

FY08 Recordable Injury Summaries

ALS 08-01-30

Case 0057088

EE in the past had worked intermittently at the new workstation as a backup for another worker. When that worker went on extended leave, employee was moved in as replacement, performing receptionist and administrative duties involving light computer work. EE experienced discomfort immediately. EE had ergo evaluations, but symptoms worsened. EE has had at least 9 ergonomic evaluations, and the ergonomist has noted that the recommendations were not always followed by EE. This injury resulted in 69 days of restricted work activity.

ALS 08-02-21

Case 0057290

EE was seated at his workstation, writing notes. He went to move from the desktop writing surface to the adjacent computer section by swiveling in his chair and his knee struck the end section of the desk, which separates the desk section from the computer section and fractured his kneecap.

ALS 08-07-28

Case 0058542

Using a nut-driver, EE rotated a beam line chamber away from EE. The chamber was off balance and at some point the gear rotating the chamber and the worm-drive became disengaged. As the chamber rotated quickly and uncontrolled, a part apparently pinched EE's finger against the nut driver, causing a laceration. The injury resulted in 7 days of restricted work activity.

CFO 08-06-30

Case 0058249

EE suffered a strain to the upper trunk, neck and head from cradling a telephone handset between neck and shoulder. EE had previously obtained a headset, but did not use it because of poor fidelity.

CompSci 07-11-15

Case 0056607

EE was packing up an exhibit at the end of a conference. While lifting a box containing brochures EE turned to load the box into a storage container. When EE did this EE felt a twist in the lower back and sustained a strain to the trunk, resulting in 199 days of restricted work activity. Other employees who normally assist with this activity were unavailable. EE had no training in material handling and had a previous back injury.

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EETD 07-10-17

Case 0056303

EE was walking to the elevator on the ground floor of building 90. It rained that day, and the floor was wet. EE heel slipped and the left foot turned inward causing EE to fall. EE sprained the left foot.

EH&S -7-12-12

Case 0056761

EE was walking down the pedestrian-designated walk-way between buildings 75 and 76. EE either slipped or tripped on the uneven pavement. EE fell to the ground, landing on knees and twisting the left ankle. The injuries were a flap laceration and contusion on right knee requiring nine sutures in right knee and a left ankle sprain.

EH&S Security Contr 08-09-11

Case 0058901

EE was plugging in a personal cell phone charger and touched the attachment plug prongs with fingers. At the same time, EE was leaning against a grounded wall mounted heater and received a shock to the upper arm bicep area.

ENG 07-11-27

Case 0056626

EE was walking down McMillan Road, tripped on uneven pavement and fell. EE extended hands to break fall, landed hands first, then rolled. EE suffered a strain of the right wrist, resulting in 15 days of restricted work activity.

ENG 07-12-21

Case 0056989

EE was exiting a full size truck. Rather than stepping down, EE slid out of the truck seat and onto the pavement. The right outer edge of shoe landed on an iron drainage grating, and the foot got caught in one of the grooves. EE suffered a right knee strain.

ENG 08-02-27

Case 0057231

EE carried several empty cardboard boxes to the recycling bin. The boxes were not flattened and in front of the body. The path was wet and required EE to step down from a concrete curb. While stepping down, EE lost balance, fell forward, and struck the pavement with left knee and right hand, while EE caught a nearby barricade with the left hand, spraining the left hand and fingers, resulting in 9 days of restricted work activity.

FY08 Recordable Injuries Summaries

ENG 08-05-13

Case 0057942

For years, EE has been assigned to manually move lead bricks weighing approximately 26 lbs. each into tight locations. Placement of lead brick shielding in cramped locations required EE to reach and otherwise place body in awkward positions. Over time, EE suffered increasing pain that increased until it became so severe that EE sought medical attention from private physician. The injury is a shoulder sprain in the right shoulder which the activity described above contributed to, resulting in 35 days of restricted work activity.

ENG 08-06-17

Case 0058375

EE was loading heavy equipment and boxes into a truck, felt discomfort during the loading operation. EE did not report discomfort to coworker or supervisor, but continued to work and unloaded at destination. In the process, EE suffered a back strain resulting in lower back pain that required medical attention and 8 days work restrictions.

ENG 08-07-03

Case 0058283

EE's right wrist and hand were hurting, which EE attributed to change of job duties and heavy mouse use. EE was given a work restriction for 45 days that included no computer work, limited use of right hand up to 8 hours, and driving only locally.

ENG 08-07-21

Case 0058442

EE was decontaminating a vessel and needed to move a 184 lb flange resting on a welded bracket. The flange was at a tilt and under the vessel opening. As EE released the bracket, it slid off the pallet slat and into a gap. The flange dropped and as EE moved hands away, the middle right finger tip was caught between pallet and flange, resulting in a fracture and laceration of the right middle finger.

ESD 08-03-12

Case 0057380

EE suffered a repetitive strain of the left hand due to heavy mouse use while doing extensive graphics work on the computer without taking adequate breaks during heavy workload periods.

ESD 08-05-15

Case 0057882

EE was walking to the north entrance of B70A. While walking against the strong wind, the employee noticed something hit on the top right side of the head that caused a laceration requiring two stitches. Apparently EE was struck by an unknown wind-blown object.

FY08 Recordable Injuries Summaries

ESD 08-06-13

Case 0058102

After finishing lunch at approximately 12 noon, the EE stood up and was walking away from one of the round, cafeteria patio tables, while holding the lunch tray with both hands. While walking around one of the other round patio tables, the employee's right foot (toe tip of shoe) hit an exposed anchor bolt in the concrete which caused the employee to trip and lose balance, fall into another adjacent round table and eventually caused a fall to the concrete with EE's body landing on top of EE's arms causing the left wrist to break.

ESD 08-07-15

Case0058391

EE retrieved two helium gas cylinders (size 1A with valve covers in place) from the B70/70A gas cage area by using an old (poorly designed) double gas cylinder transportation dolly. EE transported the cylinders to the lab and then removed the chain that secures the two cylinders to the cart. As EE removed the first cylinder, EE noticed the second cylinder that was still on the cart was starting to fall. EE tried to prevent the cylinder from falling to the floor by using EE's hands and body mass; however, it was too late. The cylinder hit the lab door/wall and eventually landed on the left foot fracturing two toes.

FCLT 07-12-21

Case 0057081

EE was lifting a heavy vacuum pump from the floor to the table, without getting help and there were no lifting aids. The ending posture was with elbows fully extended to the sides with the hands together holding the pump at sternum level, resulting in a shoulder strain that required a work restriction of 106 days.

FCLT 08-03-17

Case 0057462

EE was delivering a 10 foot long, 3 inch diameter, piece of pipe to the Building 50B garage where the pipe bending equipment is kept. The pipe had been placed inside the bed of the truck, and it stuck up in the air over the cab of the truck by several feet. As EE drove into the garage area of Building 50B, the pipe caught the fire protection sprinkler and broke it, finally lodging against the ceiling, causing the truck to jerk to a halt. EE suffered whiplash, requiring a work restriction of 15 days.

FCLT 08-04-14

Case 0057635

EE was lifting trash bag out of a trash barrel and suffered a shoulder strain resulting in 8 days lost time and 35 days restricted duty.

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FCLT 08-08-28

Case 0058815

EE was cutting metal pipe during the day, did not feel anything in eye until driving home. Eventually EE went to the emergency room where it was determined that EE had eye abrasions due to embedded metal shavings that were invisible to the naked eye, resulting in 2 days of lost time. It is unknown when and how the shavings got into the eye as the EE was wearing safety glasses while working with the pipe and cutter.

FCLT 08-09-11

Case 0058760

EE was working with a group of custodians moving approximately 50 tables, and approximately 140 chairs in the Cafeteria. EE experienced pain in the shoulder but kept working without reporting the pain to Supervisor at the time. EE stated that the Custodians felt rushed because customers were waiting for the tables, and that table movers and dollies were not available for this job.

FCLT 08-09-12

Case 0058905

EE was freeing a fueling hose from obstruction in back of truck. Instead of lowering tailgate, EE climbed up back bumper, straddled the tailgate, freed hose, and jumped down aiming to step on trailer hitch, but missed it and fell to the ground, fracturing the right forearm when it hit the concrete, and resulting in 8 days of restricted work activity.

GND 07-10-11

Case 0056269

EE suffered pain and discomfort while handling plates, manipulating pipettes, and doing any tasks associated with BET, RCA, loading and debasing ABIs, tank changing, plating and OD reading. This was a repetitive strain injury of multiple upper extremities due to repetitive tasks associated with the above, resulting in 8 days lost time and 119 days of restricted duty.

GND 07-10-23

Case 0056405

EE felt a sharp pain and noticed swelling in the right wrist while using a keyboard and mouse during the Ergo Body Awareness class. Repetitive strain injury to the wrist resulted in work restrictions for 9 days.

GND 07-10-25

Case 0056428

EE reported that multi-tasking in RCA with loading plates on cyclers, dispensing reagents using the Hydra and multi-drop, loading the plate mates and sealing/unsealing plates contributed to the pain in both arms. These steps involve manipulating plates in many different ways. Repetitive strain injury to both hands, wrists, and elbows with occasional numbness and tingling in both arms as well as fingers resulted in 12 days of restricted work activity.

FY08 Recordable Injuries Summaries

GND 07-10-26

Case 0056487

EE has had issues with wrist pain for over a year. In August EE had a project deadline that was moved forward which required long hours/ extensive use of the computer. EE worked with an ergonomist, but the discomfort became more acute. EE and EE's supervisor decided to reduce the use of the computer. This helped reduce the discomfort, but when the EE increased the use of the computer again, the discomfort worsened.

GND 07-10-29

Case 0056444

Employee started training in the JGI Rolling Circle Amplification (RCA) area in about Aug 2007. Repetitive work in production, and especially RCA, appears to have lead to this injury, which consists of pain in both elbows, wrists, hands, and fingers.

GND 07-11-13

Case 0056559

While loading and unloading plates at the Biomek machine and pulling plate seal edges up to load plates into the unsealing machine, EE developed pain and numbness in right neck, arm, and fingers due to a repetitive strain injury, resulting in 21 days of restricted work activity.

GND 07-11-27

Case 0056635

EE needed to dispose of a chemical bottle. EE attempted to scrape the label off of the bottle with a single edged razor blade. The blade slid across the smooth surface of the label and into the left palm of the EE's hand causing a laceration requiring sutures.

GND 07-12-20

Case 0056831

EE is a web developer and has experienced discomfort in both hands since 2006. Ergonomic evaluations were completed and closed-out at that time. In June of 2007, EE experienced loss of feeling in both hands and requested an ergonomic evaluation, but did not report the discomfort to her supervisor or Health Services. EE had an evaluation on 12/5/07, and reported to Health Services on 12/20/07 for ongoing pain in both wrists, forearms, elbows, and shoulder areas after using computer. During these times, the EE did computer work the majority of each day, and there were hardware issues and lack of adequate rest breaks. The injury resulted in 43 days of restricted duty.

FY08 Recordable Injuries Summaries

GND 08-02-05

Case 0057128

In December 2007 EE started to have discomfort in left index finger, which EE did not report. In January 2008 the discomfort got worse. In December and January EE was working 12 hours per day writing code and sometimes worked on the weekends. EE works typically from 8:30-7:30. EE may work for several hours before taking a break. EE uses laptop for an additional 1-2 hours per day. EE reported left index finger pain after working long hours on the computer keyboard, and slight swelling noticed on the left knuckle area, and occasionally right index finger pain. EE attributes the left index finger pain to typing and the right index finger discomfort to mousing.

GND 08-02-21

Case 0057224

EE uses the computer daily and has been in current job description for over 6 years. EE has discomfort in left wrist and forearm due to extensive computer use with long duration and inadequate breaks.

GND 08-03-11A

Case 0057574

On 3/11/08 the EE used a twisting motion while lifting one end of a 62-pound, lab-bench countertop to move it to a new location, resulting in a low back strain. In February there had been a marked increase in the over all work load due to preparations for the JGI taking occupancy of Building 300. The additional work included installation of wall clocks, pictures/posters/paintings, towel holders, cup holders, and various other office/workspace type items, as well as a large amount of assembly and moving of outdoor furniture and distribution of 175-pound garbage cans. The additional bending, squatting, stooping, reaching, and twisting during this increased work load may have resulted in cumulative strain of back muscles that was compounded by the heavy lifting.

GND 08-03-11B

Case 0057373

EE stated that EE is pipetting, and twisting tube tops while gripping and pinching the tubes. Using a syringe by hand is another task the EE identified as a source of discomfort. EE has swelling on palm side of left hand, and left wrist pain, and this injury resulted in 6 days of restricted work activity.

GND 08-04-10

Case 0057580

EE has bilateral wrist and elbow pain after using computer mouse. One occupational task that is suspect is the employee's right-hand mouse use with a very-slow, software-programmed response speed.

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GND 09-29-08

Case 0059038

Contract EE reported to Health Services with pain bilaterally in the upper extremities associated with work in the "picking" production line.

HR 07-10-22

Case 0056365

Due to workload increase towards end of FY, EE had discomfort in both elbows/forearms from using keyboard and mouse.

HR 09-22-08

Case 0059033

EE reported to Health Services with back pain due to having fallen while walking through the parking lot at Building 54. Debris on parking lot surface may or may not have triggered the slip. The employee was diagnosed with a strain of the upper back muscles. The injury was not reported for several weeks and resulted in medical treatment for back pain.

IT 08-04-01

Case 0058431

EE experienced right wrist and forearm pain. EE reports EE has experienced hand discomfort issues including tendinitis for a long time, going back about 15 years.

IT ~09-01-08

0059358

EE reported to Health Services with pain, bilaterally, in the hands and fingers due to keyboard and mouse use. The employee stated he had begun experiencing severe pain 2 to 3 months earlier but hadn't reported the pain at that time.

IT – 11-07-08

0059278

The EE was driving a Lab vehicle on an unauthorized trip to an offsite Lab location. While stopped at the intersection of Hearst and Euclid Streets the Lab vehicle was struck from behind by another vehicle. The EE suffered back muscle strain.

LSD 08-01-15

Case 0056927

To begin cutting out a gasket, employee poked point of scissors into the polyethylene plastic surface while holding the polyethylene sheet in left hand. The scissors point slipped and lacerated the left index finger.

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LSD 08-06-04

Case 0058023

EE has had previous discomfort in the neck, shoulders, and back from intensive and long duration sessions at computer. EE has recently had a flare up of the discomfort and immobilizing pain in the upper trunk area due to the use of laptop computer at the recessed lab bench desk. Long and intensive use periods on laptop workstation and lab activities at lab bench without taking breaks contributed. Installation of an adjustable keyboard tray recommended a year earlier was not completed and remained uncompleted until this current episode of discomfort.

LSD 08-07-25

Case 0058511

Employee was in the process of an intensive cell culture effort when the pain began in right upper extremities. In addition to the pipetting EE was also engaged in an intensive computer data entry effort. The EE attempted to accommodate the pain by switching to left hand mouse use. The left hand then began to hurt. EE finally needed to report to Health Services with a strain of the right wrist and elbow and left wrist.

MSD 08-05-02

Case 0057774

Grad Student needed assistance opening a paint can type secondary container for paint tubes. The can lid was sealed by a thick plastic (polyethylene) retaining ring that must be removed before the top can be removed. EE initially used a screwdriver to attempt to pry the ring off, but was unsuccessful. EE then used a box razor cutter to cut the plastic ring, holding the cutter in the dominant left hand while prying the ring with the screwdriver. The Graduate Student held and secured the can. The cutter slipped and the blade passed across the back of the right thumb causing a slice wound type laceration, which resulted in 8 days restricted work activity.

MSD 08-05-22

Case 0057919

EE experienced discomfort and pain while using mouse repetitively with right hand.

NERSC 08-06-27

Case 0058242

EE woke up on Sunday morning with a stiff neck. This happens from time to time after sleeping awkwardly and usually goes away after a few days. During the following work week, EE worked unusually long hours due to a spike in work. A good portion of this work was performed using a laptop in conference rooms, rather than the EE's office. The ergonomics of the conference room are not optimal. On Thursday the EE felt pain from the strain in right neck and shoulder.

FY08 Recordable Injuries Summaries

PBD 08-05-02

Case 0057873

A robot in a pallet/crate with a gross weight of 650 lbs was delivered to the first floor (garage area) of the building. The robot needed to be transferred to a smaller crate so as to fit in the freight elevator. EE was in a hurry to move the heavy, costly equipment as it was left unattended in an unsecured location. Personnel assisting with the lift were not experienced in moving / lifting heavy loads, and as the lifting was performed at the end of the day and week the individuals involved may have been in a fatigued condition. EE, while helping to position the robot to its final location, moved the crate and strained the lower back area, resulting in 18 days of restricted work activity.

PBD 08-05-08

Case 0058670

In April 2008 EE (a graduate student) began continuous and long duration work of performing a bacteriophage packaging assay using a workbench equipped with a stage that requires frequent and rapid manipulation using micrometer thumbscrews. After one month of this work regime the graduate student developed bilateral thumb and index finger pain. EE was assigned the machine to complete the Ph.D. project and was motivated to take full advantage of available time with the machine for the thesis. There was no written SOP for using the machine in the way the Grad Student was using it.

PBD 09-04-08

Case 0059125

EE reported to Health Services for an unrelated issue, but upon discussions with the Health Services staff acknowledged a problem with the left arm (elbow and wrist) associated with repetitive manipulation of an alignment device at their ALS beamline location. The employee acknowledged the injury dating back to approximately 9/4/08 (an earlier visit to Health Services for general discomfort in his arm). This is a DART case due to written work limitations by the health care provider that restrict the performance of the employee's routine work activities.