



HEARING - KEEPING AND PROTECTING IT!



According to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), “more than 22 million US workers are exposed to hazardous workplace noise,” and an additional 9 million are at risk for hearing loss from other sources.

Noise induced hearing loss is preventable, but once **your hearing is lost, it is permanent and irreversible.** As mechanics and related here at United Airlines, we are exposed everyday to workplace noise from many sources, such as from the use of Air tools and Riveting operations, Jet Engine run-ups and APU's, Machining and Grinding operations, vehicles and many other sources.

OSHA requires employers to have a Hearing Conservation program. United Airlines Hearing Conservation Program is located in the Ground Safety Manual (GSM) Chapter 3 - Section 14 on Skynet under Webregs. All employees who are exposed to 85dBA or greater for an 8-hour time weighted average are included in the program. Also, those employees who have experienced an OSHA recordable threshold shift or documented work related hearing loss are also included in the program.

As part of the Hearing Conservation Program, United Airlines must:

- Conduct workplace/area noise monitoring
- Notify each employee exposed at or above the action level of the results of the monitoring
- Provide Hearing Protection (PPE) to employees exposed to noise of 85 dBA or greater.
- Provide Audiometric hearing tests to employees in the Hearing Conservation program.
- Provide employees with a copy of their hearing test (audiogram) results.
- Train employees on the effects of noise on hearing, selecting and proper use and fit of hearing protection and provide access to information and training materials.

Protect your hearing by wearing hearing protection where and when it is required and in high noise areas, ensure that it properly fits your ear, comply with United Airlines regulations and posted noise warning and caution signage, get your hearing tested each year by United Airlines if you're in the Hearing Conservation program or work in an area that has been designated or identified as having noise above the 85 dBA level. Your Manager, Supervisor or Company Safety representative will contact you for Audiometric testing.

If you have any questions about United Airlines Hearing Conservation Program, about your hearing (audiometric) test, hearing protection (PPE) or concerns about noise in your work area, contact your Union Safety Committee Representative for assistance.

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A Message from Your Teamsters SFO Safety Committee.