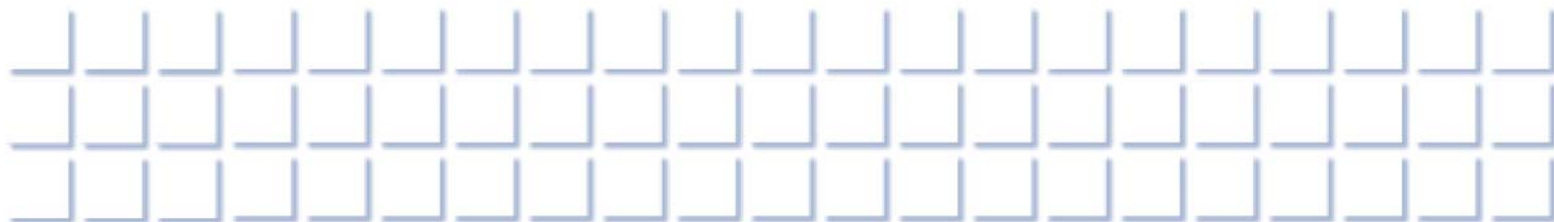


The Risk Consulting Practice



Workforce Strategies

Solution:

Work Safety—Specialized Injury Prevention Training for the High-Risk Workforce— Public Safety Employees

Public employees face physically demanding jobs every day. Risk exposures and work circumstances, including time constraints and awkward positions, make standard ergonomic practices and accepted safe-body positioning serious challenges.

Firefighters, EMTs, and paramedics perform life-saving activities daily: administering CPR in a moving ambulance, extricating a victim from a vehicular accident, transporting an agitated cardiac patient on a backboard down flights of stairs, or cutting a ventilation hole while perched on the inclined roof of a burning building.

Law enforcement and corrections officers face survival-based, physically demanding tasks: restraining and subduing an arrestee or inmate in a sudden struggle, pursuing a suspect on foot over obstacles, or using defensive compliance tactics (e.g., batons) in confrontations in the second tier of response after communication has failed.

Public works and utility employees perform labor-intensive tasks in constantly changing, awkward environments: digging inside narrow trenches, shoveling asphalt off a pick-up truck, or working a 90-lb. paving breaker.

To prevent injury and cumulative physical breakdown, particularly for the back, shoulders and knees, high-risk employees must develop a thorough understanding of the physical demands of their jobs, become professionally aware of their individual body strengths and capabilities, and know instinctively how the body feels when the work is done correctly.

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What will you say when they ask what happened?

Employers seeking to improve employee safety and effectiveness should ask these questions:

Unlike traditional training programs, this unique, experience-based training is much more readily accepted and valued by public service personnel.

- Are workers' compensation costs increasing?
- Are injuries, particularly back injuries in firefighters and law enforcement professionals, becoming more severe or occurring more often?
- Are employees staying out of work longer after subsequent injuries?
- Are employees able to consistently control their physical response to work demands in uncontrolled, changing work environments?
- Have other training techniques been effective in reducing injuries?

Who's looking out for you?

Marsh has teamed with Professional Safeguard Resources® to provide specialized body-mechanics safety training for high-risk professions, including firefighting, EMT, EMS, law enforcement, nursing, and public utilities.

The program is designed for the actual physical, physiological, and psychological demands of these professions. Unlike traditional training programs, this unique, experience-based training is much more readily accepted and valued by public service personnel. To date, more than 20,000 employees in 100 public entities have been trained.

Each training session is customized to meet an organization's real-world needs. Training specialists use career-specific equipment, tools, and situations to recreate realistic circumstances in a controlled environment.

After completing the one-day intensive training course, clients have experienced significant reductions in many preventable workers' compensation injuries. For example, a number of medium to large municipal fire departments were able to reduce lost days due to musculoskeletal injuries by 25–50 percent and reduce the number of lost days due to back injuries by 40–80 percent.

Each training session is customized to meet an organization's real-world needs. Training specialists use career-specific equipment, tools, and situations to recreate realistic circumstances in a controlled environment. Through the hands-on training clinic, employees learn:

- How to respond instinctively to constantly changing job demands using ingrained professional reflexes
- How the body feels acting as a self-strengthening unit that is integrated, leveraged, and stable while focused on the task

- How to reflexively seek out the correct physical response—based on personal size and strength—in response to the unique performance demands of each specific career and work arena

This specialized training improves employees' ability to professionally manage their physical responses in routine and extreme work environments. The goal is to make the safe physical response automatic. This intensive hands-on training program can help public entities reduce workers' compensation costs as well as injury frequency, severity, and recurrence.

With more than 20 years of highly specialized national experience, Professional Safeguard Resources® (PSR) alone provides this training in work-behavior modification for high-injury/risk public entity employees. PSR uses industry-acclaimed orthopedic and unique time-tested Eastern (Oriental) Physical Sciences in its body-mechanics principles for this career-specific "imprinting" safety training.

The Risk Consulting Practice at Marsh

Who's looking out for you?

The Marsh Advantage

The Risk Consulting Practice at Marsh collaborates with clients to develop solutions and services that reduce the likelihood of risk – diminish its impact if it does materialize – even help you leverage the opportunities it often reveals. We focus on the following critical areas:

- Business Risk
- Claims and Litigation Risk
- Operational Risk
- Risk Technology
- Workforce Risk

For more information, please call us at 866-9AtRisk (866-928-7475), contact us via e-mail (At.Risk@marsh.com), or visit us at www.marshriskconsulting.com.