Empowering Employees to Recognize Ergonomics Risks Associated with Their Tasks

Betty Phillips
Dow Chemical Company
2301 Brazosport Blvd., Building B-101
Freeport, Texas 77541-3257

ABSTRACT

Employees in today's environment are often times challenged with changing tasks and activities, many of which pose new or different physical demands. The opportunity for a health/safety professional to examine how individuals carry out each of these changed tasks is not feasible. What is feasible, however, is to provide employees with a tool which enables them to do their own assessment of the tasks that they perform which may pose an ergonomic risk.

The tool provides a simple explanation of the risk factors of concern and empowers the employee to numerically rate their tasks against the risks of concern. It also provides the employees a way to focus on improvement in their tasks to prevent potential injuries.