

Jenkins Sign Company, Youngstown

Intervention Key Words: Mobile Work Stand, Aluminum Mobile Platform

Industry: Other: Signs, Paining

Risk Factor(s): Repetitive motion, Awkward Posture- Back deviations, Wrist deviations and Shoulder deviations, High Hand Force- Pinching/Gripping, Manual Handling- Lifting/Carrying

Situation:

Jenkins Sign Company in Youngstown designs and fabricates custom sign cabinets and faces. Examples of their work include road-side restaurant and gas station signs along with "Time-N-Temperature" signs seen outside many banks. Painting is a major step in the creation of any sign but it also often involves significant risks for Cumulative Trauma Disorders (CTDs). Painters must climb up and down ladders to reach the various parts of the sign, all while fitted with respirators and carrying spray guns. Ladders must also be moved and repositioned frequently to provide access to these areas and repetitive back and forth and up and down motions are needed to adequately cover the area with paint. Jenkins Sign Company is concerned with the inherent CTD risks that arise from climbing and positioning ladders and the repetition involved with painting.

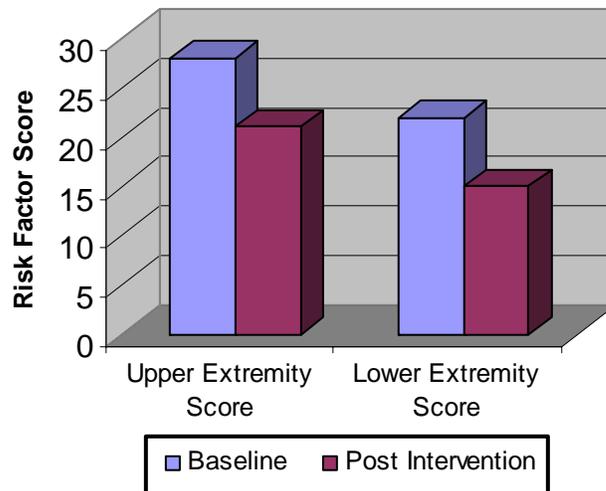
Solution:

Two items were purchased to help reduce CTD risks. First, a mobile work stand was added with the ability to hold two workers. This reduces the time required for painting, effectively decreasing the amount of repetition required per worker. A mobile aluminum platform ladder was also purchased. This platform provides safety measures to assist the painter in maintaining balance and to help prevent falls. Each of these pieces of equipment is on casters to facilitate easy positioning when needed. Total costs for the intervention totaled \$663.79. Jenkins Sign Company received \$518.40 in assistance from Safety Grant\$ to offset the burden.



Manufacturer pictures of equipment purchased by Jenkins Sign Company

Results:



- An average decrease in Upper and Lower Extremity Risk Factor scores was observed following the intervention to be equal to 28%.
- CTD rate and Turnover rate (standardized per 200,000 hours worked) both decreased 100%, with 0 incidents in either category reported for 24 months following the intervention when compared to a 1 year baseline period prior to any changes.
- Lost Days and Restricted Days rate were 0 for the year prior to the intervention and remained at zero for at least 2 years after.