

DESIGN OF ERGONOMIC TOOL SPECIFICATION TO IMPROVE THE WORK POSTURE OF OPERATOR IN WORKSTATION OF MAINBOARD INSPECTION IN E-KTP READER PRODUCTION PROCESS IN PT ABC BASED ON RAPID UPPER LIMB ASSESMENT METHOD

Nur Intan Dhewanty Mayangari¹, Wiyono Sutari², Marina Yustiana Lubis³

¹ Program Studi Teknik Industri, Fakultas Rekayasa Industri, Universitas Telkom

Email : ¹intandhewanty@gmail.com ²wiy2606@gmail.com ³marina.irawan@gmail.com

Abstract

PT ABC is one of the state-owned companies that produces electronic equipments such as electronic equipment for military, ICT (Information Communication Technology &), electronic equipment for navigation systems, electronic equipment for train, etc. In the production process flow there are 4 (four) inspection processes performed, one of them is mainboard (GPIO & Cubie Board). Based on the observation in the field, the mainboard inspection process is still done manually and the operator works in a standing position with neck bend over to 17.08° of extension and the trunk is bending up to 45.18° of extension for 7 hours per day. All operators of mainboard inspection experience pain and discomfort in all parts of the body with different percentages. But the parts of the body that have the highest percentage of MSD risks about 10% are neck and legs. In this case the operator feel neck pain and feet pain. Based on Rapid Upper Limb Assesment (RULA) method, the RULA score obtained is 5 which means that the work posture requires analysis and improvement immediately. The RULA score is directly proportional to the risk of MSD, the higher the RULA score the higher also risk of Musculoskeletal Disorders (MSDs) is going. In mainboard inspection, operators only served to evaluate the soldering result by using a tool that is in the form of a magnifier which is equipped with a light that does not fit the operator's need, instead it makes operators doing inspection in such work posture. The initial stage to solve the problem is gathering some data such as anthropometry data and the recommended work method which is doing inspection in sitting position and accomodated by ergonomic tool. Those data are used to design the specification of ergonomic tool. After designing, there will be the dimension specification of the workbench and the chair and also the specification of the magnifier. At last, the output of this research is RULA score of new work posture which is 3.

Keywords : rapid upper limb assesment, specification, work posture, ergonomic tool, musculoskeletal disorders

1. Introduction

PT ABC is one of the state-owned companies that produces electronic equipments such as electronic equipment for military, ICT (Information Communication Technology &), electronic equipment for navigation systems, electronic equipment for train, etc. In the production process flow there are 4 (four) inspection processes performed, one of them is mainboard (GPIO & Cubie Board). Based on the observation in the field, the mainboard inspection process is still done manually and the operator works in a standing position with neck bend over to 17.08° and the trunk is bending up to 45.18° for 7 hours per day.



Figure 1 The Existing Work Method

Based on initial research result by way of dissemination of the questionnaire to 3 (three) operators of mainboard inspection which aimed to know what part of the body has the risk of MSDs and perceived by the operators due to the existing work posture using Cornell Musculoskeletal Discomfort Questionnaire (CMDQ). All operators of mainboard inspection experience pain and discomfort in all parts of the body with different percentages. But the parts of the body

that have the highest percentage of MSD risks about 10% are neck and legs. In this case the operator feel neck pain and feet pain.

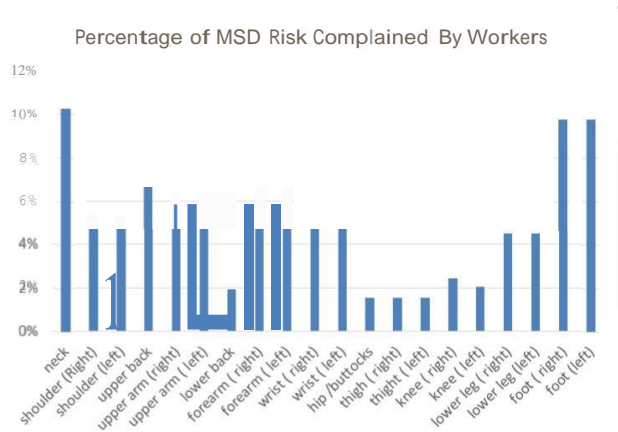


Figure 2 Histogram of MSDs Risk Percentage Complained by Operators

For further evaluation of existing work posture the method which is used in this research is Rapid Upper Limb Assessment (RULA) method. Based on Rapid Upper Limb Assessment (RULA) method, the RULA score obtained is 5 which means that the work posture requires analysis and improvement immediately. The RULA score is directly proportional to the risk of MSDs, the higher the RULA score the higher also risk of MSDs is going. In RULA method, if the working posture is awkward with the level that requires analysis and or need improvement soon which is level 3 with score 5 – 6 including the neck that forms an angle of more than 20°, the trunk also bent over 20°-60°. Evaluation of working posture of the individual in the awkward posture, muscle strength, and activities that contribute to causing risks of Musculoskeletal Disorders.

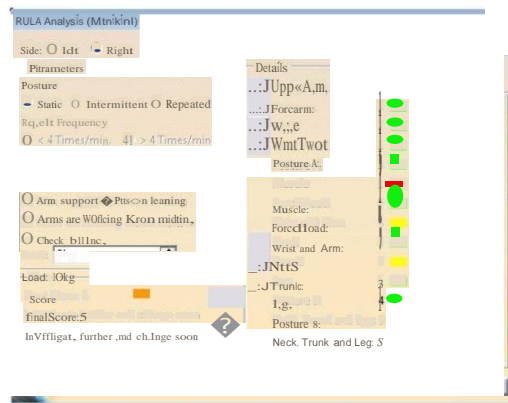


Figure 3 RULA Score for Standing Position (right side)

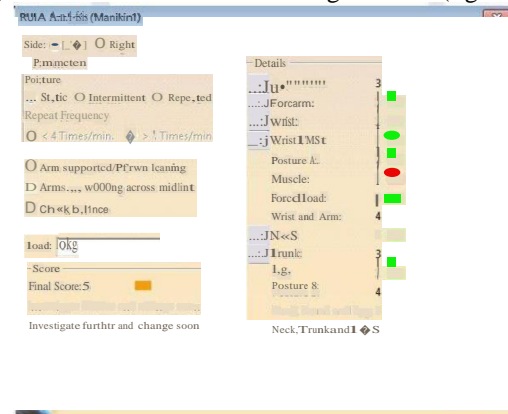


Figure 4 RULA Score for Standing Position (left side)

In mainboard inspection, operators only served to evaluate the slodering result by using a tool that is in the form of a magnifier which is equipped with a light that is shown in the following.



Figure 5 The Workbench of Mainboard Inspection



Figure 6 Upper Display of The Existing Inspection Tool (Magnifier)

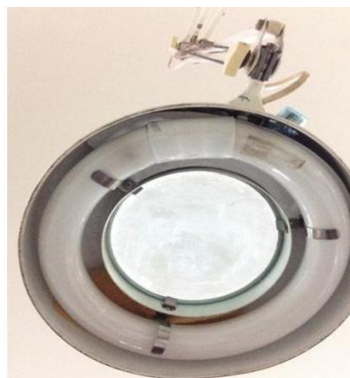


Figure 7 Lower Display of The Existing Inspection Tool (Light)

In such condition and tools lead operator must inspect the mainboard in the standing position and looked down for 7 hours of work per day. It certainly will also lead to fatigue occurs quicker on the operators. Some of ways that can be done to reduce fatigue due to standing position such as altering the standing position to a sitting position. The weakness of the work with the sitting position for a long period of time causing problems in some parts of the body, especially to the spine and the bottom posterior of hip bone [1]. It is necessary to has tools that are able to accommodate a sitting position with ergonomic aspects into consideration

2. Literature Review and Research Methodology

2.1 Literature Review

2.1.1. Ergonomics

Ergonomics is a science that examines the various characteristics and aspects of human-like capabilities, limitations and others that fit the context of the work, and make use of information obtained in an attempt to design the products, machines, tools, environments and better work system [2]

2.1.2. Work Posture

Work posture is the deciding point in analyzing the effectiveness of a job. If the posture of the work done by the operator is already good and ergonomic then the results obtained can be ensured by the operator will be good. But if the work posture of operator does not ergonomic then the operator will be easily exhausted. When the operator easily exhausted then the results of work done, these operators will also decline and not as expected (Susihono,2012).

2.1.3. Rapid Upper Limb Assessment

Rapid Upper Limb Assessment (RULA) is a method that developed in the field of ergonomics that investigate and assess posture the work done by the upper body. Work posture assessment method does not require special tools in conducting measurements of neck posture, back, and upper body (McAtamney, 1993).

2.1.4. Work-Related Musculoskeletal Disorder

According to the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and the WHO Musculoskeletal Disorders (MSDs) is the nuisance caused when someone does work activities and conditions of the work thus affecting significantly the presence of normal functioning of silky tissue on the musculoskeletal system that covers nerves, tendons, muscles.

2.1.5. Anthropometry Concept

Anthropometry is a science that studies of human body dimension and its characteristic that relevant in making design (Purnomo,2012).

2.2 Conceptual Model

The specification design of ergonomic tools are identified based on anthropometry data and the recommended work method. The recommended work method previously obtained by performing an analysis of the existing work method. The recommended work method is a combination between a work posture with the use of the ergonomic tools. Then, ergonomic tool specification design will generate new work posture that would later be processed into variable of score RULA from new work posture.

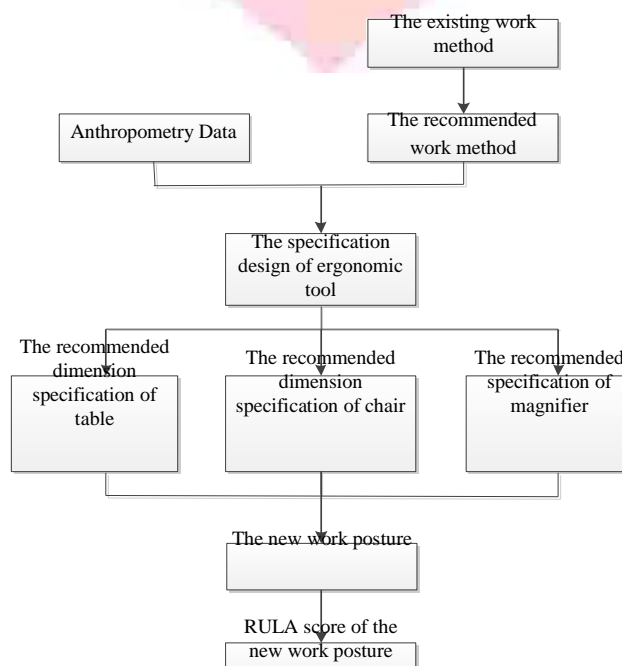


Figure 8 Conceptual Model

3. Analysis

3.1 Specification Design of Ergonomic Tools

Table 1 The Size Dimension Based on The Percentile and The Tolerance

| Number | Dimension | Function | Percentile | Reason of the percentile | Size (cm) | Tolerance | Reason of tolerance | Final Size (cm) |
|--------|---------------------------|--|------------|---|-----------|-----------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | hip breadth | seat width | 50-th | it is not too narrow for user with wider hip and vice versa | 33,7 | 1,3 | easier design | 35 |
| 2 | buttock-popliteal length | seat length | 50-th | if it uses 95-th percentil it does exceed the buttock popliteal length of the short user and vice | 43,3 | 0,7 | | 44 |
| 3 | popliteal height | seat height | 50-th | if it uses 5-th percentil it will be too short and vice versa | 47,0 | 0 | | 47 |
| 4 | sitting shoulder height | the backrest height | 95-th | user with higher shoulker can lean on comfortably | 63,8 | 0,2 | | 64 |
| 5 | shoulder width | the backrest width | 95-th | user with wider shoulder can lean on comfortably | 48,4 | 0,6 | | 49 |
| 6 | sitting eye height | workbench surface height above the floor | 50-th | so that user do not need to bent | 77,3 | 0,7 | | 78 |
| 7 | knee height & thigh depth | workbench base height above the floor | 50-th | it is not too narrow for user with heigher knee and vice versa | 71,0 | 0 | | 71 |
| 8 | sideway reach of hand | workbench length | 5-th | it can be reached by user with shorter arm | 169,5 | 0,5 | | 170 |
| 9 | forward reach of hand | workbench width | 5-th | it can be reached by user with shorter arm | 71,7 | 0,3 | | 72 |

Table 2 The Recommended Size Dimension of The Workbench

| function | size (cm) |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| workbench surface depth | 7 |
| workbench length | 170 |
| workbench width | 72 |
| workbench height above the floor | 71 |
| workbench surface height above floor | 78 |

Table 3 The Recommended Size Dimension of The Chair

| function | size (cm) |
|-----------------|-----------|
| seat width | 35 |
| seat length | 44 |
| seat height | 47 |
| backrest height | 64 |
| backrest width | 49 |

While the specification for the recommended magnifier are 10x magnification, equipped with light, and portable because after trial and error activity, that magnification has been quite clear to observe very small soldering results performed by operators. The recommended magnifier should has the same features with the existing magnifier but still its specifications should fit to the needs of the operator.



Figure 9 The Recommended Magnifier

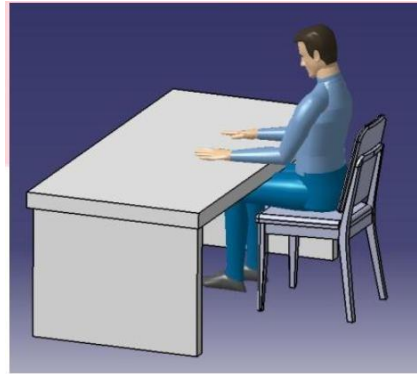


Figure 10 The New Work Posture

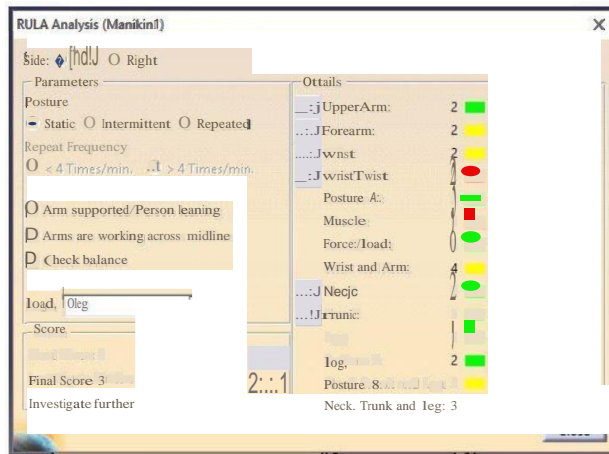


Figure 11 RULA Score for Sitting Position (left side)

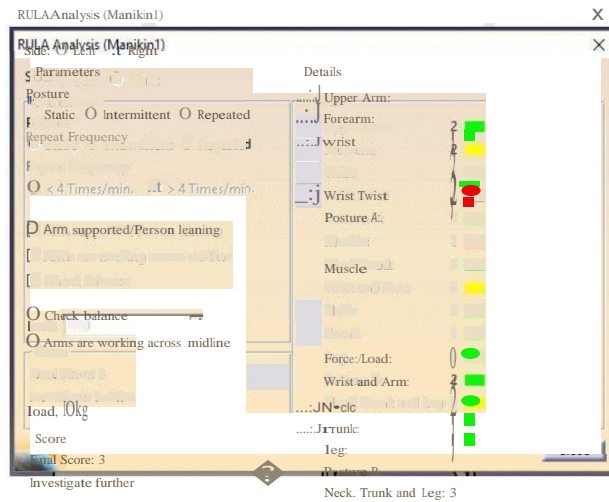


Figure 12 RULA Score for Sitting Position (right side)

3.2 The RULA Score Between Standing Position and Sitting Position

It had obtained that the RULA score of the recommended work posture is 3 with action level 2. The score is smaller than the RULA score for the existing work posture which is 6 with the action level 3. RULA score that are 3-4 means small risk against the potential risk of MSDs and needed some time in the future to improve. RULA score that are 5-6 has MSDs risk that bigger and necessary improvement action immediately. In the final, the RULA score of the new work posture is smaller than the existing, it means that the MSDs risk of the new work posture is reduce. sitting posture has a number of advantages over the standing posture. Sitting posture is better because some of the support that can be used such as floor, seat, backrest, armrest, and the surface of a desk. Therefore the relative body positions when operators are sitting may reduce fatigue rather than standing posture [3].

4. Conclusion

The RULA score of sitting position is 3 which means analysis and improvement may be required. However, at least that score is smaller than the existing RULA score (standing position) which is 6. Smaller the RULA score also smaller the MSDs risk. In additional, the dimension specification design obtained from this research are workbench surface depth 7 cm, workbench length 170 cm , workbench width 72 cm, seat width 35 cm, seat height 47 cm, seat length 44 cm, backrest height 64 cm, backrest and width 49 cm. While the specification for the recommended magnifier are 10x magnification, equipped with light (LED), and portable.

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