



HANGING SYSTEM FOR ELECTRONIC TOOLS

Workers in the garment industry generally use a lot of tools and materials in the workplace during work time. It is therefore important to have a proper system in place to organise electrical wires, lights, fans as well as any electronic production tools to ensure worker safety as well as a clean, tidy and productive workplace.

PROSPECTIVE USERS:

This practice can be applied by garment and other kinds of factories that require the use of numerous tools and materials in the workplace, including electronic based machinery and tools.

Supervisors and production managers should be involved in setting up the system. Health and safety staff should also be consulted.

PROBLEMS ADDRESSED

- Limited working space
- Low productivity due to limited workspace
- Accidents involving tools and/or electricity.

PROCESS

This practice involves developing appropriate equipment and systems for the arrangement of tools and equipment in the workplace to ensure workers can access them quickly and safely.

Management and workers should work together to analyze the workplace and tools required and design an appropriate system for arranging production tools and machinery. Health and safety staff can provide technical input regarding safety issues.

Steps in implementation

1. Analyze the layout of the factory and production lines.
2. Design the layout of a hanging rack system to match the layout of the production line.
3. Lay major electrical wires along the hanging system with sockets.
4. Set up a system of light bulbs with individual switches and sockets for fans and electrical equipment such as cutting machines or electric irons.
5. The light bulbs should be low enough to ensure sufficient light for workers but not too close to risk workers knocking them.
6. Similarly, the switch and light sockets should be within reach of the workers but not too close. All wires and switches should at minimum be placed above the height of the tallest worker.
7. Electric fans should be hung up to save space, either on the walls or racks. They should be placed at a height of at least one and a half times the height of the tallest worker and should have a protective cover at all times.
8. Electrical wires for the equipment or tools should be long enough (but not too long) to move along the workspace in line with production requirements. If possible, use a spring wire. The best way to do this is to start the lead at the centre of the workplace so it can stretch to all extremities of the workplace.
9. Make sure that there are separate automatic power switches for different lines and sections, so that if there is an emergency in one location it will not affect other areas.
10. Electrical wires, switches and sockets should be periodically checked to ensure that they are in good condition and to ensure safety for workers. Develop and implement a regular maintenance schedule for all electric and electronic equipment in the factory. All maintenance of electronics should be carried out by a qualified person.
11. Encourage and supervise each worker to turn off their individual light and fans or unplug their equipment and tools at the end of the shift, or whenever they leave their workplace.





RESOURCES REQUIRED

- A well-designed and stable production layout.
- A hanging rack system and electronic wires and supplements setup.
- Training for supervisors and workers on how to use the system correctly.
- Workers' cooperation.

CHALLENGES AND PITFALLS

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POSITIVE IMPACT

- Worker safety.
- Cleaner and tidier workspace.
- Improved quality and productivity.

INDICATORS FOR MONITORING

- Hanging rack system and electronic wires and supplements setup which fit well with the production layout.
- All workers know how to use the system correctly.

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Further Information Available:

FIP References:

Module 1 - Workplace Cooperation

Module 2 - Quality

Module 3 - Productivity