

## Optimize Safety In Industrial Operations To Drive Productivity & Revenue

Safety in the workplace is a serious matter — especially in industrial operations. In physically demanding and/or high-risk industries like many industrial operations, the implications of such injuries can be disastrous.

National Safety Council data shows there were more than 5,200 fatal workplace injuries across all sectors in 2018, in addition to more than 3 million total recordable cases of non-fatal work-related injuries and illnesses in 2013.

Each year, manufacturers and distributors lose valuable manpower to slips, falls, and other accidents that hurt people, cause employees to miss work, and cost companies hundreds of thousands of dollars in workers' compensation claims.

If you run a warehouse, manufacturing operation, or heavy commercial facility, practicing workplace safety isn't just a good idea — it's essential.

Safety in industrial operations is about more than just protecting workers, although that's always going to be the top priority. Promoting safety throughout the organization also helps to optimize worker productivity and drive revenue growth, over both the near and the long term.

Let's take a closer look at how.

### Optimizing Safety = An Investment In People

It's no secret that the Indian industrial industry is undergoing a significant shift in workforce demographics as the older generation looks to retire in the coming years and younger workers increasingly enter the labor pool.

For manufacturing and distribution companies, the time to start capturing the safety knowledge of the retiring workforce is now. In other words, manufacturers and distribution centers need to set up a knowledge transfer process between new and retiring workers to promote safety best practices, as well as thwart any inefficiencies that might impede productivity.

While such an investment in workers and their safety requires due time, resources, and attention, a blog on workplace safety notes that "every penny spent trying to prevent an accident is better than any expense dealing with the results of an accident."

## Ergonomics Contribute To Workplace Safety

The Bureau of Labor Statistics data referenced above may appear shocking at first glance, but what the statistics fail to mention is that many of the workplace injuries highlighted could have been prevented in the first place with simple ergonomics.

Injuries aside, ergonomics also helps to promote worker productivity as well as improve morale. By reducing physical strain on the body (i.e., floor-level lifting, stretching to reach loads above or below arm level, or bending over for long periods of time), ergonomics allows workers to **focus on the value-added work** — not the amount of physical effort required to get the work done.

As noted by Bishamon's Bob Clark, "the right [ergonomic] equipment can not only alleviate heavy loads and increase the range of motion for workers, it can also lead to efficiencies that translate to profit for your bottom line."

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**Published by : D. L. Shah Trust,  
Room No. 16, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Gool Mansion,  
Homji Street, Mumbai 400 001  
email: [dlshahtrust@yahoo.co.in](mailto:dlshahtrust@yahoo.co.in)  
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