

# EAGOSH CONFERENCE

May 5-6, 2010

**BILL LANDTBOM** 

Back-A-Line

## ADDRESSING BACK PAIN & INJURIES SHOULD BE A VERY HIGH PRIORITY!

- 30% of adults have significant back problems TODAY
- 80% will experience problems in their lifetime
- Back Injuries:
  - #1 cost of payouts for U.S. workers compensation
  - Up to 50% of claims in industrial settings
- Incidence rate:
  - 25% of claims
  - Not dropped significantly in years



# ELASTIC-GIRDLE "BACK BELTS" FAILED... PROVEN <u>NOT</u> TO HELP!

- National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Study-1994
- National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (Walmart) Study-2000
- Conclusion: <u>NO reduction in pain or injury</u>

#### **REQUIREMENTS OF AN EFFECTIVE BACK SUPPORT**

- Correct Posture, Minimize Postural Transitions
- Activate Abdominal Muscles to *Rigidify* Trunk
- Both should occur at same time

# Back-A-Line (BAL): A BETTER APPROACH BASED ON ERGONOMIC SCIENCE:

- Behavioral: *"It's Not WHAT You Lift, but HOW You Lift...and HOW you do everything else!"*
- Ergonomic: "Curved and Firm" → "Proprioceptive" Feedback
- **Dynamic**: Postural Training  $\rightarrow$  Build, not Atrophy!

#### **BAL PROVEN IN MAJOR INDEPENDENT STUDIES...**

#### Harvard University:

"using a curved and firm surface pressed against the spine" → "proprioceptive feedback"

Miami University OH: 2 Peer-reviewed Studies 2000 & 2001

- BAL Dynamic Back-Support exerts a "positive protective effect, by preserving greater margin of safety"
- Successful result attributed to "proprioceptive feedback"

### BAL PROVEN IN MAJOR INDEPENDENT STUDIES [cont'd]

**AOASM:** American Osteopathic Academy of Sports Medicine

- BAL:
  - Stimulates abdominal muscles
  - Lumbar pad promotes lordosis, stimulates erector muscles, due to *proprioceptive feedback*
  - Provides rapid rehabilitation
- Granted their Endorsement & Seal of Acceptance: only product ever granted Seal

#### **BAL HAS THE ONLY PROVEN SOLUTION...**

## Back-A-Line holds the **only** Patent on "Curved and Firm" Back Support



## BAL <u>PROVEN</u> IN INDEPENDENT USER TESTS ...NEVER HAD A FAILED TEST

#### INJURY TEST: U.S. ARMY in Afghanistan (2007)

- 200 pilots and materiel off-loaders, 1 yr
- Lower back injuries were #1 injury profile, 23% of all injuries
- Used Army-proven "Oswestry Protocol"
- Results -

<u>50% Immediate drop</u> in lower back pain/injuries <u>66% Overall drop</u> in new lower back injuries over full 1yr duration

#### PAIN TESTS: 35 Tests, 900 workers

71% improved

# BAL RESULTS FROM 13 DATA-RELEASED PAIN & FATIGUE TESTS ACROSS MANY INDUSTRIES...

- Test Periods: 3-8 weeks
- Variety of Test Actions/Situations/Settings
- Results -

64% Overall Improvement on a 5-level scale

<u>75% Improvement</u> in those reporting "chronic pain" or routinely "significantly tired" prior to start of test

# BAL SPECIFIC TEST RESULTS of AIRLINE RAMP LOADERS...

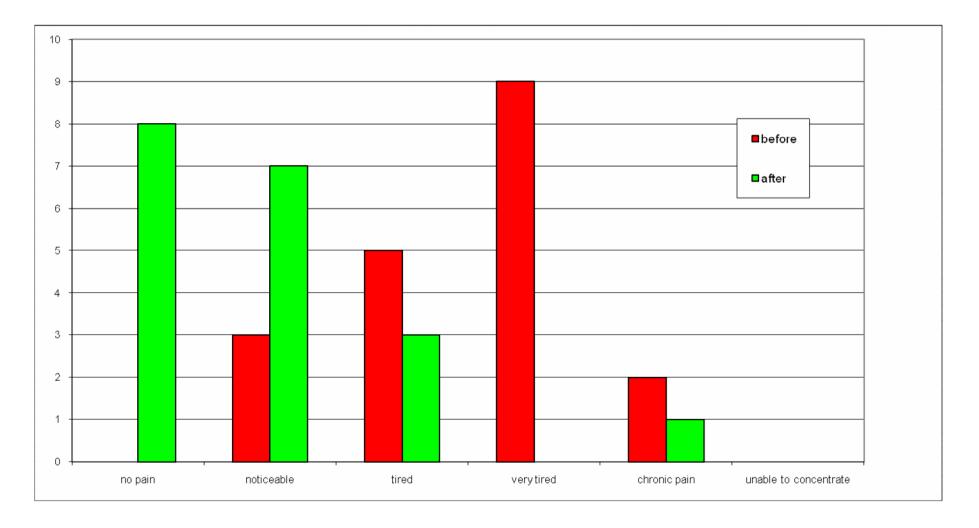
- 2009-2010 Tests by United Airlines and Swissport in Multiple Locations
- Results –

67% Overall Improvement on the 5-level scale

**<u>74% Improvement</u>** in those reporting "chronic pain" or routinely "significantly tired" prior to start of test

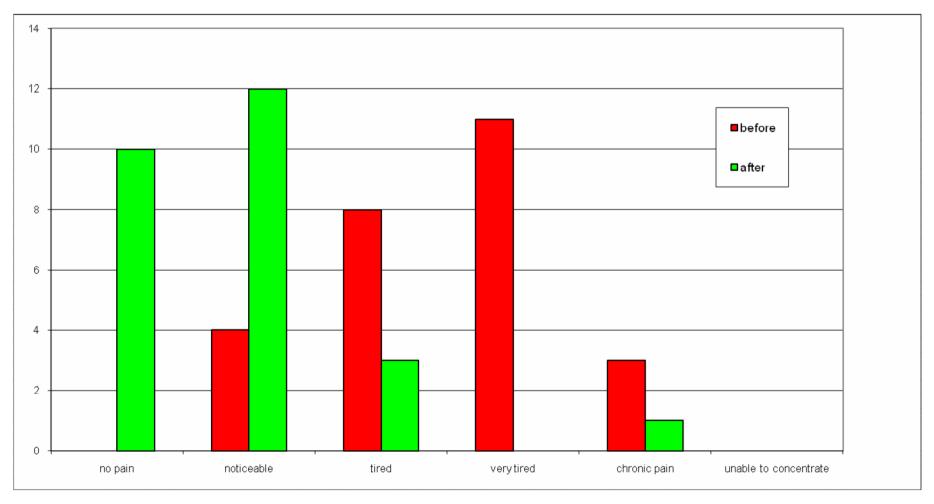
• UAL ordering BAL Supports for <u>ALL</u> ramp personnel

# SWISSPORT FIRST TEST – BASEL



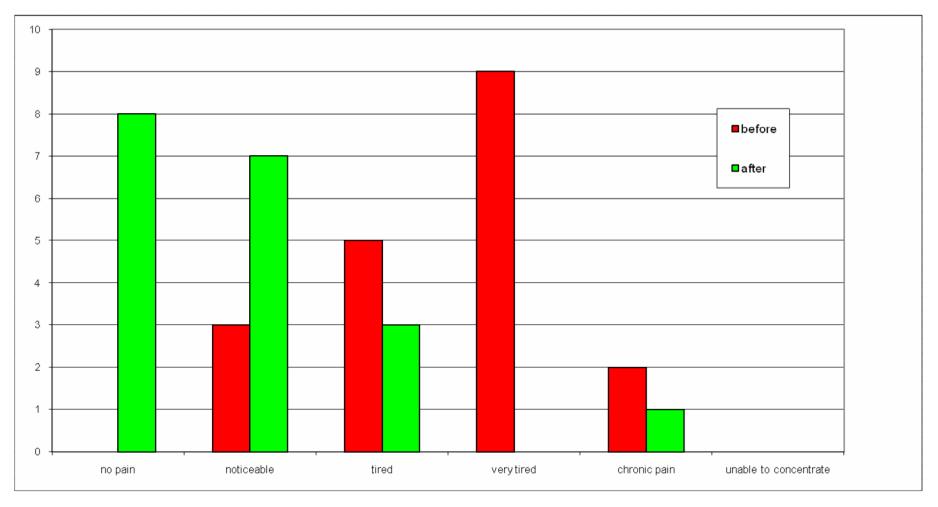
(N = 19)

# SWISSPORT 2nd TEST – BASEL & ZURICH



(N = 26)

# UNITED AIRLINES TEST RESULTS – PORTLAND AND SEATTLE



#### **ROI CONSIDERATIONS of BAL SUPPORTS...**

- Typical "cost" of back-related injuries in U.S. = US \$600 per worker
- Average U.S. Costs for job-related serious back-injury = US\$ 60,000
- 1 (one) less injury pays for over 2,000 BAL units!
- Test results prove BAL could reduce operable injuries by FAR MORE then 1 incident per 2,000 employees

## BAL, THE ONLY PROVEN SOLUTION TO THIS HIGH PRIORITY ISSUE

The **ONLY** back support that can create **proprioceptive feedback**...

And thereby **strengthens the back** and **improves posture -** the main cause of most back injuries





#### For More Information, Please Contact:

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