

Safety Talk: Hearing Protection- Construction

Background Info

This talk can be used by industry or construction supervisors to explain to workers why they must use hearing protection and how to use it correctly. For more information see:

<http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/personalprotectiveequipment/index.html>

OSHA Requirements

- Remember, Personal Protective equipment such as hearing protection, is always a “last resort” to protect worker safety and health.
 - OSHA recommends using engineering controls where plausible to eliminate the need for personal hearing protection.
 - OSHA requires hearing protection whenever workers are subjected to noise above the Permissible Exposure Limit of 90 dBA over an 8 hour work day.
 - OSHA requires hearing protection to be fitted individually for each worker and to be kept clean.
 - Plain cotton is not an acceptable hearing protection device.
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Our Company Requires

Here the supervisor should remind workers about their own required hard hat use. Be sure to include the following info:

- When and where hearing protection is required
 - Whether the company has a Hearing Conservation Program
 - If hearing protection will be provided
 - Who to tell when your hearing protection is worn or damaged
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Basic Safety Rules

Here is a list of recommended practices. Be sure to add any others required by your company.

- Hearing protection should be worn by all employees working on or around loud equipment, including but not limited to hammer drills, saws-alls, jackhammers, bobcats and other heavy equipment or machinery.
 - If two workers are standing next to each other and they have to shout to hear each other, noise levels should be checked.
 - Hearing protection should be encouraged by the supervisor and employees even if noise levels do not exceed the Permissible Exposure Limit of 90 dBA.
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Continued on next page

Safety Talk: Hearing Protection, Continued

What's Wrong?



Source: eclosh.org

Source: Circle Safety

Yes, I Was Listening

Sign below if you can tell everyone on this worksite:

- 1) Why we wear hearing protection
- 2) When to wear hearing protection, and
- 3) About the basic safety rules for hearing protection:

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