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## **Integrating Safety and Ergonomics into a Multi-Facility Lean Process**

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**Abstract:** Lean strategies are often employed to remove waste from a process. Companies employ various strategies to improve their processes and remove waste from the value stream. Within a Lean initiative, Safety and Ergonomics are often relegated to another department while engineers focus on removing waste from the process and tackle issues such as process improvement and material handling. Safety and ergonomics, due to the uncertainty of the variables that define a measurable cost, can be pushed aside in favor of more easily attainable goals. This paper describes the efforts to define, measure, analyze, implement and control risks and proactively implement safety and ergonomic strategies within the lean effort. It is hoped that these efforts can lead to a zero-accident culture within the mattress-manufacturing industry.