

DoD Ergonomics Working Group NEWS



Issue 26, November 2003

<http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/ergowg/>

Ergonomic Solutions: Sharing Best Practices

As we all work toward meeting Secretary Rumsfeld's challenge to reduce preventable accidents by 50%, one of the best ways we can help you meet this goal is to present ergonomic solutions that have been tested and proven successful. If other military installations and activities, government agencies, and private industries have met with success in reducing their injury rates, you can too.

Visit these sites to learn about ergonomic solutions that have successfully decreased injury rates, resulted in a drop in lost workdays, and showed increased productivity with impressive return on investment:

- <http://www.navosh.net/strategic/success/stories/pdfs/cable.pdf>
The Norfolk Naval Shipyard replaced manual cable pulling with a mechanically assisted process, reducing time and costs by 50% with no worker injuries.
- <http://www.af.mil/stories/story.asp?storyID=123005843>
Using three new tools to stuff foam in F-15 fuel tanks, workers at Robins AFB in Georgia had a 40% reduction in risk of injury and saved the Air Force \$44,000.
- <http://www.ohiobwc.com/downloads/brochureware/publications/ExtCareSafeGrant.pdf>
Electric beds and patient lifts purchased for the Champaign County Nursing Home in Ohio resulted in a 100% improvement in worker cumulative trauma disorder (CTD) rates and lost day rates.
- <http://www.ohiobwc.com/downloads/brochureware/publications/PESafeGrant.pdf>
Public employees made multiple changes to their computer workstations and the benefits were great: CTD rates dropped 64% and both days lost and restricted days due to CTDs drastically decreased.

As these success stories show, it is possible to dramatically reduce injuries and accidents with cost-effective ergonomic interventions. And there are more stories to share—the Ergonomics Working Group Web site is currently under major reconstruction. When the new site is unveiled, you will be able to access a database of ideas and solutions to assist you in making your workplace a safer place.

Share Your Success

Help us spread the word about other ergonomic solutions. If you have a success story to share, e-mail the DoD Ergonomics Working Group newsletter editor at judi.schmitt@cox.net.