

Hearing assessments



Hearing Assessments are an important part of a company's noise management programme. These are generally completed at pre-employment and then annually.

Hearing testing is completed using a calibrated audiometer and based on the AS/NZS 1269:4:2014.

The testing includes a full noise and health history, an examination of the external and internal ear, followed by full screening audiometry.

Education is provided on the correct use of hearing protection, and the hearing protection is reviewed to ensure it is in good working order.

The aim of testing is to:

- Identify any hearing impairment.
- Identify the preventative action required to avoid further hearing loss occurring.
- Educate employees about hearing loss, hearing conservation and personal protective equipment.
- Identify potential issues in relation to noise management programs.
- Enable an early diagnosis of noise-induced hearing loss.
- Encourage compliance of wearing personal protective equipment.
- Identify any instances of employees who have a noise induced hearing loss that meets the voluntary notifiable level where it is possibly due to exposure to noise in the workplace.

Process:

- Time required for assessment is 20 minutes per person.
- Hearing tests must be conducted in a quiet environment.
- The results are discussed with the employee and a copy of these is given to them. Education is given to the employee as well as advice on the use of personal protective equipment.
- Referrals are made as required.
- A full report is provided to the employer outlining trends/referrals.

