



Buy Quiet Initiative

Noise-induced hearing loss is one of the most common work-related illnesses in the United States. Each year approximately 22 million U.S. workers are exposed to noise loud enough to damage their hearing. Nearly 50% of construction workers have some degree of work-related hearing loss and American companies spend \$242 million annually on worker's compensation due to hearing loss. Noise-induced hearing loss can't be reversed, but it is 100% preventable. NIOSH recommends that workers should not be exposed to noise at a level that amounts to more than 85 decibels dba for 8 hours. Buy Quiet can help workers stay below the recommended exposure level for noise.

Buy Quiet is a prevention initiative which:

- Encourages companies to purchase or rent quieter machinery and tools to reduce worker noise exposure. This is accomplished when new businesses start up or when older equipment is replaced.
- Provides information on equipment noise levels, so companies can buy quieter products that make the workplace safer.
- Encourages manufacturers to design quieter equipment by creating a demand for quieter products.

Benefits of Buy Quiet:

- Reducing the risk of hearing loss.
- Reducing the long-term costs of audiometric testing, personal protective equipment, and workers compensation. Conservative estimates provide \$100 per dBA of savings when purchasing the quieter product. These

savings are applicable across a wide variety of machinery and equipment.

- Helping companies comply with OSHA and other noise regulation requirements.
- Reducing the impact of noise on the community.

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