

Redesigned parts painting process

Reduces repetitive motions and frequent lifting



Ergonomics @ work

Description

Some jobs involve unnecessary motions that could be reduced or eliminated with a little careful planning. Aladdin Hearth Products, a Colville, Washington stove and fireplace insert manufacturer, had one of these jobs in their stove door painting cell. Workers used to paint one side of the door in the paint booth, then push the door out to dry. They would then pull the door back into the paint booth, flip it, paint the other side, and push it back out to dry again. Another worker would then pick up the door, carry it to another workstation, assemble it with other parts, and then lift it again to package it for shipping. The company worked with employee teams to redesign the process. Now the doors are put on a hanger line in the paint booth, so both sides can be painted at once. The doors are left on the hangers and slid out of the booth to dry. The other worker then takes the door directly off of the hanger and assembles it on top of the packaging material. Once assembled, the doors can be packaged without lifting them. This new process is both safer and more efficient.



Recently painted stove doors drying on the hanger line. Doors will be assembled on the packaging material below.

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