



Ergo (MSI)-Related Accident/Incident investigations

People will do their best to reconcile different goals such as multi-tasking, time pressures, competing safety requirements (protecting shoulders versus back versus equipment), thoroughness, efficiency, etc. In hindsight it is often easy to find where workers did not follow procedures without considering if the procedures were adequate for the complex working environment.

During an investigation look at why workers made the decisions they did: move beyond blame and towards developing control measures that reduce risk and provide workers with resiliency in complex and changing environments.

The **WSBC Ergonomics (MSI) Requirements (4.46 to 4.53)** outline that the following risk factors that must be considered, where applicable, in the identification and assessment of the risk of musculoskeletal injury (MSI) (**4.49**).

Physical demands of work activities, including:

- └ force required,
- └ repetition,
- └ duration
- └ work postures,
- └ and, local contact stresses;

Aspects of the layout and condition of the workplace or workstation, including:

- └ working reaches,
- └ working heights,
- └ seating, and
- └ floor surfaces;

Characteristics of objects handled, including:

- └ size and shape,
- └ load condition and weight distribution, and
- └ container, tool and equipment handles;

Environmental conditions

- └ including temperatures, vibration,

Work Organization:

- └ work-recovery cycles;
- └ task variability;
- └ work rate.

Other:

- └ Non-physical (psychosocial) factors, such as autonomy, support and, rewards & recognition may have a protective effect; while not required by WSBC, it is helpful to consider these factors as part of your MSI prevention program;

Need Assistance: ergonomics.info@ubc.ca

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