

Hearing is important to health and quality of life – our ability to communicate, enjoy music or a TV show, or hear an emergency alarm is linked to our hearing capacity.

Hearing loss isn't reversible, but it is preventable. In Australia, more than 1 in 3 people have noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL), and hazardous noise exposure in the workplace is the most common cause.

Audiometric testing is an important part of a workplace hearing conservation program to manage potential risks of occupational noise exposure and prevent hearing loss. An effective audiometric testing program identifies the hearing thresholds of workers and monitors them over time. Changes in hearing levels, which may indicate the beginning stages of NIHL, can be detected with regular testing. Early intervention can easily be implemented, and appropriate follow-up actions can be taken.

## **DELIVERY METHOD**

Our audiometry service is conducted on-site using a modern, custom-built vehicle, fitted out with a testing booth. Assessments are done in line with AS/NZS 1269.4:2014 Occupational noise management, including:

- Using a calibrated audiometer and headset
- Conducting a listening check on each day of testing
- Using a booth to achieve the maximum permissible ambient noise levels
- Recording information about workers' noise exposure in the 16 hours prior to their tests
- Testing the frequencies of 500 to 8,000 Hz

We also provide results analysis, a detailed report, referral for further evaluation where needed, and ongoing support.

## WHO TO TEST?

From 1 January 2024 employers must provide audiometric testing to workers who are required to frequently wear personal hearing protection for harmful noise.

Safework NSW recommends audiometric testing is carried out within three months of a worker starting such work, and at least every two years afterwards.

## **OUR SERVICE**

Safety & Wellbeing offers a full service a full-service program for audiometric testing, including consultancy support and promotional material.

If you have any specific requirements, please let us know and we will tailor the service for your needs.

