

Ahresty Wilmington Corp., Wilmington

Intervention Key Words: Bishamon Skid Lifts, Lift Table, Tilt Table

Industry: Manufacturing

Risk Factor(s): Repetitive motion, Awkward Posture- Back deviations, Shoulder deviations

Situation:

Ahresty Wilmington produces aluminum and other metal die cast products for a variety of industries. Fabrication involves a number of steps but particular attention has been paid to the finishing department due to concerns with Cumulative Trauma Disorders (CTDs). Risk factors for this task include repetition and frequent bending. The position requires the worker to finish the edges of the product and place them in large bins located on the floor. There is also some twisting and turning associated with the task in addition to the weight of each part.



Repetitive bending required by the task

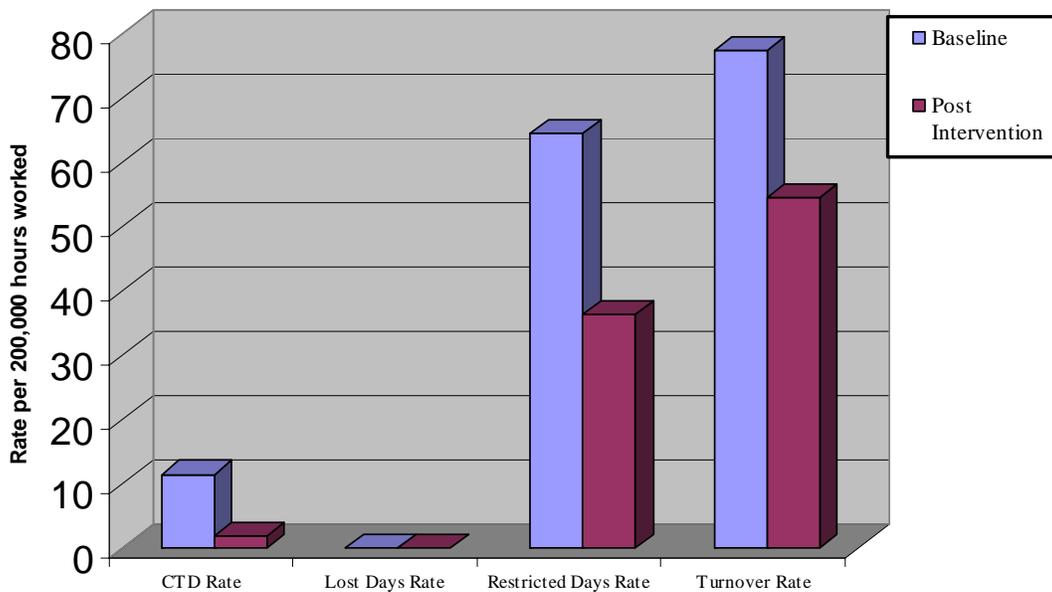
Solution:

In order to address the problem, Ahresty Wilmington purchased 19 Bishamon lift tables. These new tables had the ability to tilt and rotate to allow for easy access into the bins. They were also spring loaded to automatically raise the parts up to the appropriate height. Unfortunately, this created another problem. The pallet jacks that Ahresty had been using were no longer tall enough to lift the skids off the new tables. Ahresty then had to purchase 3 electric straddle stackers. These stackers can rise to the necessary height, effectively completing the intervention to reduce CTD risks. The total cost for the equipment was \$48,667. Ahresty Wilmington received \$38,764 in assistance from SafetyGrant\$ to offset the costs.



Lift table and stacker purchased by Ahresty Wilmington

Results:



- CTD rate (per 200,000 hours worked) decreased from 11.5 to 1.9 in 24 months following the intervention. This equates to an 84% improvement.
- Restricted Days rate decreased from 64.5 to 36.3 and Turnover rate decreased from 77.3 to 54.5 incidents per 200,000 hours worked, improvements of 44% and 30% respectively.
- Lost Days rate was at 0 the year prior to the intervention and remained at 0 for 2 years following.
- CTD Risk Factor scores, averaged over 2 tasks, decreased 62% following the intervention.