APPENDIX

Inventory of Tools for Ergonomic Evaluation

1. Tools for Strategic Decision making

We are not aware of any tools available to help managers evaluate strategic alternatives in work-environment terms. Nevertheless some tools do exist in this area such as workshops, focus groups and the like that are intended to provide a forum in which alternatives can be developed and examined by a broad range of stakeholders with different perspectives on the issues involved (Jensen, 2002).

This category remains part of this inventory to emphasise the importance strategic decision making has for working environment (Neumann, 2004) and, conversely, the importance work environment can have for realising company strategy - the topic of another SMARTA project (Dul & Neumann, 2005; Neumann & Dul, 2005). Strategic choices frame all subsequent decision making that ultimately affects ergonomics.

Know a tool? submit suggestions to: pneumann@ryerson.ca

2. Tools for Work System & Product Design

Tools in this category are useful in the evaluation of workplaces in the design stage. These tools can also often be used to evaluate existing designs.

A. Complex Human Simulation Models

“Complex” computer models include higher-end products designed to allow 3D modelling of humans in a 3D environment such as CAD. For a complete discussion of the capabilities and utility of these tools check out works by Sundin for practitioners and researchers (A. Sundin, 2001; A. Sundin et al., 2004; A Sundin & Cyrén, 1998; A. Sundin & Sjöberg, 2004).


ii. Ramsis - see www.ramsis.de

iii. SAFEWORK - see www.safework.com

iv. ENVISION/ERGO - see www.delmia.com

v. eMHuman – see www.ugs.com/products/tecnomatix/human_performance

vi. ERGOMan - see www.delmia.com

vii. ManneQuinPRO – see www.nexgenergo.com/ergonomics/mqpro.html