not exceeded. If signage is absent or in the event of any uncertainty, please contact the relevant TSO.