

Case Study

8025

Intervention key words

Powered drum handler, drum transporter

Industry

Manufacturing

Risk factors

Awkward posture – back deviations; awkward posture – shoulder; manual handling – pushing/pulling; manual handling – lifting/carrying

Situation

This employer is a chemical manufacturer. Employees move heavy drums either manually or with the assistance of a non-powered drum handling device as show in the photo below.



Solution

The employer purchased powered drum handlers. As a result, virtually no force is required to lift and move the drums. The cost of the intervention was \$12,066 to purchase two drum handlers and one drum palletizer.



Results

- The injuries from handling drums decreased from eight for a two-year period before the intervention to two injuries for a one-year period after the intervention.
- The National Safety Council reports the average cost for a workers' compensation claim is \$19,382. This employer's return on investment was six months.
- Employees love the equipment, the two injuries occurred where this equipment was not yet available.