

POWER



PARTNERSHIPS

CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

MAY 21-23, 2002

Donald E. Stephens Convention Center
Rosemont, Illinois

Chiou, S., and Pan, C.S. 'Ergonomic Walkthrough Evaluation of Drywall Installation,' abstract was presented at the 12th Annual Construction Safety and Health Conference and Exposition, May 21-23, 2002, Chicago, IL and was published in the conference proceedings (p. 335).

Title of presentation: Ergonomic Walkthrough Evaluation of Drywall Tasks

Abstract:

Drywall installers and finishers are constantly exposed to ergonomic job risk factors which may result in adverse health and safety outcomes such as cumulative traumatic disorders and slip/fall injuries. The objective of this study was to determine and characterize the ergonomic risk factors of drywall tasks. The risk factors associated with drywall tools and assistive devices (e.g., stilts) were also identified. Thirty-one workers at two different construction sites were observed and videotaped while performing their routine drywall tasks. An ergonomic walkthrough checklist was used to obtain an overview of the risk factors that affect the workers who work specifically in the drywall industry. Based on the checklist data, drywall tasks were rank-ordered by the scores obtained for stressful postures of five body parts: neck/shoulders, elbow, back, hips/legs, and wrists. In addition, the repetitive motions were rank-ordered for torso, lower extremities and upper extremities. A preliminary analysis indicates that the most stressful body part was neck/shoulder followed by elbow. The upper extremity repetitiveness of drywall finishing tasks were higher than that for the installation tasks. Results from this study are useful in identifying the specific features of drywall tasks that are contributing to the ergonomic risks.

List of co-presenters:

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Intended audiences:

Drywall contractors, drywall manufacturers, occupational safety and health professionals, ergonomists and those with an interest in the health and safety of construction workers.

Bio(s) for presenter and co-presenter: Please see attachment.

Resume of prior speaking engagements: Please see attachment.

Audio visual needs: Projector for portable computer