

Ergonomics Program

Kennedy Space Center



NASA Occupational Health Conference 2008

Kennedy Space Center

- 15,000+ employees
- ~ 40 organizations



- Joint Base Operations Contract
- NASA Ergonomic Program
- Contractors' Ergonomic Programs

Team Approach

A team approach is used to treat employees experiencing signs and symptoms of musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) at KSC.



This TEAM includes:

Medical



Rehabilitation



Industrial Hygiene



Medical - Patient Examination



- Employees report to KSC Medical when they experience signs and symptoms of MSDs.
- A physician examines the patient prescribes medications/rehabilitation, sets duty limits, and schedules follow-up visits.
- Makes referral to IH for an ergonomic evaluation.

Rehabilitation Services



- Free on-site **musculoskeletal rehabilitation service.**
- **Certified/Licensed Athletic Trainers (ATC/L).**
- **Appointments during work.**
- **Referrals** to Industrial Hygiene and/or to Medical.
- **Fitness Centers** used for work reconditioning activities.
- **Braces and medical supplies** available for purchase.

IH Ergonomic Evaluations



IH Ergonomic Evaluations



- Employee observed performing job.
- Job photographed and videotaped.
- Risk Factors identified.
- Assessment tools used.
- Feasible corrective measures determined by working with Employee, Supervisor, Safety, Industrial Engineering/Human Factors.
- Report provided.

Equipment & Chair Loaner Program

- **Patients try products** to determine what best alleviates symptoms.
- **Standard ergonomic chair stocked** and 6 others available to try.



Industrial Hygiene



- Follow-up conducted 3 months after survey
- Consultations to help select office furniture, write specifications, or evaluate jobs with potential for injury
- Facility Walkthrough Inspections identify areas of high ergonomic risk.
- Ergonomic Website
- Outreach efforts - training classes, safety & health fairs, seminars, pamphlets

Team Approach to Case Management



- Discuss patient treatment and rehabilitation - RehabWorks, Workers' Compensation, Medical, Safety and Industrial Hygiene
- KSC Ergonomic Working Group- KSC Medical, Industrial Hygiene, RehabWorks, Health & Safety

Training



- **Industrial Hygiene**

- In house training
- Ergonomic Conferences, workshops, seminars

- **KSC Employees**

- On-line video (NASA and JBOSC)
- Computer based training (Contractors)
- Safety meeting presentations