

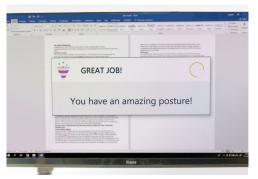
Work Smart - Feel Good

# WORK & MOVE SitStand-COACH leads to more variation between standing up and sitting down

Recent scientific research conducted at Texas A&M University shows







nudging = enticing someone to display healthy behaviour Can people be nudged with a software program that reminds them when it is time to stand up or sit down again? Texas A&M University researched the issue and the results reveal that employees can be most effectively motivated to use – and keep using – their sit-stand desk when they receive constant notifications from the WORK & MOVE SitStandCOACH\*.

At the time of the research, WORK & MOVE was still known as SitStandCOACH. Since then, WORK & MOVE has been further expanded to become a personal coach that provides sufficient variation between focused computer usage and mental and physical exercise. The software provides insight into and feedback on your computer usage. Based on your personal needs, the software recommends an optimal work-exercise routine and helps you implement it into your daily life. SitStandCOACH is a standard component of the WORK & MOVE employee wellbeing software.





#### Are sit-stand desks used optimally?

Sit-stand desks are all the rage in today's office environments. They are said to motivate employees to switch up their posture while they work and keep them from sitting still for hours on end. The sit-stand desks are therefore mainly used to combat sedentary behaviour and improve employees' health. However, using a sit-stand desk correctly is a challenge. How many employees continue to (properly) use their desk once the novelty has worn off? Can computer software be used to stimulate correct usage of a sit-stand desk? That is exactly what the American university researched with the help of the WORK & MOVE SitStandCOACH software.

The research took a total of 4.5 months. After a six-week baseline measurement, the study of the effects of WORK & MOVE kicked off. The research was conducted at two geographical locations in the US with a control group of 71 employees and an experimental group of 97 employees (Chevron).

	EXPERIMENTAL GROUP
WORK & MOVE HELPFULNESS IN USING SIT-STAND WORKSTATION	
Very Unhelpful	5%
Somewhat Unhelpful	6%
Neutral	17%
Somewhat Helpful	31%
Very Helpful	41%

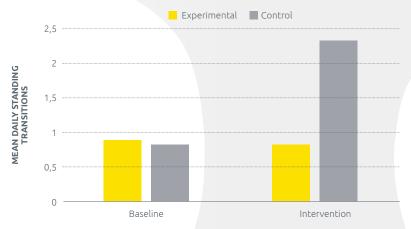
The study shows that the WORK & MOVE software stimulates the use of the sit-stand desk (72%).





#### 229% more postural variability

The members of the experimental group who received tips via the software developed by BakkerElkhuizen switched between sitting down and standing up more frequently than the members of the control group, who received no such nudges. Both groups used the WORK & MOVE SitStandCOACH software, but the control group did not receive any coaching on when to stand and when to sit. On average, the members of the experimental group switched up their posture 229% more often than the employees who received no notifications, while 40% of the experimental group switched between standing up and sitting down in accordance with the "optimal exercise" sit-stand profile of the WORK & MOVE software.



During this experimental period, the computer-based tips resulted in a 229% increase in the daily number of transitions from sitting to standing and vice versa during the entire three-month period

John van Hooft, CEO of BakkerElkhuizen, says the following about the research results: "We knew that our WORK & MOVE software would stimulate users to make optimal use of their sit-stand desk. It is great to have our hypothesis fully supported by scientific research. Our software demonstrably contributes to the mental and physical fitness of knowledge workers. We believe in a preventative and organisation-wide approach. By focusing on people and work, you can safeguard lasting sustainable deployability, vitality and wellbeing for employee and employer alike. With our practical and scalable solutions, we enable organisations to achieve sustainable peak performances."

We knew that our WORK & MOVE software would stimulate users to make optimal use of their sit-stand desk. It is great to have our hypothesis fully supported by scientific research.





	EXPERIMENTAL GROUP
WORK & MOVE IMPACTED MENTAL AWARENESS	
Significantly Increased	4%
Slightly Increased	41%
No Change	45%
Slightly Reduced	7%
Significantly Reduced	3%

45% of the participants had their mental awareness raised by the software and began to stand up more frequently.

#### The effects of switching between sitting down and standing up

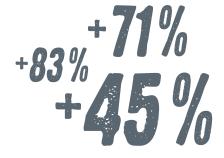
These findings indicate that the smart WORK & MOVE nudges can indeed be used to motivate employees to change their behaviour when it comes to standing and sitting. The effects? The experimental group indicated that they experienced a significant reduction of physical discomfort, were more focused and felt less tired. The trick is not to stand up for much longer, but to switch between sitting and standing more frequently.

	EXPERIMENTAL GROUP
WORK & MOVE IMPACTED FATIGUE LEVELS	
Significantly Increased	0%
Slightly Increased	5%
No Change	59%
Slightly Reduced	27%
Significantly Reduced	9%

The software helps combat feelings of fatigue by having users alternate between sitting down and standing up.

#### **Conclusions**

Survey data from the members of the experimental group show that ~71% thought that the WORK & MOVE instructions helped them use their sit-stand desk correctly and made for an easier transition from sitting to standing and from a sitting to a standing workspace, ~83% believed that the software had increased their overall time spent standing up and ~45% said that WORK & MOVE had improved their mental awareness by making them stand up more frequently. Lastly, nearly 75% of the respondents in the experimental group indicated that they wished to continue using the WORK & MOVE software after the research was over.





#### 229 % MORE POSTURE ALTER-NATION WITH WORK & MOVE

#### SCIENTIFICALLY PROVEN!

Can people be nudged with a **software program** that reminds them when it is time to stand up or sit down again? Texas A&M University researched the issue. It turns out that **employees can be most effectively motivated** to use – and keep using – their sit-stand desk when they receive constant nudges from the **WORK & MOVE software**.

## SWITCHING BETWEEN SITTING DOWN AND STANDING UP



#### **IISAGE**

WORK & MOVE stimulates the use of a sit-stand desk.

#### TIME SPENT STANDING

The time spent standing increases with WORK & MOVE.



+83%



#### ALTERNATING

Reaches or exceeds the sit-stand profile.



## HIGHER PRODUCTIVITY & IMPROVED CONCENTRATION

+36 %

**PRODUCTIVITY** 

Using WORK & MOVE increases employees' productivity

"With periodical mental and physical exercise, you will stay focused and energised, make fewer mistakes and improve the quality of your work.

WORK & MOVE ensures you get more done in a day."

## MENTAL AND PHYSICAL AWARENESS

"WORK & MOVE is your personal coach that provides sufficient variation between focused computer usage and mental and physical exercise. The software provides insight into and feedback on your computer usage. Based on your personal needs, the software recommends an optimal work-exercise routine and helps you implement it into your daily life."

+45%

### **AWARENESS**

Increased awareness of the sit-stand behavior due to WORK & MOVE.

75% OF THE EXPERIMENTAL GROUP INDICATED THAT THEY WISHED TO CONTINUE USING THE WORK & MOVE SOFTWARE AFTER THE RESEARCH WAS OVER



### About BakkerElkhuizen

BakkerElkhuizen develops excellent products for making computer use healthy and efficient. Products from BakkerElkhuizen display the perfect combination of function, ergonomics and design.

BakkerElkhuizen advises and helps companies equip their workplace, including offices that use telecommuting and flexible working, so that each workstation receives the right solution and the right accessories.

BakkerElkhuizen bases this on four workstation concepts:

- permanent workstation
- mobile workstation
- flexible workstation
- home workstation

The point of departure is that an employee must be able to perform his or her computer work comfortably, healthily and efficiently wherever he or she works. People come first in everything that BakkerElkhuizen does, whether it concerns developing new products, performing research or cooperating with suppliers, resellers and customers.

Contact information

BakkerElkhuizen Taalstraat 151 5261 BC Vught the Netherlands tel. 036 546 7265 fax. 036 546 7830

email: info@bakkerelkhuizen.com website: www.bakkerelkhuizen.com

We want to share our knowledge: Subscribe here to our newsletter http://www.bakkerelkhuizen.com/newsletters/

We would like to help you!
We enjoy giving you the best possible advice, and because everyone and every organisation is unique, our specialists give tailored advice.

Are you interested in the research report? You can request it from marketing@bakkerelkhuizen.com

## Source

Gregory Garrett, Hongwei Zhao, Adam Pickens, Ranjana Mehta, Leigh Preston, Amy Powell & Mark Benden (2019). 'Computer-based Prompt' variability and sit-stand desk usage behavior; a cluster randomized control trial; Applied Ergonomics.