

MASONRY NEWS

Sponsored by:  **EZ Grout Corporation**

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Otto Baum Co. chooses Hog Leg™ Wall Bracing for One Man Assembly

Working in a part of the country that is relatively flat and susceptible to frequent winds and gusts the need for the wall bracing is something that can't be overlooked.

That's why Otto Baum Co. chose the Hog Leg™ for a jobsite at College Hills Mall being constructed in Bloomington, IL. Otto Baum Co. of Morton, IL does commercial work in central Illinois.

With life safety being stressed on many jobsites by the general contractor, product managers, as well as OSHA, the Hog Leg was the perfect fit for Otto Baum Co. Inc. John Barkley the superintendent on the job said, "We like the Hog Legs better than standard tilt-up braces. The hog legs are so simple & light. One man can set them." Setup time is where EZ Grout separates itself from the competition using only one man to assemble each brace.

Otto Baum purchased their Hog Leg™ wall bracing from their local distributor, Goedecke Co. and sales representative Terry Frank. Other than the Hog Leg™, Otto Baum already owns two Mud Hog® 20 c.f mixers, two Mud Hog 10 c.f mixers, and also a few Grout Hogs®. Otto Baum is one more success story added to the EZ Grout collection.

Looking for a HIGH QUALITY, LONG LASTING mixer at a reasonable price?

This Little Piggy Just Came to the Market!



**EZ Grout Introduces
10 c.f. Mud Hog**

Features:

- Hydraulic Dump
- 13hp Honda® Motor
- Optional axle kit

Can haul in a standard pickup truck

Loads below your waist



*Call & Ask us about
"the Little Piggy"*

Attention Contractors!

Its about that time again to see what new innovative equipment EZ Grout has to offer. Visit us at the **Masonry Showcase**-Chicago, Illinois April 20-April 22
Booth # 3312

Look for our Hog Bucks for a \$300 show discount on motorized equipment.



Seminar Specially Designed for Mason Contractors

Damian Lang President of Lang Masonry Contractors and EZ Grout Corporation is hosting another seminar due to request from mason contractors across the country. The next seminar will be held on Thursday & Friday September 22nd and 23rd. We expect to have a full house again. So, due to space constraints, the first 35 paid attendees will be accepted. For more information call Kerri at 1-800-417-9272.

Coming this spring!

EZ Grout Corporation will be introducing a new Booger Hog™ wall scrubber and new Hog Trough™ mud tub. *Stay Tuned!*

Call today : 1-800-417-9272 www.ezgrout.com

Masonry News - Safety First



Ergonomics

Ergonomics is the science concerned with designing and arranging things that people use so that people will interact with the environment most effectively and safely. Ergonomics means arranging the environment to fit the person.

On the construction worksite, ergonomic principles are being used to help adapt the job to fit the person, rather than force the person to fit the job. Redesigning the job to fit the worker can reduce stress and eliminate many potential injuries and disorders associated with the overuse of muscles, bad posture, and repetitive motions.

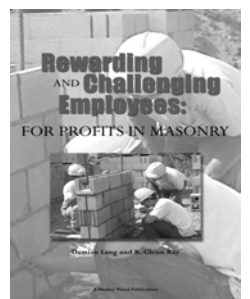
As a construction worker, your hands, wrists, arms, shoulders, backs, and legs may be subjected to thousands of repetitive twisting, forceful, or flexing motions during a typical workday. Many construction jobs can expose you to excessive vibration and noise, eye strain, repetitive motion, and heavy lifting.

The three most important issues related to ergonomics for construction workers, and ways to control them, are listed in the table below:

Ergonomic Issue	How to control
Back Safety and Lifting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-practice proper lifting techniques,-get help with large loads, and-use materials handling equipment
Equipment and Tool Vibration	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-use only the force necessary to perform the job,-hold and use tools properly, and-rotate tasks and take break from task during the work day to avoid vibration for too long a duration.
Repetitive Motions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-perform tasks following proper job procedures at all times-select the right tool for the job, and-rotate the tasks you perform during the work day to avoid a single type of repetitive motion for too long a duration.

(Info provided courtesy of Keller's Construction Toolbox Talks, Ergonomics, copyright 2003)

You asked for it and it's finally here! An easy to read book on rewarding and challenging employees. See how Damian Lang, owner of Lang Masonry, has turned what once was a two man crew into a \$7 million masonry company largely due to incentive plans. Achieve a unique balance in safety, quality, production, and employees Compensation!



For more information call 1-800-417-9272 and ask for Kerri Huck

Now Available!
\$39.95 + S&H

Masonry News Contractor Tip of the Month

by: Damian Lang, President, Lang Masonry Contractors & EZ Grout Corp.

Encourage From the Bottom Up

Do you have turmoil in your organization? Maybe just a little grumbling now and then? If so, do yourself a favor and determine if your upper managers are encouraging from the bottom up. Your upper managers (best players) must constantly seek and even encourage the help of every other person on his or her staff to create a team. Even if the lower level subordinates add very little to the situation at hand, your chances for success will be greatly increased. That's what we all want, isn't it? A team effort to succeed. This is a life lesson I learned by playing golf in four man scrambles.

Each team in a golf scramble has an A player, a B, C, and D. Although now I am considered an A player, it wasn't always that way. I can remember playing as a B, C, or D player. I realized that when I was on a successful team, the A player greatly helped the team by encouraging the rest of the members. They would tell each team member "You are doing a good job", even when they hit bad shots. The one common thread on the winning teams I have experienced in my life was encouragement. So when I became an A player, I tried it for myself. You would not believe the scores that my teams have posted.

Even when we were technically one of the least capable teams of winning, we have constantly posted good scores. And in turn, I win most of my bets.

My friends have got to be wondering how I keep doing it time after time. Really, it's simple. Every time one of the other players hits a bad shot, I say, "Don't worry about it, there is four of us and all we need is one good shot." It seems every time, one of the others hits that one good shot. And, if they don't well the A player usually hits the last shot and now, it's my turn. At that point, I have very little pressure on me. Why's that? Well, I just forgave everyone else for hitting a bad shot and we are all in this together. So, I'm sure they will forgive me as well. With that pressure off, now the normally high-pressure shots are just on more team effort. Of course, this makes it much easier for me to hit a good shot.

If you're an upper manager or even an A player in golf, try this. I think you will find you will have the support of your team in the worst times as well as the best and get much better results. The grumbings will stop if encouragement is consistent and sincere throughout. Remember, the B's and C's are the A's of tomorrow and sometimes, it's the D player who surprises us all.



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