

# The Top 5 Ways Ergonomics Will Benefit Your Bottom Line.



You probably know that ergonomics is great for keeping you healthy and pain free. But did you know that it's great for your company's bottom line as well? In fact, by investing in ergonomic products and design, companies can prevent a number of employee expenses while also increasing the qualitative and quantitative value each employee brings to the organization. That's especially crucial in this recovering economy, in which every investment must have both short and long term benefits.

Here are the top 5 ways investing in ergonomics will benefit your company's bottom line.

## 1) Increases Productivity

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) defines ergonomics as "the science of fitting workplace conditions and job demands to the capabilities of the working population."

Effectively, that means that when a workplace isn't ergonomic, employees are left with no choice but to force their body into less than ideal positions to suit the environments they work in. This is the equivalent of a high-potential athlete reduced to only a small percentage of their capacity due to bad form. Ergonomic products will fix that form and boost performance.

In doing so, using ergonomic products significantly lower the chances of developing Repetitive Strain Injuries (RSIs) — which reduce hand strength, inhibit accuracy, and decrease employee efficiency. And of course, with fewer injuries, employees will boost their productivity rates.

## 2) Decreases Absenteeism

If there's one sure thing about RSIs, it's that they hurt. And that kind of pain leads to an escalating number of sick days, until eventually the affected employee must go for surgery that can take weeks if not months to recover from. This has the potential to push up insurance rates.

## “TOP FIVE WAYS”, CONT

What's more, every day of employee absence means one less day of productivity, with radiating effects on an employee's colleagues, who must overextend themselves to take over dropped tasks. This is all the more so for key employees that aren't easily replaced.

### **3) Reduces Turnover**

Sometimes RSIs become so problematic that an employee is forced into retirement or another kind of job altogether. Advertising, hiring and retraining a replacement employee can be costly both in terms of upfront costs and in terms of loss productivity.

What's more, if the lost employee is older, the company loses his or her accumulated knowledge and expertise, both of which are key for mentoring new employees. If the employee is young, the company loses out on years of potential work.

### **4) Reduces Workers' Compensation Claims**

When an employee suffers from an RSI that's directly related to a work-related motion, they are entitled to costly worker's compensation claims that can have significant negative effects on a company's bottom line. In fact, according to the Liberty Mutual Workplace Safety Index, computer-related injuries result in \$30.9 billion dollars in workers' compensation claims every year. Add to that hefty OSHA fines for companies that don't take action when they've been warned, and that's a lot of money disappearing from a company's coffers—money that could be spent investing in new research and product innovation.

### **5) Increases Morale**

There are many factors that go into making employees happy, but chief among them is feeling like their company cares about their health and safety. In this way, investing in ergonomics can increase both loyalty and morale, making employees more passionate about their work, and ready to make the kind of innovations that really set a good company apart on the market.

### **In Short**

Investing in ergonomic products comes with numerous short- and long-term benefits to productivity rates and overall employee happiness, which translates directly to a company's financial health. The better employees feel, the better they'll perform, the better the company will do. That's why ergonomics is so key to the health not only of employees but to companies at large.

Visit [blog.goldtouch.com](http://blog.goldtouch.com) for more industry news, product information and helpful tips and tricks.