DoD Ergonomics Working Group NEWS



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New Fact Sheets Address Hot Topics

The DoD Ergonomics Working Group announces three new publications in our fact sheet series. Written for both supervisors and employees, these new fact sheets address ergonomic concerns of laptop users, office workers, and childcare workers.



Fact Sheet 22—You should know how to prevent injuries while using your laptop.

Despite the poor ergonomic design of laptop computers, there are guidelines to follow to avoid musculoskeletal discomfort and injury. Tips on laptop position and placement; the keyboard and screen; and carrying the laptop are all addressed in this fact sheet.



Fact Sheet 23—You can troubleshoot pain and discomfort in your office.

This fact sheet identifies common causes of neck, upper back, and shoulder tightness, tension, or discomfort; hand, wrist, and lower arm discomfort; lower back pain and discomfort; and buttocks discomfort. Solutions to reduce and eliminate pain are provided.



Fact Sheet 24—If you are taking care of infants and toddlers, you need to take care of your back.

Child care is demanding. Childcare workers spend their day standing, walking, bending, stooping, and lifting to attend to the needs of infants and toddlers. This fact sheet presents lifting techniques and exercises for a healthy back.

Suggestions for simple home treatment are also provided, in addition to a list of symptoms requiring medical attention.

Fact Sheet Index

Fact Sheet I—An effective ergonomics program fits the workplace to the worker.

Fact Sheet 2—You should know about work-related musculoskeletal disorders.

Fact Sheet 3—You should know about carpal tunnel syndrome.

Fact Sheet 4—Proper use of hand tools can make your work safer and easier.

Fact Sheet 5—Proper use of powered hand tools can make your work safer and easier.

Fact Sheet 6—You can identify the characteristics of a hazardous materials-handling task.

Fact Sheet 7—You should know how to safely perform lifting and lowering tasks.

Fact Sheet 8—You should know how to safely perform pushing and pulling tasks.

Fact Sheet 9—You should know how to safely *carry* heavy loads.

Fact Sheet 10—You can evaluate ergonomic products to see if they truly meet your needs.

Fact Sheet 11—You can make your computer workstation "fit" your needs.

Fact Sheet 12-You should know what you can do to solve your computer-related discomfort.

Fact Sheet 13—Your computer workstation should be in a comfortable work area.

Fact Sheet 14—Your computer workstation should include a desk that's right for you.

Fact Sheet 15—Your computer workstation should include a chair that's right for you.

Fact Sheet 16—Your computer workstation may need a footrest.

Fact Sheet 17—Your computer workstation should include a monitor that's easy to view.

Fact Sheet 18—Your computer workstation should include the right keyboard for you.

Fact Sheet 19—Your computer workstation should include the right input device for you.

Fact Sheet 20—Your computer workstation may need a document holder.

Fact Sheet 21—Your computer workstation should receive appropriate lighting and guard against glare.

Fact Sheet 22—You should know how to prevent injuries while using your laptop.

Fact Sheet 23—You can troubleshoot pain and discomfort in your office.

Fact Sheet 24—If you are taking care of infants and toddlers, you need to take care of your back.

Copies of all 24 fact sheets are available in Adobe Acrobat Reader at the working group's Web site: www.ergoworkinggroup.org.