



## Improved Comfort in the Industrial Workplace – A Case Study

### Background

Comfort is a growing concern among our aging population. Today there is evidence of this in the products we use, the strategies we implore in business and the emotional state of mind we desire. In the workplace it is believed by many that employee productivity can be increased through improved physical comfort at their workstation.

### Introduction

This case study covers the basic question of, will use of a LiquiCell seat cushion (shown at right) improve the comfort of workers in a factory setting. A traditional sewing factory was chosen in southeastern US. The study was conducted whereby supervision over the employee base provided consistent attendance throughout the period of testing.





Shown is the standard type of seating used (Task Chair)

## **Procedure**

Participants were asked to utilize the LiquiCell seat cushion for a period of three (3) weeks (July, 2002). All participants (30) were required to use the cushion for thirteen (13) of the fifteen (15) days during the study period. The participants worked regular shifts with morning, afternoon and lunch breaks. They were instructed to use the LiquiCell seat cushion over top of their current seating product. No adjustments were made to their seating environment. At the conclusion of the testing period, participants were then required to complete a study questionnaire to determine their experience.

## **Results**

The results support the conclusion that LiquiCell does indeed improve comfort. Over 82% of the participants in the study found the LiquiCell seat cushion provided improved comfort over their previous/existing seating product. Additionally, 63% of the respondents believed that they were more productive at their work while using the LiquiCell seat cushion. A summary of the results is shown on table 1.

### **Table 1: Summary of Results**

- 82.1% found the LiquiCell seat cushion improved their seating comfort.
- 63% found to be more productive while using the LiquiCell seat cushion.
- 92.9% found the LiquiCell seat cushion easy to use.
- 85.7% would recommend the LiquiCell seat cushion to others.

## **Conclusion**

The case study shows conclusive evidence that the LiquiCell seat cushion does improve comfort in a factory setting. Additionally, there is some evidence that with the improved comfort one find's increased productivity. Future study would be required to provide conclusive evidence.