

Hearing Protection

The legal responsibilities and product selector

KIMBERLY-CLARK PROFESSIONAL* Hearing Protection offers a wide choice of innovative and traditional hearing protection products, designed to offer users maximum comfort and encourage conformity.

Why is Hearing Protection important?

Continued exposure to noise above certain levels causes permanent hearing damage. Hearing cells cannot be repaired nor do they regenerate.

How is noise measured?

The decibel scale is used in acoustics to quantify sound levels. The reference level (0dB) is set at the threshold of human perception.

When does it become a problem?

Workers are exposed to noise levels at different frequencies that may vary depending on the type of industry and activities performed. Noise levels above 80dB will start causing progressive hearing damage as the noise intensity and exposure increase.

Choosing the correct Hearing Protection Devices (HPD) For countries that follow US standard ANSI S3.19-1974

The US standard is based on a number rating known as NRR (Noise Reduction Rating), these numbers range from zero to 33.

US OSHA legislation requires that employers must provide a hearing protection programme where noise exceeds 85dB.

The level of noise entering a person's ear, when hearing protection is used as directed, is closely approximated by the difference between the weighted environmental noise level and the NRR;

- Environmental noise measured at the ear at 92 dBA
- NRR is 31 dBA
- Therefore the level of noise entering the ear is approximately equal to 61 dBA

For countries that follow EU standard EN 352-2

European standards require that hearing protection equipment is tested to determine the levels of protection each product offers. These protection levels are called Single Number Ratings (SNRs) – look out for them in the product descriptions.

Following a risk assessment, the HPD selection would require that the environmental noise level and the desired final noise levels, at the end organ of hearing, are subtracted to determine the requested SNR. This would achieve an adjusted desired noise level of between 75dB and 80dB. A final adjusted level below 70dB is considered to be over-protection.

For countries that follow AS/NZS 1270:2002

The Australian / New Zealand standard is based on a single number rating known as SLC80 (sound level conversion) which is used to compare the acoustic performance of hearing protection products. The number 80 indicates that in a well-managed hearing protection programme the protection provided is expected to equal or exceed the SLC80 figure in 80% of the users.

Under Australian workplace legislation and detailed in AS/NZS 1269.3:2005 – Occupational Noise Management, employers must provide a hearing protection programme where noise exceeds 85dB.

AS/NZS 1270:2002 details 5 classes of Hearing protector based on the attenuation or reduction in the level of noise;

Class	Specified SLC ₈₀ , dB
1	10 – 13
2	14 – 17
3	18 – 21
4	22 – 25
5	26 or more

For instance where a hearing protector has been tested to AS/NZS 1270 and rated as Class 4, if selected, used and maintained as specified in AS/NZS 1269, the protector may be used in noise up to 105dB(A) assuming an 85 dB(A) criterion. A lower criterion may require a higher protector class.

AS/NZS 1269.3:2005 – Occupational Noise Management details the class of hearing protectors to be used in certain noise environments;

dB level (where 85dB selected)	Class
Less than 90	1
90 to less than 95	2
95 to less than 100	3
100 to less than 105	4
105 to less than 110	5
Greater than or equal to 110	Seek specialist advice

JACKSON SAFETY* Hearing Protection

H20 – H10 Hearing Protection

All products on this page offer:

- Free from latex, silicone and phthalates
- Available in wall mountable dispenser box



H20 Hearing Protection

Reusable Earplugs

- Traditionally styled offering
- Design ensures easier holding and donning
- High visibility for easy compliance monitoring
- Each pair complete with resealable bag
- Corded and uncorded options available
- Also available in corded Metal Detectable option



H10 Hearing Protection

Disposable Earplugs

- Soft roll-down foam for easy insertion
- High visibility for easy compliance monitoring
- Each pair individually bagged
- Corded and uncorded options available
- Also available in corded Metal Detectable option



H10 Disposable Earplug Bulk Pack and Dispenser

Bulk Pack

- Featuring H10 uncorded disposable foam earplugs
- 500 pairs (or 1000 earplugs) packed in a polybag

Dispenser

- Wall-mountable and desktop-ready
- Easy, flip open for quick refill
- Clear globe helps to indicate when to refill
- Mounting template and hardware included
- Donning instructions attached to front to encourage correct insertion of product

Product Selector Guide

Description	SNR	Multiple-use	Comfort	Soft Foam	Easy to Fit	Innovative Design	Patent Pending	Replacement Part	Metal Detectable Version Available
JACKSON SAFETY* H50 Multiple-use Ear Clips	23	✓	✓✓✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓✓	✓	67237	✗
JACKSON SAFETY* H30 Multiple-use Comfortflex Earplugs	28	✓	✓✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	✗	✗
JACKSON SAFETY* H20 Earplugs	25	✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓
JACKSON SAFETY* H10 Disposable Earplugs	31	✗	✓✓	✓	Requires Rolling Down	✓	✓	✗	✓

Description	Code	Case Contents	NRR	SNR	SLC (80)
H20 Uncorded	67220	4 x x 100 pair cartons = 400 pairs	26	25	21
H20 Corded	67221	4 x x 100 pair cartons = 400 pairs	26	25	21
H10 Uncorded	67210	8 x x 200 pair cartons = 1600 pairs	31	31	22
H10 Corded	67212	8 x x 100 pair cartons = 800 pairs	31	31	22
H10 Bulk	25708	4 x x 500 pair bags = 2000 pairs	31	31	22
H10 Bulk Dispenser	25709	1 Dispenser/case			