

Dussault Moving, Inc., Lakewood

Intervention Key Words: Hand truck, balloon tires, walk board

Industry: Service, Other: Moving

Risk Factor(s): Awkward Posture- Back deviations and Squatting/Kneeling, Manual Handling- Lifting/Carrying and Pushing/Pulling

Situation:

Dussault Moving is an office and household goods removal and relocation company. Historically, Cumulative Trauma Disorder (CTD) risks for this trade are particularly high. Employees are required to transfer heavy boxes, appliances, and furniture through tight spaces often creating awkward postures. In addition, risks arising from weather, odd shapes and textures and extremely heavy items compound to create an even higher risk of injury. Dussault Moving is particularly concerned with back injuries resulting from heavy lifting and carrying.

Solution:

In order to reduce some of their CTD risk factors, Dussault Moving purchased 6 balloon tired hand trucks with stair climber attachments. The larger tires and stair climber accessories assist in traversing higher spans, such as steps and curbs. The goal of this intervention is to reduce the stress on the lower back by increasing the accessibility of mechanical assistance. Dussault also upgraded 2 of its loading ramps. The new ramps have an anti-slip surface, increasing traction under any weather condition. Total cost of the intervention was \$5,261. Dussault received \$4,073 in assistance from Safety Grant\$.

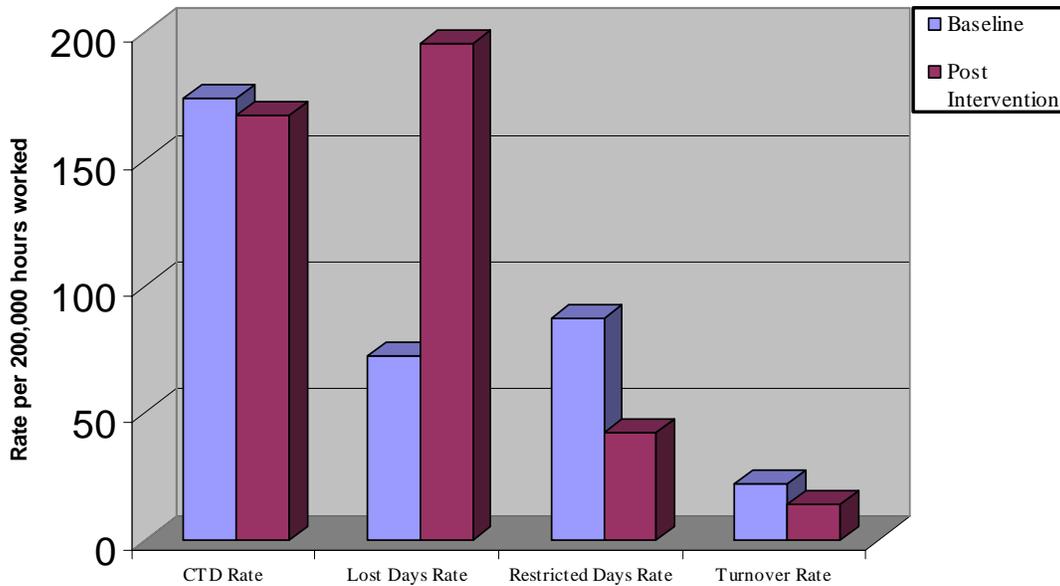


New Magliner hand truck

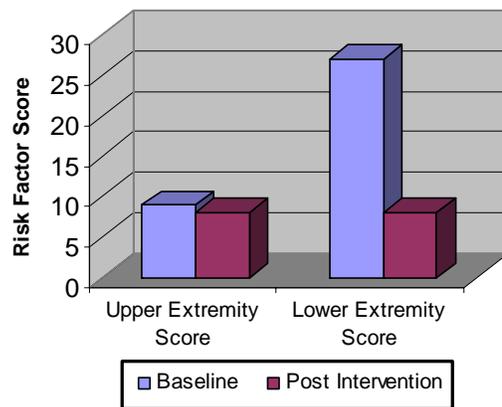


Worker unloads new ramps for use

Results:



- CTD rate (per 200,000 hours worked) decreased 4% in 24 months following the intervention.
- Restricted Days rate and Employee Turnover rate fell 52% and 36% respectively.



- Both Upper and Lower Extremity Risk Factor Scores decreased.