

# Applicazione del metodo OWAS nello studio delle posture di lavoro del manovale di cava del settore porfidi

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## KEY WORDS

Working postures, OWAS method, porphyry quarries

## SUMMARY

«*Application of the OWAS method in the study of work postures among quarry manual workers*». **Background:** Previous ergonomic and epidemiologic studies revealed high postural risk (exceeding the N.I.O.S.H. recommended limits) and relevant damage (significant excess of acute and chronic lumbosacral spinal disease) among the labourers in porphyry quarries in the Province of Trento (Italy). **Methods:** An analysis of work postures was made with the OWAS (Ovako Working postures Analysing System) method. **Results:** A high prevalence of work postures that have a harmful effect on the musculoskeletal system was found. Working methods need to be changed as soon as possible. **Conclusions:** The use of the OWAS method permits a detailed analysis of working conditions in order to identify and re-design the activities causing ergonomically problematic postures.