

Bollinghaus Steel S.A.

Award: Safety
Category: Workplace Improvement

Straightening Ergonomics

Challenge

To straighten steel bars a straightening machine is used which is equipped with a loading table and an unloading table with a cradle where the operator piles each straightened bar from a bundle. Each bar is manually handled and can weigh 50 kg. Each bundle has a minimum weight of 500 kg till a maximum of 1,000 kg.

When unloading the bar to make a pile, the worker is exposed to the entrapment risk and an ergonomic risk.

Action

An automatic loading table was implemented. A pusher brings the bar to a cradle and makes the pile without human intervention.

Outcome

The manual handling need in the task was reduced. The worker's complaints regarding ergonomics no longer exists and the risk of injuries decreased.



Situation before



Situation after