

## Leather Resources of America, Conneaut

**Intervention Key Words:** Scissors Lift Tables, FBP Stacker, Uni-Tilt Lift

**Industry:** Other: Leather, Upholstery

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

### Situation:

Leather Resources of America finishes leather material used in the upholstery business. Many of the tasks performed at the facility pose a risk of Cumulative Trauma Disorders on workers. Tasks include antiquing, sorting, inspection and cutting. These jobs involve handling large leather hides. Workers who perform the tasks of antiquing and cutting must reach the entire hide while it is placed flat on a work table. This requires awkward postures and bending in order to reach the center of the hides and a constant circular motion is used to antique the leather. Workers who inspect and sort the material repetitively bend and lift while stacking the hides in order to perform their duties. Risk factors include shoulder, arm, and back strain from static work postures and repeated bending in addition to CTD injuries from repetition and awkward postures.



**Antiquing and Cutting Employees**

### Solution:

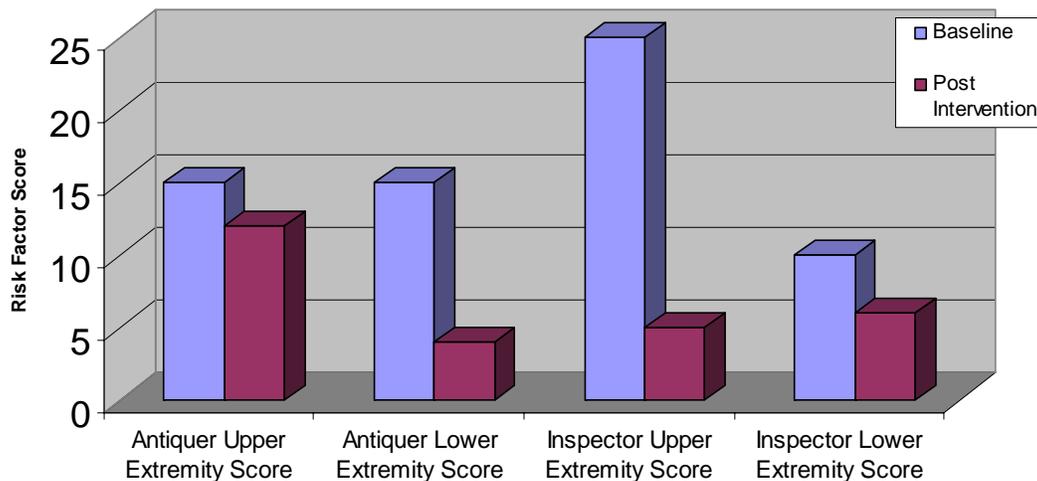
Leather Resources of America began to address their CTD issues by purchasing 3 scissor lift tables, 1 FBP Hide Stacker. The lift tables tilt, providing the worker with access to the entire hide without the need to reach and bend. The Stacker electrically stacks the hides for inspection and sorting, reducing the amount of lifting the workers must perform. Total cost for the intervention was \$ 48,665. Conneaut Leather

received \$38,933 in assistance from SafetyGrant\$ to offset the costs.



**Lift Tables and FBP Stacker Purchased To Reduce CTD Risks**

### **Results:**



- CTD Risk Factor scores, averaged over 2 tasks, decreased 59% following the intervention.
- CTD, Lost Days, Restricted Days and Employee Turnover rates were at 0 (per 200,000 hours worked) the year prior to the intervention and remained at 0 for 2 years following.
- Productivity, reported by the company, was at 18 hides processed per day. With the intervention in place, productivity increased to an average of 28 hides per day, a 55% improvement!