

Side by side parlour

Task Description: Milking cows

Milking cows by hand does not occur anymore in Belgium. Most of the work is done by milking machines. After cleaning the udder the farmer puts the claws on the teats. A tie-stall has been taken as reference.

Comments of the employee:

- 'Continuously repetition of the same gestures: at least one hour'
- 'Work height not in accordance with posture: cow on floor level'
- 'No comfortable standing posture: squatting down'
- 'Loads too heavy: milking machine of 8 kg'
- 'Opportunity to have a break: milking as fast as possible'

Comments of the employer: motivation regarding solution:

- Physical load too heavy, walking distance too high and time consuming

MSD risks:

- Posture
- Force
- Frequency/duration

Exposed areas:

- Neck/shoulder
- Arm/wrist
- Lower back
- Lower limbs

Solutions:

- A side by side parlour.
Advantages: short walking distance, highest capacity per m², reachability of the udder, good positioning claws.
Disadvantages: contact with the cows, cows have to turn 90°.

