

Safety and Security

<http://www.bsif.co.uk/newsarticles/good-health-safety-good-business-case-studies/>

Good Health & Safety, good business! – Case Studies

Brammer's handy service reduces worker injuries

<http://www.bsif.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Brammer-and-Royal-Mint-case-study-v1.pdf>

The challenge

Based in Llantrisant in South Wales, the Royal Mint is one of the world's leading independent mints, manufacturing coins for the UK and countries all over the world, as well as supplying blanks and official medals. Employing more than 900 people, it can produce 90 million coins and blanks a week – almost five billion coins annually.

It was estimated that the organisation were using 34,000 pairs of gloves in one year. With an annual spend of £70,000, there were 33 varieties of gloves being used on site from several manufactures.

The range of products available did not necessarily mean that the most suitable gloves were being used for each task; gloves were frequently being selected on the basis of familiarity rather than suitability. In year 1 (2013) the knock-on effect of this was a high cost of accidents relating to insufficient or inadequate hand protection – more than half of all accidents at Llantrisant were hand- or finger-related, as a result of not using gloves at all, using the wrong type of glove, or wearing a product of the incorrect size. The cost per accident resulting in a claim was in the region of £10,000 – to say nothing of the legal costs of investigation relating to each one.

The Royal Mint management team tasked Brammer, a long-standing partner in the area of maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) products, to come up with a solution.

The Solution

Brammer joined forces with Ansell, one of the UK's premier supplier of working gloves, to undertake a thorough review of all areas of glove usage at the Llantrisant facility. Every process across the four main production units was scientifically analysed, with Ansell assessing which glove product from its range would ideally be most suitable. Chemical analysis was undertaken to confirm the selection was correct, with the chosen glove then extensively trialled in the working area and feedback from users gleaned before a final selection was made.

It was found that 85% of work requirements could be achieved by using six types of gloves rather than having 33 variations. Narrowing down the products meant that a new system needed to be put in the place to ensure all workers had a regular supply of the correct gloves and to do this Brammer's Invend™ service, an industrial vending machine system, was installed. The machines operate free of charge and Brammer keep track of the glove usage and replenish products when needed. To access the items, each member of staff inputs a code and the Royal Mint only pay for products that have been taken. The Invend service has improved the monitoring system allowing for an easier process when auditing the units. Additional support and training is given to members of staff unsure about how to select their gloves.

The Results

The new gloves delivered enhanced performance and longevity – in the hot end section of the MRB (milling, rolling and blanking) process, for example, the new Ansell Workguard 43-216 product lasted four times as long as the products previously being used, with similar stories through the Royal Mint's operations.

Gloves were now also distributed through Brammer's Invend™ service, an industrial vending system which uniquely removes the need for significant upfront capital investment in vending equipment by customers. Brammer supplies the machines free of charge and tracks usage automatically, replenishing products as needed, with the Royal Mint only paying for the items as they are used. The machines in each area – four banks of two – each contained only the gloves required in that area and with each member of staff having to enter a code before an items was distributed, it was easy to see which gloves had been taken, when and by whom. This ensured complete traceability round the clock while identifying any areas of excessive use or incorrect product selection, with additional staff training able to be provided if needed.

Best practice in glove selection and usage is now commonplace throughout the organisation.

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Parker Merchanting's head to toe service raises health and safety standards

<http://www.bsif.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Parker-Merchanting-case-study-FINAL.pdf>

The challenge

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) estimates that over 500 construction workers die every year as a result of exposure to silica dust. In a bid to raise awareness of the issue of air pollution and the importance of having the right respiratory gear, Parker Merchanting wanted to position itself as a real driving force in raising safety standards particularly within the RPE (Respiratory Protective Equipment) market with their regional staff fully accredited to carry out Fit2Fit testing and able to offer sound advice.

Parker Merchanting, A Registered Safety Supplier and a leading supplier of consumables to the construction industry, wanted to enhance its customer offering and ensure staff were fully equipped with the knowledge to provide customer consultation on PPE, that regulation compliance is achieved and that all PPE products supplied are fit for purpose.

The solution

As an existing member of the BSIF, Parker Merchanting embraced the Fit2Fit scheme which is designed in collaboration with the HSE and other industry stakeholders, to confirm the competency of any person performing face-piece fit testing. Detailed by CoSHH regulations, it is a legal requirement that workers using tight fitting respiratory protective equipment (face pieces/masks) must be fit tested by a competent person. Anyone wishing to be part of the scheme must pass an industry recognised exam, demonstrating that they have a thorough knowledge of the HSE guidance on fit testing and that they know how to fit test in practical circumstances. By substantially increasing the correct fitting of RPE, the aim is to significantly reduce the incidence of occupational respiratory disease. As an extension to this commitment, Parker Merchanting of the Parker team will arrange for a PPE manufacturer to visit a site and show employees how to use their equipment safely. This is an important part of the working relationship for Parker Merchanting; ensuring that its customers are not only provided with the correct safety equipment but are trained to use it correctly and that employees understand the importance of correct specification.

The results

Parker Merchanting was commended for its Fit2Fit testing sessions by Andrew Morgan of Redrow Homes with which Parker Merchanting has a collaborative relationship. He commented: "I would like to thank the Parker Merchanting team for running the 'Training Days' for our business and associated contractors.

"They were a great success and all attendees were fully engaged and absorbed the message given by your accredited team as to the importance of adopting the correct RPE (Respiratory Protection Equipment). I was able to attend one of the sessions held in South Wales and must commend you on the professionalism and training abilities of your staff".

By implementing the BSIF's Fit2Fit scheme, Parker Merchanting is now able to provide Face Fit testing for customers purchasing and using RPE, and staff can offer user-tailored advice on RPE. This ensures that health and safety decisions are made with the user in mind, regulation compliance is achieved and the products supplied are fit for purpose.

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Dorsa Vi sensor helps improve manual handling safety for Heathrow baggage handlers

<http://www.bsif.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Dorsa-Vi-case-study-FINAL.pdf>

The challenge

Dorsa Vi, leading providers of revolutionary wearable sensor technology was aiming to mitigate health and safety injuries as well as productivity issues when it looked into the advantages of manual handling aids for baggage handlers at Heathrow airport. Due to time pressure and the varying size, weight and shape of the luggage, the incidence of musculoskeletal injuries in baggage handlers is an issue – 54% of self-reported, work-related illnesses are considered to be musculoskeletal disorders according to HSE statistics.¹

The solution

Dorsa Vi introduced the ViSafe to Heathrow in order to accurately understand, assess and quantify, the impact of a manual handling aids on the musculoskeletal health of Heathrow baggage handlers. ViSafe is a wearable sensor technology system that enables many aspects of detailed human movement, position and posture to be accurately and objectively quantified outside a biomechanics lab, both in real-time and real workplace environments. The ViSafe and its data can also be used to demonstrate which manual handling aids are best suited to each role and each worker.

The results

The manual handling aid ultimately gave workers more rest time and better patterns of muscle usage when compared to loading manually. Results showed that the use of a manual handling aid reduced low back muscle exertion while on task by up to 67% and shoulder muscle exertion by up to 88%. Overall muscle exertion required was consistently lower across all workers when using a manual handling device compared to loading manually with the largest reduction being 89%.¹

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/industry/transportation/index.htm> Although human nature is usually reluctant to change, the ViSafe provided Heathrow with quantitative data that could then be used to show the benefits of manual handling aids to workers and ultimately

improve their working health. The ViSafe's objective data has helped real change occur in the safety culture across Heathrow's stakeholder community which is broad and complex.

-ENDS

Notes to editors

Photo Caption: [to be inserted]

About the British Safety Industry Federation (BSIF)

The British Safety Industry Federation (BSIF) is the lead UK trade association for the safety and health industry. Established in 1994, the BSIF has active links with many government departments and other representative Trade Bodies. It is comprised of manufacturers and distributors of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), specialist service providers to the industry, such as product test houses and notified bodies for PPE certification, and safety professionals.

As the voice of the industry, the Federation is dedicated to serving and supporting the businesses who keep people safe and healthy while they are at work and passionate about health and safety being recognised as a force for good in the UK.

The Federation is a Health and Safety Executive-recognised competent authority and the lead trade body for the PPE Regulations, as designated by the UK Department for Business, Innovation and Skills.

Today the BSIF is firmly established as the major independent voice of the British safety industry, helping to both influence legislation and provide industry in general with a source of authoritative information on a range of workplace safety issues, while representing the needs of its members. Membership is accommodated within a number of sector trade associations.

To find out more visit www.bsif.co.uk or follow us on Twitter @BSIF1

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