FOOD & BEVERAGE INDUSTRY NOISE
TIPS TO PROTECT WORKERS AGAINST AMERICA’S #1 WORKPLACE DISEASE: HEARING LOSS

HAZARDOUS NOISE IS PERVERSIVE IN THE FOOD & BEVERAGE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY

Food manufacturing workers experience the third-highest rate of occupational hearing loss

FOOD & BEVERAGE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY

Hearing loss rates are almost twice as high in food production as food manufacturing overall

NIHL is called by:
- Temporary hearing loss
- Temporary hearing impairment
- Hearing loss prevented by the use of personal hearing protectors

Effects of NIHL:
- Technical hearing loss
- Conductive hearing loss or aural effusion
- Intransigent hearing loss in the ear

NIHL is caused by:
- Prolonged and/or repeated exposure to hazardous noise
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NIHL is the most common occupational disease in the U.S.

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Common sources of hazardous noise:
- Bottle filling, labeling
- Bread slicing
- Product impact on hoppers, wrapping, cutting, bagging
- Canning

Packaging conveyance
- Bowl choppers
- Pneumatic noise, compressed air
- Milling operations
- Blast-chillers

Foods or beverages containing implanted metal:
- Canning
- Product impact on hoppers
- Bread slicing
- Bottle filling, labeling

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Unprotected exposure to hazardous noise results in:
- Loss of hearing
- Noise-induced hearing loss
- NIHL

SOLUTIONS

Solutions include:
- Noise control
- Personal protective equipment
- Hearing testing
- Auditory training

OSHA:
- Occupational hearing loss is a scary, preventable risk to today’s hearing loss prevention strategies and technology

Protecting Food & Beverage workers hearing is vital

Tips for protecting Food & Beverage workers hearing is vital
- Choose corded earplugs to reduce risk of FM contamination
- Select earplugs with machine-detectable features
- Opt for hypoallergenic, washable, nonporous
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