Although often confused, the Physical Demand Analysis and Ergonomic Risk Analysis are two completely different types of analysis that quantify job tasks in very different ways.

Ergonomic risk analysis quantifies the likelihood that ergonomic risks have the potential to cause injury. Physical demand analysis quantifies the physical requirements to perform essential functions of a job and does not attempt to quantify or associate risk of injury.

Robust physical demand documentation is the foundation of any functional testing, post-offer testing, or return-to-work process. Without proper analysis and documentation, testing validity and reliability suffers resulting in potential legal issues.

The Certified Physical Demand Analyst (CPDA) is taught how to accurately quantify postures, forces, repetitive cycles, and duration of activities in terms of physical requirements of an individual or population.

This professional will have the skills to collect, validate, and document the essential functions and physical demands associate with any work environment. Ergonomic International's physical demand analysis process emphasizes Visual Documentation™ and data collection techniques unique to our patented process. Our methodology is based upon hundreds of peer-reviewed and professional publications.

The Certified Physical Demand Analyst is required to pass a certification exam, perform physical demand analysis using the Infocus Work Applications software, and annually demonstrate their ability to accurately document essential functions and physical demands of jobs. They are also required to annually participate in continuing education that is approved by Ergonomics International.