

# Tingue Brown & Co., Ashtabula DBA: Meese Orbitron Dunne Company: MOD

**Intervention Key Words:** Cool Space Evaporators, Fatigue Matting, Mobile Tilting Tables, Platforms

**Industrial Key Words:** Secondary Operations, Trimming, Drilling, Deflashing, Molding

**Risk Factor(s):** Awkward Posture- Back deviations and Squatting/Kneeling, High Hand Force- Pinching/Gripping, Manual Handling- Lifting/Carrying

## Situation:

Tingue Brown & Co. utilizes an advanced rotational molding process to produce plastic goods ranging from surfboards to fuel tanks. As with many industrial operations, Tingue Brown has faced problems with Cumulative Trauma Disorders (CTDs) as their equipment ages and the workforce becomes more diverse. Significant risk factors are found throughout the facility, stemming from static workstations, awkward/repetitive bending and lifting, and high loads. Excessive heat in the building from the furnaces has also been linked to safety and health issues.



**Numerous tasks require awkward bending and lifting**

## Solution:

Tingue Brown & Co. purchased a variety of equipment to address the CTD issues in their facility. The utilization of mobile tilting and adjustable tables has reduced awkward bending and static work postures. Anti-fatigue matting has helped to encourage postural changes and ease lower extremity discomfort while standing for extended periods. Hydraulic work platforms were purchased to lift workers at the largest molding workstation and the addition of Coolspace Heat Evaporators will aide in reducing fatigue



stemming from warm temperatures which radiate from the molding equipment. Total costs for the equipment was \$47,056, which were offset by an award of \$36,000 from Safety Grant\$.



**Manufacturer pictures of equipment purchased**

**Results:**

- CTD rate (per 200,000 hours worked) decreased 62% in 24 months following the interventions when compared to the year prior.
- Restricted Days rate (per 200,000 hours worked) decreased 84% in the same time period.
- Increases in Lost Days and Employee turnover were noted but may not be directly attributed to the intervention.
- Seen in the following graph, CTD Risk Factor scores measuring 6 tasks decreased an average of 75% following the intervention.

