

# INDUSTRIAL ERGONOMICS

## ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT ERGONOMICS

Industrial automation may be common place in the modern factory but did you know that an ergonomically designed factory can increase productivity even further?

Industrial ergonomics creates an appropriate and effective level of interaction between workers and machinery.

In recent years, industrial automation has become invaluable to the modern factory, by increasing productivity, efficiency and cost effectiveness. Despite the rise of advanced machinery on the factory floor, human workers are still essential to operations.

In industry, poor design of manufacturing environments and equipment has important implications on productivity.

## MAN-MACHINE COLLABORATION

For the combination of man and machine on the factory floor to be successful, an appropriate and effective level of interaction between workers and equipment is essential.

Ergonomics is concerned with the understanding of humans and other elements of the system in order to optimise performance. This means that an ergonomically designed factory or manufacturing line can significantly increase productivity.

## THE ERGONOMIC FACTORY

Manufacturers can alter employee workspace to increase comfort and reduce the risk of injury. Work stations should not be designed with a one-size-fits-all approach; instead, they should be easily adjustable to fit the needs of different employees.

Easy-reach zones for employees are a simple way to speed up production. Other factors that are often overlooked, such as lighting and temperature, can make a surprising difference on the number of accidents.

When redesigning the factory floor, manufacturers should consider ergonomics – it can help increase productivity, make processes more efficient and boost staff satisfaction.