



Quality • Productivity • Performance • Profitability

# Job Rotation: Are We Doing the Right Thing?

Tim Pottorff, MEng., CIE, ARM

2024 Assembly Show

Rosemont, IL





**Fun Facts!**

**What's going on with ergonomics**

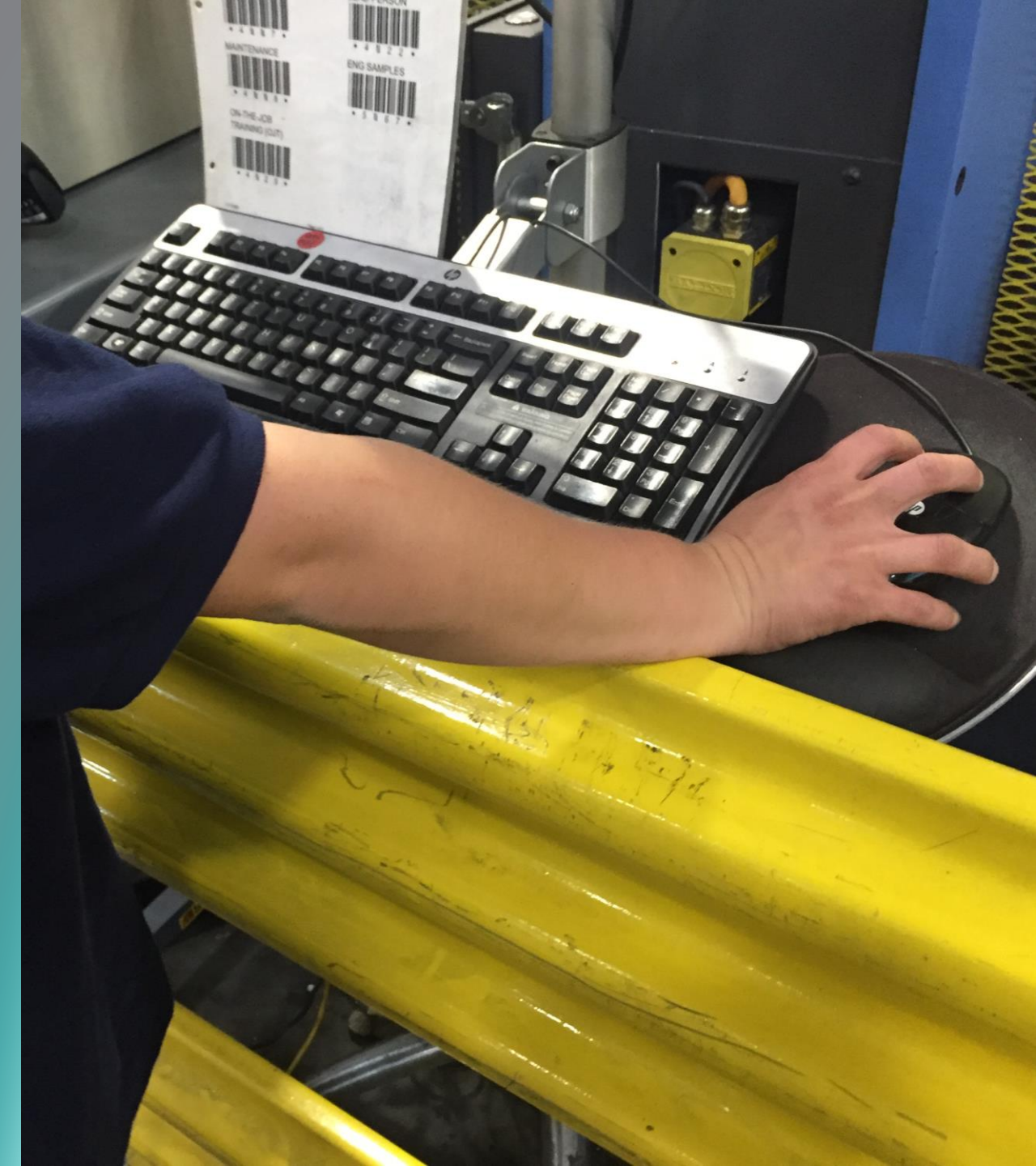
**Traditional job rotation & fatigue failure**

**Prevention through design**

# Ergonomics

“Designing things for safe, efficient, and comfortable human use





## Risk Factors

- Awkward postures
- Force exertion
- Extreme temperatures
- Glove use
- Vibration (hands/body)
- Repetition
- Extended duration of exposure
- Contact stress

# Soft Tissue Days Away Claims

40%

frequency

Force exertion

40%

severity





# Financial Impact

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**Average case \$25,000**

**Deductibles \$250,000+**

**Profit margin?**

- How many more sales are required?
- Production Impact?
  - Overtime





# Opioid Epidemic

- **MSDs are a key contributor**
- **Women disproportionately affected**
- **Policies matter (public healthcare & insurance)**
- **Construction/Farming/Manufacturing/Nonprofits**
- **Job design is key**
- **Address pain & inflammation within 6 weeks**
- **Narcan helps but . . . .**
- *(My other talk)*

## Issues with MSDs

### MSD Accelerators

Gender

Obesity

Fatigue/lack  
of sleep



Injury => Inflammation =>  
Fibrosis (connective tissue  
scars) => Excessive  
Deposits (cartilage)





# US Ergo Requirements

## Federal OSHA

- General duty clause—must address hazards

## Minnesota (Jan 1, 2024)

- Healthcare facilities (hospitals, outpatient, nursing homes)
- Warehouse distribution center (more than 100 employees)
- Meatpacking/poultry processing site (more than 100 employees)

## California

- IIPP--conduct claims-related assessments
- Ergonomics Program Standard-general industry
- Seating Standard
- Hotel Housekeeper MIPP Standard-annual requirements

## Maine

- VDT training

## Many States

- Patient handling requirements

## New Hampshire

- “Shall evaluate all incidences of ergonomically related injuries”

## Washington (Jan 1, 2024)

- Authorized to issue standards

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## Select International Requirements

### Brazil

- Assess EACH workstation
- Gender & age specific MMH requirements

### Mexico—all companies

- Must assess EACH workstation
- Ergonomics risk factors
- Material handling requirement

### UK

- Comprehensive Standards & Requirements
  - Display screens
  - Material handling

### EU

- Hazard Assessments of jobs
  - Ergonomics
  - Safety/Machine Guarding
  - IH



# Traditional Job Rotation

Moving employees between jobs to reduce physical stresses on people in “high stress” jobs



# Challenges with Job Rotation

**Need to use different parts of the body**

**Need to rotate frequently enough**

**Visual tasks**

**High intensity tasks**

**Fatigue Failure**



# Tacoma Narrows Disaster



# Fatigue Failure



Science Direct:

**“A failure that occurs below the stress limit of a material when it has been exposed to repeated loadings”**

Shoulders, Upper Extremities, Lifting



# Unintended Consequences of Rotation

Rotating through a “high risk” job increases the risk for employees coming from “lower risk” jobs.

The entire rotation cycle must be assessed

Why? Fatigue Failure is at play

**Damage per cycle is exponential, not linear**

High Risk Job 60%

Low Risk Job 1 40%

Low Risk Job 2 20%

AFTER ROTATION (ex)

HRJ 50%

LRJ1 50%

LRJ2 50%

# High Risk Job—Fatigue Failure Model

The Shoulder Tool 0.1.2 Home Instructions LIFFT DUET

### The Shoulder Tool

Unit: **English** | Metric

Task #	Type of Task	Lever Arm (inch)	Load (lb)	Moment (ft.lb)	Repetitions (per work day)	Damage (cumulative)	% Total (damage)
1	Horizontal Push or Pull	45	11	41.2	750	8.89300	100.0
2	Handling Loads			0.0		0.0	0.0
3	Handling Loads			0.0		0.0	0.0
4	Handling Loads			0.0		0.0	0.0
5	Handling Loads			0.0		0.0	0.0
6	Handling Loads			0.0		0.0	0.0
7	Handling Loads			0.0		0.0	0.0
8	Handling Loads			0.0		0.0	0.0
9	Handling Loads			0.0		0.0	0.0
10	Handling Loads			0.0		0.0	0.0

**Total Cumulative Damage:** 8.89300

**Probability of Shoulder Outcome (%):** 85.1

Reset
Calculate

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Bani Hani, D., Huangfu, R., Seseck, R., Schall Jr, M. C., Davis, G. A., & Gallagher, S. (2020). Development and validation of a cumulative exposure shoulder risk assessment tool based on fatigue failure theory. *Ergonomics*, 1-16.

# Low Risk Job—Fatigue Failure

The Shoulder Tool 0.1.2

[Home](#) [Instructions](#) [LIFFT](#) [DUET](#)

## The Shoulder Tool

Unit: **English** | Metric

Task #	Type of Task	Lever Arm (inch)	Load (lb)	Moment (ft.lb)	Repetitions (per work day)	Damage (cumulative)	% Total (damage)
1	Horizontal Push or Pull	20	11	18.3	375	0.00841	100.0
2	Handling Loads			0.0		0.0	0.0
3	Handling Loads			0.0		0.0	0.0
4	Handling Loads			0.0		0.0	0.0
5	Handling Loads			0.0		0.0	0.0
6	Handling Loads			0.0		0.0	0.0
7	Handling Loads			0.0		0.0	0.0
8	Handling Loads			0.0		0.0	0.0
9	Handling Loads			0.0		0.0	0.0
10	Handling Loads			0.0		0.0	0.0
<b>Total Cumulative Damage:</b>						<b>0.00841</b>	
<b>Probability of Shoulder Outcome (%):</b>						<b>25.7</b>	

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Development and validation of a cumulative exposure shoulder risk assessment tool based on fatigue failure theory.

*Ergonomics*, 1-16.

# Rotate Between the Two?

The Shoulder Tool 0.1.2

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## The Shoulder Tool

Unit: English | Metric

Task #	Type of Task	Lever Arm (inch)	Load (lb)	Moment (ft.lb)	Repetitions (per work day)	Damage (cumulative)	% Total (damage)
1	Horizontal Push or Pull	20	11	18.3	187	0.00420	0.1
2	Horizontal Push or Pull	44	11	40.3	375	3.46018	99.9
3	Handling Loads			0.0		0.0	0.0
4	Handling Loads			0.0		0.0	0.0
5	Handling Loads			0.0		0.0	0.0
6	Handling Loads			0.0		0.0	0.0
7	Handling Loads			0.0		0.0	0.0
8	Handling Loads			0.0		0.0	0.0
9	Handling Loads			0.0		0.0	0.0
10	Handling Loads			0.0		0.0	0.0
<b>Total Cumulative Damage:</b>						<b>3.46438</b>	
<b>Probability of Shoulder Outcome (%):</b>						<b>79.7</b>	

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**Difficult to Do  
1000 times/shift**

DUET 1.3.1

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## The Distal Upper Extremity Tool

Task #	OMNI-RES Scale	Repetitions (per work day)	Damage (cumulative)	% Total (damage)
1	8: Hard	1000	1.05374	100.0
2	Please select ...		0.0	0.0
3	Please select ...		0.0	0.0
4	Please select ...		0.0	0.0
5	Please select ...		0.0	0.0
6	Please select ...		0.0	0.0
7	Please select ...		0.0	0.0
8	Please select ...		0.0	0.0
9	Please select ...		0.0	0.0
10	Please select ...		0.0	0.0
Total Cumulative Damage:			1.05374	
Probability of Distal Upper Extremity Outcome (%):			64.3	

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## The Distal Upper Extremity Tool

Task #	OMNI-RES Scale	Repetitions (per work day)	Damage (cumulative)	% Total (damage)
1	4: Somewhat Easy	1000	0.01262	100.0
2	Please select ...		0.0	0.0
3	Please select ...		0.0	0.0
4	Please select ...		0.0	0.0
5	Please select ...		0.0	0.0
6	Please select ...		0.0	0.0
7	Please select ...		0.0	0.0
8	Please select ...		0.0	0.0
9	Please select ...		0.0	0.0
10	Please select ...		0.0	0.0
Total Cumulative Damage:			0.01262	
Probability of Distal Upper Extremity Outcome (%):			30.0	

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# Rotating from A to B

DUET 1.3.1 Home Instructions LiFFT The Shoulder Tool

		(per work day)	(cumulative)	(damage)
1	4: Somewhat Easy ▾	<input type="text" value="500"/>	0.00631	1.2
2	8: Hard ▾	<input type="text" value="500"/>	0.52687	98.8
3	Please select ... ▾	<input type="text"/>	0.0	0.0
4	Please select ... ▾	<input type="text"/>	0.0	0.0
5	Please select ... ▾	<input type="text"/>	0.0	0.0
6	Please select ... ▾	<input type="text"/>	0.0	0.0
7	Please select ... ▾	<input type="text"/>	0.0	0.0
8	Please select ... ▾	<input type="text"/>	0.0	0.0
9	Please select ... ▾	<input type="text"/>	0.0	0.0
10	Please select ... ▾	<input type="text"/>	0.0	0.0
<b>Total Cumulative Damage:</b>			0.53318	
<b>Probability of Distal Upper Extremity Outcome (%):</b>			59.1	

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Please cite this paper to support the authors:

Gallagher, S., Schall Jr, M. C., Sesek, R. F., & Huangfu, R. (2018).

An Upper Extremity Risk Assessment Tool Based on Material Fatigue Failure Theory: The Distal Upper Extremity Tool (DUET).

*Human factors*, 60(8), 1146-1162.

Hand/Wrist	Yellow	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red	Green	Red	Grey	Red	Yellow	Green	Yellow
Shoulder/Arm	Red	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Yellow

Hand/Wrist	Yellow	Green	Red	Green	Yellow	Red	Green	Grey	Grey
Shoulder/Arm	Yellow	Green	Grey	Green	Green	Red	Green	Green	Red

Hand/Wrist	Red	Yellow	Grey
Shoulder/Arm	Red	Green	Grey

Hand/Wrist	Grey	Green	Red	Yellow	Red	Green	Green
Shoulder/Arm	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Red	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow



Get "Professional" Ergonomics Help

- **Onsite Assessments & Recommendations\***
  - Detailed analysis
  - Risk to parts of the body
- **Awareness Training/Coaching\***
- **Engineer/Team Training\***
- **Prevention through Design (PtD) Help\***

- \*From Credentialed Ergonomists

# What Does (PtD) Do?

Skips  
“administrative”  
controls

Focuses on design &  
development phase



# How Does PtD Work?

**Looks long-term**

- **Reduces variability**
- **Process control**

**Increases successful outcomes**



# How Do We Do PtD?

Training of engineers  
designing/spec'ing out equipment &  
processes

Formal ergonomics assessments of  
projects

- Not just a “ cursory ” look
- Before equipment ordered
- Before construction

Training cross-functional teams







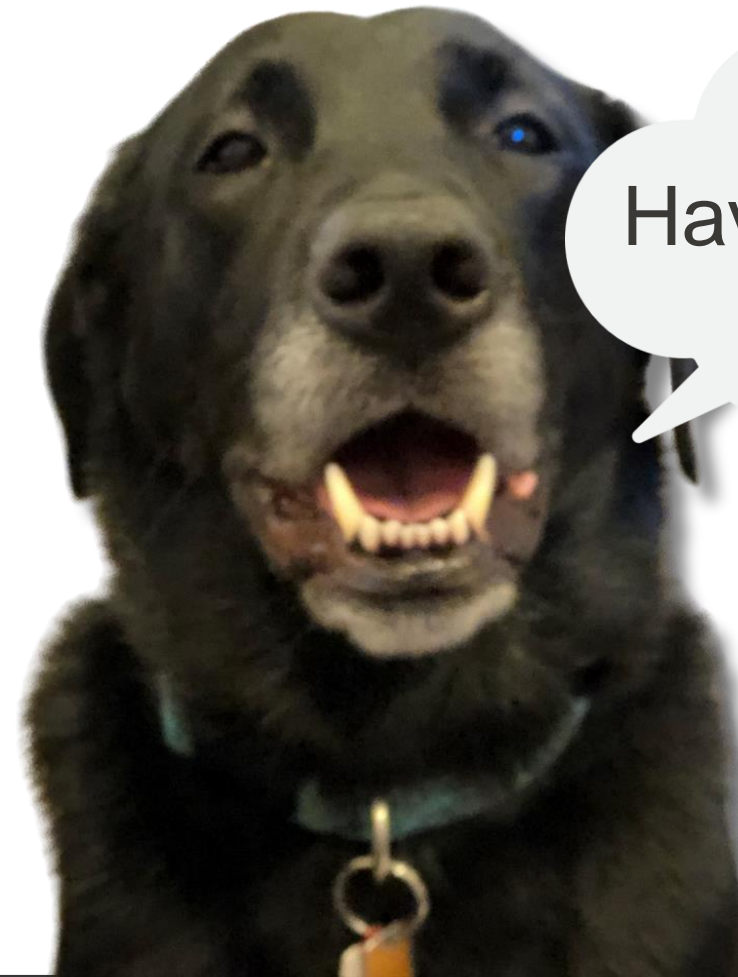
Timothy Pottorff

(The "Ergo Tim!")



P: (847) 921-3113

E: [t.pottorff@qp3ergosystems.com](mailto:t.pottorff@qp3ergosystems.com)



Have a Great Day!