

INDUSTRIAL ERGONOMICS

Many jobs involve physical work. Is that a bad thing? When do physical demands become ergonomic risk factors? What is an ergonomic risk factor? How do we know if exposures to these risk factors are safe or unsafe? Are there accepted ergonomic job hazard analysis tools that can be used to evaluate injury potential?

The questions continue ... Can light but repetitive tasks lead to serious injury? How repetitive is too repetitive? Are there different types of repetitive strain injuries? Are back injuries a form of repetitive strain injury? Is it true back injuries result only from heavy lifting? Do back belts and wrist supports prevent injuries? Is operator training regarding preferred techniques the answer? Do more effective injury prevention and risk control strategies exist? Can ergonomics assist injured workers?

...There are widespread applications of ergonomics in industry. Fortunately, there are also numerous potential benefits to worker safety & health, employee morale, efficiency, productivity, medical and insurance costs, attendance, and of course to the bottom line.



THE CHALLENGES ...

SIGNS OF THE NEED...

- Poor productivity levels
- Work refusals
- Product defects, rework, waste
- Health and safety concerns
- Accidents and injuries

WORKSITE & TASK DESIGN

- Poor workstation design
- Inefficient work methods
- Heavy manual handling
- Highly repetitive activities
- Use of mechanical assists

COMPLIANCE

- Worker health & safety
- Compensation & injured workers
- Human Rights & Accommodation
- Equity and physical demands
- Corporate policies and procedures

NEED SOLUTIONS ???

OSHTECH is an integrated team of specialists providing consulting and training in ergonomics, occupational hygiene, and environmental risk assessments. Our professional services include:

ERGONOMICS SERVICES

- Physical Demands Profiles
- Ergonomic Surveys to Assess Injury Risk
- Workload Ratings/Energy Estimates
- Suitability/Compatibility/Return-to-work
- Engineering Design Support

MACHINERY/EQUIPMENT

- Workstation Design
- Preferred Work Methods
- Process flow and workplace layout
- Design of tools and assists
- Hand-arm & Whole Body Vibration

TRAINING

- Employees, JHSC, Ergo Committee
- Supervisors, Managers, Engineers
- In-house or publicly offered
- Practical, hands-on instruction
- Variety of Topics i.e. Back Injuries

OSH&E Consulting, Training & Laboratory Services

OSHTECH

I N C O R P O R A T E D

Waterloo Office:

279 Weber Street Suite 9
Waterloo, Ontario N2J 3H8
Tel: (519) 883-4747
Fax: (519) 883-4726

London Office & Lab:

400 York Street, Suite 100
London, Ontario N6B 3N2
Tel: (519) 642-1122
Fax: (519) 642-0331

