Hearing Loss Prevention Seminar

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA - CONTINUING EDUCATION AND CONFERENCE CENTER
1890 Buford Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55108
September 17, 2013

Who Should Attend?
The program is designed for industrial, government, and military personnel who are involved in, or responsible for hearing conservation and the dispensing of hearing protection devices. Attendees normally include: industrial hygienists, health and safety personnel, nurses, audiologists, consultants, engineers, medical staff.

Applicants should possess a basic understanding of noise measurement terminology and existing noise legislation, although attendance is open to all who are interested.

Course Description
Administration of a comprehensive and effective hearing conservation/hearing loss prevention program consists of more than merely purchasing and dispensing hearing protectors. Audiometric testing, education and motivation, and program evaluation are but a few of the additional important aspects of an overall program. This seminar will review these issues and others in a practical and realistic manner, providing state-of-the-art recommendations to ensure protection of the worker and compliance with the law.

Emphasis will be placed upon an understanding of how hearing protectors function, how they are tested and rated, how they perform in the real world, and how they affect employees’ ability to function on their jobs. Commercially available products will be discussed with respect to their performance and selection, fit, use, and care. The emerging technique of fit testing will also be explored.

Successful implementation of a program via education, motivation, supervision, and team work, will be stressed. Effective use of annual audiometric testing, identification of standard threshold shifts (STSs), determination of work relatedness, and take-home training skills, will also be examined.

Materials Provided
A folder containing the agenda, copies of the lecturers’ PowerPoint slides and CEU information will be provided.

Continuing Education
Requirements
Full-day attendance and completion of a course evaluation form. A full description of requirements for satisfactory completion of the course is available upon request.

Industrial Hygienists
This course contains 6.5 hours of technical content which can be claimed for CM credit.

Occupational Health Nurses
The American Association of Occupational Health Nurses (AAOHN) has approved 6.25 Contact Hours for successful completion of the activity. The American Association of Occupational Health Nurses (AAOHN) is an accredited approver of continuing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation. AAOHN accreditation does not imply endorsement of the commercial products displayed.

Audiologists
AAA

Approval does not imply endorsement of course content, specific products, or clinical procedures.

Registration
Enrollment is limited and must be confirmed in advance. We recommend you submit your registration promptly. Registration may be completed by email or online at: www.e-a-r.com/hearingconservation/earseminars.cfm.

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Please let us know in advance if you have special needs or require an assistive listening device. Acknowledgement of your registration will be made.

This Hearing Seminar is offered at no cost to attendees. Expenses, including breaks and lunch, are paid by 3M (a $300 value!). To adequately plan for food and material costs of our attendees, we ask that you only register for seminars that you are able to attend. Should a need for cancellation arise, we ask that you notify us as soon as possible, so that others may attend in your absence.
**Program**

7:30 AM  
Registration

8:00 AM  
**Hearing Loss Prevention - The Big Picture**  
Detection and noise monitoring, health effects related to noise exposure, and human factors that influence program success.

9:00 AM  
Break

9:15 AM  
**Studying for Hearing Tests - Benefits of Reliable Audiometric Test Data**  
Hearing Loss Prevention Program (HLPP) best practices and practical ideas for program enhancement. Review of common misconceptions and oversights, such as required test frequencies, technician certification, and baseline revision.

10:15 AM  
Break

10:30 AM  
**Recordable Hearing Loss and Determining Work-Relatedness**  
Definitions and calculation of standard threshold shift (STIS), factors in determining work-relatedness including contribution of non-occupational exposures, and discussion of case studies.

11:30 AM  
**Hearing Forward - Future Ears**  
Training tips and resources with emphasis on the importance of motivation in achieving true HLPP effectiveness.

12:15 PM  
**Complimentary buffet luncheon**

1:15 PM  
**Hearing Protector Testing, Rating, and Performance**  
How hearing protection devices (HPDs) work, laboratory test procedures, rating systems, factors that influence how well they work and workplace fit testing as a best practice.

2:15 PM  
Break

2:30 PM  
**Selection, Fitting and Care Of HPDs**  
Review of popular products sold today, proper fitting techniques, guidance on HPD selection and use, and answers to frequently asked questions.

3:15 PM  
**Communicating In Noise**  
Effects of hearing protectors on the audibility of speech and other sounds, tips for communicating, specialized HPDs to enhance face-to-face, wireless, and 2-way radio communication.

4:00 PM  
**Administrative issues and Education Applications**  
Evaluations and Education applications

4:15 PM  
Adjourn

**Faculty**

**Ted Madison, M.A., CCC-A**  
Ted Madison is a Technical Service Specialist for the 3M Personal Safety Division providing technical support, education and training in hearing loss prevention and hearing protection. He received a Master’s degree in Audiology from The University of Iowa in 1984. Currently, Ted is the Chair of the Publications Committee of the Council for Accreditation in Occupational Hearing Conservation (CAOHC) and is a CAOHC-certified course director at the Midwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety at the University of Minnesota. The National Hearing Conservation Association (NHCA) awarded Ted with Michael Beall Threadgill Award for outstanding leadership and distinguished service in 2008 and its Outstanding Lecture Award in 2002. He is a Past President of NHCA, a certified member of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), a fellow of the American Academy of Audiology (AAA), a member of the Acoustical Society of America (ASA), and a representative of the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) to the ANSI S3 Bioacoustics committee. When time allows, Ted brings his passion for hearing loss prevention into the classroom as a Dangerous Decibels™ educator, teaching young people about the joys of hearing and encouraging them to make healthy hearing choices.

**Laurie Wells, Au.D.**  
Laurie Wells is a board-certified audiologist and Senior Acoustics Regulatory Affairs Specialist for 3M Personal Safety Division. She received her Master’s degree from University of Arizona and her clinical doctorate degree from Salus University School of Audiology. Laurie is a certified Professional Supervisor of the Audimetric Component of a Hearing Conservation Program and has provided professional audiology reviews of hearing conservation programs to ensure effective protection from noise hazards to both employers and employees. This includes audiometric database analysis, assessment of hearing protection devices, and employee/employer education, worker’s compensation reviews, and employee noise exposure assessment for both hearing conservation and regulatory compliance. Laurie is a board member of the Council for Accreditation in Occupational Hearing Conservation (CAOHC) and an active certified course director, teaching U.S. and international courses. She has also taught numerous seminars, graduate audiology courses, and made frequent presentations at state and national conferences. Laurie is past-president of the National Hearing Conservation Association (NHCA), and served on the NHCA board from 1999 - 2007. She is a fellow of the American Academy of Audiology, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, and Colorado Academy of Audiology.

**Relevant financial and nonfinancial relationships:**

Ted Madison, Instructor, employed by 3M

Disclosure: Financial - Technical Service Specialist at 3M, a manufacturer of hearing protection products. Salary and travel expenses are paid by 3M. Nonfinancial - No relevant nonfinancial relationship exists.

Laurie Wells, Instructor, employed by 3M

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