

Ergonomics Roundtable of Sacramento Presents:

When: **October 13, 2009**
9:00-11:30

Evidence-Based Office Ergonomics: Using Research and Data to Guide a Program

David Brodie, CPE

In office ergonomics, deciding when to purchase a solution is a critical decision, which is immediately followed by what is the correct solution for the employee. For a person in charge of making these decisions, having facts and data to support an action can be incredibly valuable.

Atlas Ergonomics is a consulting company heavily involved in the area of office ergonomics. As part of its office ergonomics assessment process, employees are asked to fill out online surveys on their work stations, their understanding of appropriate furniture set-up, and their own discomfort. This information provides valuable insight into on-the-job risk factors and how to lessen their impact. Atlas evaluated the results of 2441 randomly-drawn employee surveys to determine if there were any trends that would help validate opinions, guide decisions, or add to the current discussion of office ergonomics. This initial analysis created several questions that suggested a need for further research into the potential solutions that are available within the office environment.

This session will illustrate the key findings that were found regarding employee demographics, furniture selection, and the knowledge and attitudes of office-based employees. Additionally, preliminary results from two recent research studies that focused on chair and keyboard designs and how they impact the comfort and productivity of employees will be presented.

About Our Speaker...

David Brodie, MS, CPE, is director of ergonomics services for Atlas Ergonomics. Brodie, a Certified Professional Ergonomist with a Master's of Science in Kinesiology, has been working in the field of ergonomics for nearly 17 years. Prior to his current position with Atlas, David was the director of consulting at the Ergonomics Center of North Carolina, and a Provincial Ergonomist with the Workplace Safety and Health branch of Manitoba Labour where he led the development of a provincial guideline on ergonomics. David has worked for corporate clients throughout North America, including work in office, industrial, meat processing, transportation, and healthcare settings. David is currently the Vice Chairperson for the Ergonomics Branch of Industrial Hygiene Specialty Group, a practice specialty of the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE), and a Director on the Board of Certification in Professional Ergonomics (BCPE).

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