

Kraftwerks Newsletter November 2023

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From Buffalo to Rochester and beyond!

Kraftwerks now has two locations that are proudly serving Buffalo, Rochester, and well beyond!

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Rochester, NY 14611
585.256.2000

Space planning involves many factors from conceiving a layout to optimizing workflow to envisioning its aesthetic beauty. Selecting the proper equipment, work surfaces/workstations, and storage options are important parts of that planning.

Determining the right combination of these items requires an in-depth knowledge of the needs of the organization, as well as the ability to identify suitable vendors, products, and the way those products can be integrated.

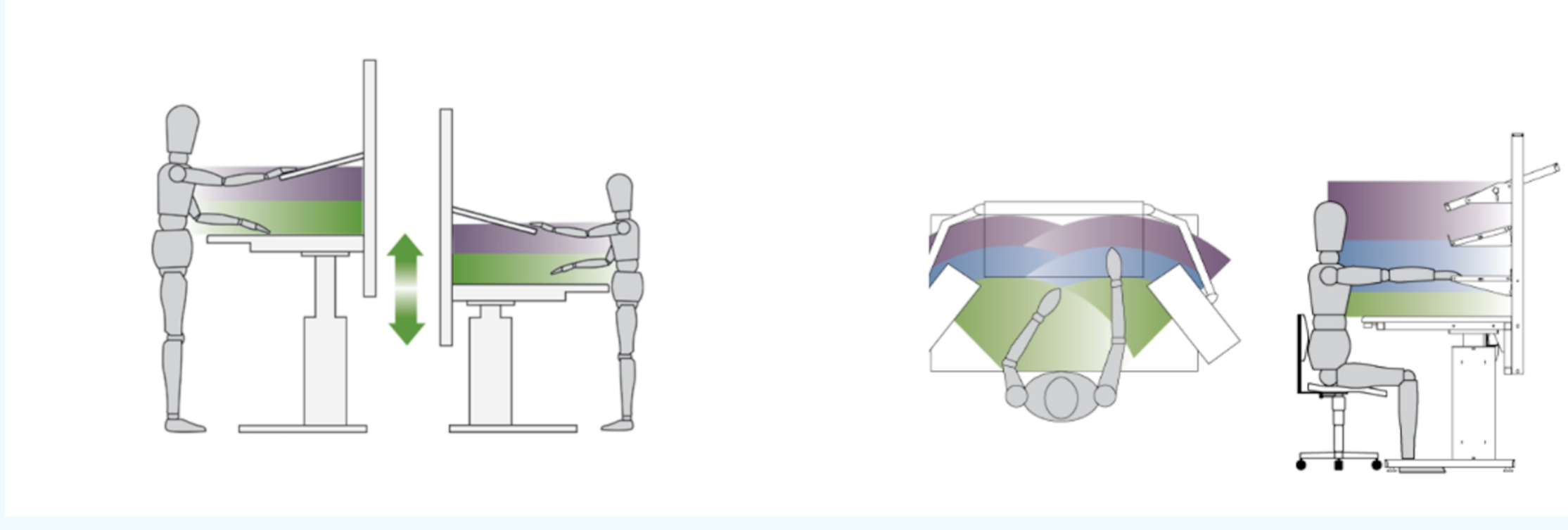
A single vendor isn't typically the optimal choice for everything, so the ability to integrate a variety of products from a variety of vendors is valuable.

In addition to 'traditional' planning, here are a few more modern considerations:

- Adaptive workplace layouts for changing needs and trends (e.g., remote, hybrid, and flexible work arrangements)
- Promoting wellness and well-being for internal and external clients
- Creating off-stage areas for collaboration and relaxation
- Advancements in technology
- Sustainable design practices
- Eco-friendly features

[Kraftwerks Storage & Space
Solutions Video](#)

[Kraftwerks Secure Storage Solutions
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Ergonomics at Work

If employees are comfortable when they work, they will be more focused and productive. Workstations and work benches must consider the comfort and wellness of workers and should be ergonomic, as well as ADA compliant.

A workstation or workbench designed with physical ergonomics in mind is designed to protect the worker against musculoskeletal disorders, which account for a good amount of workplace injuries.

Physical ergonomics, the most well-known type, eliminates excessive stretching, bending, reaching, and steps. An example of a physical ergonomic feature would be making a workstation adjustable, able to raise or lower its work surface to match the optimal height for a variety of workers.

But physical is not the only type of ergonomics to consider. There are two more types, cognitive and organizational.

Cognitive ergonomics deals with how a worker interacts and performs work regarding perception, memory, reasoning, and motor response. An example would be the placement of instructions and ensuring concise information is in the right place at the right time.

The other type, organizational ergonomics, pools information from the organization as whole, considering its structures, processes, and policies to benefit the organization by improving communication, the ability of employees to work as a team, and creating lean processes.

Incorporating ergonomically designed workstations and benches will optimize lean processes and boost accuracy, quality, and employee well-being.



Smart Storage

When considering storage, whether it's casework, cabinets, or shelving, it's important to understand its complete purpose. Storage is more than just a place to keep inventory until it's needed.

Storage keeps inventory organized and protected from both its environment and unauthorized access. It can enhance space efficiency, the aesthetics of the space, and if properly planned will facilitate a smart, efficient workflow.

Optimizing the space in your facility means considering underutilized areas, like corners and vertical space. Storage options that utilize these underused areas are both available and easy to integrate.

The different types of storage — mobile, modular, fixed (free-standing), wall-mounted, open shelving, shelving with drawers, etc. all have different advantages and disadvantages. Combining different styles of storage is a smart way to optimize the use of space and the flow of work.

Choosing the right product construction is important. It should suit its environment. Installations must be more than functional and aesthetically pleasing. For example, you wouldn't use wood in a cleanroom, nor would you select stainless steel for an office. Although both could serve their function, neither would be a smart match.

Storage itself can also be smart. Newer, integrated technologies like Bluetooth and RFID can enable you to control access and track inventory, improving security and efficiency.

It can be difficult to navigate the options and choosing the wrong option can be an expensive mistake. A smart choice is to talk with an experienced planner who understands the industry, knows the vendors and their products, and takes the time to learn about your organization.

The team at Kraftwerks is accustomed to integrating a variety of vendors and their products to create highly efficient applications that fit all ranges of budgets.

We look at the *complete* project from its vision to long-term considerations like expansion and maintenance. And we have decades of experience to back it up.

View our case studies below for examples of our applications and how we've successfully integrated a variety of vendors and products to create custom solutions.

Case Studies

[Steuben Foods](#)

[RCM Thermal Kinetics](#)

[Van Bortel Subaru](#)

[UB Renew](#)

The year is winding down. Be sure to explore our catalog and reach out to us regarding any projects you are planning for the coming year. We can help with budget, pricing, performance details, products specifications, and lead times.

[Catalog](#)

Additional Resources

[Kraftwerks
Workstations](#)

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Cabinets](#)

[Kraftwerks Modular
Drawer Systems](#)

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