



Hearing Loss

## Occupational Noise

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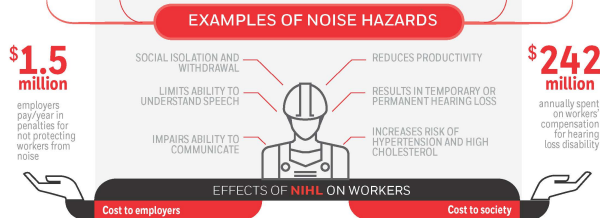
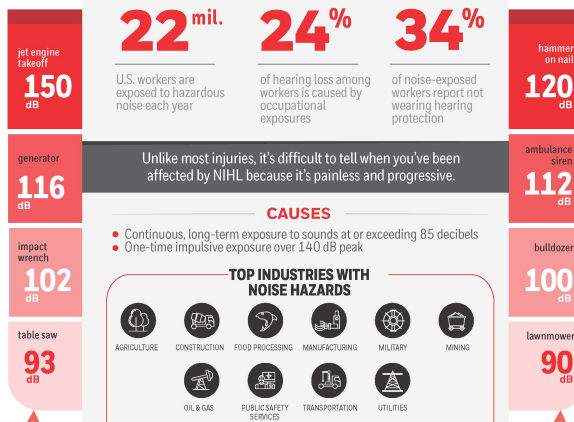
Noise-Induced Hearing Loss (NIHL) is the most common permanent and preventable occupational injury. In the infographic below, Honeywell shows the industries with the highest incidence of hearing loss, the effects of NIHL on workers and employers, and the different ways workers in these and other occupations can protect themselves.

# OCCUPATIONAL NOISE

THE INVISIBLE HAZARD AND KEYS TO SUCCESSFUL HEARING PROTECTION



**NOISE-INDUCED HEARING LOSS (NIHL) IS THE MOST COMMON PERMANENT AND PREVENTABLE OCCUPATIONAL INJURY**



**OSHA's role**

- OSHA 29 CFR 1910.95 requires employers to use engineering and administrative controls to reduce excessive noise levels.
- If controls fail to reduce noise to permissible levels, Hearing Protection Devices must be provided and used.
- When noise exposure levels equal or exceed an 8-hour time-weighted average sound level (TWA) of 85 dB, a hearing conservation program is required.
- In some very loud environments, workers should wear double hearing protection (earplugs and earmuffs).
- Rather than OSHA standards for complete details.

## KEYS TO SUCCESSFUL HEARING PROTECTION

Occupational NIHL can be reduced or eliminated when proper measures are implemented



**Wearers should:**

- Be aware of jobsite noise risks
- Always use hearing protection where noise hazards exist
- Carefully follow fitting instructions to ensure protection
- Inspect, clean, and replace hearing protection devices (HPD) according to instructions

**Employers should:**

- Provide an assortment of hearing protection types and sizes to ensure workers achieve the 3 Cs
- Monitor noise levels and make necessary adjustments to reduce hazardous noise levels
- Educate workforce on the importance of using hearing protection devices and their proper use
- Avoid overprotection to ensure clear communication and the ability to hear warning signals
- Rely on Honeywell Howard Leight to help guide the selection process and ensure appropriate protection that meets the unique needs of your workforce

Download a PDF of the above infographic *[here](#)*.

*To help protect your workers against hearing loss, you can find hearing protection products from Honeywell on MSCDirect.com.*

**[www.mscdirect.com/betterMRO](http://www.mscdirect.com/betterMRO)**

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