

Universal Safety Practices

Levels of Noise

Sound and noise are measured using decibels. To understand give an idea of a decibel, a normal conversation is roughly 60 decibels. Exposure to sounds at 85 decibels or over will increase the risk of hearing loss over long periods of time. City traffic is 85 decibels, according to the National Institute of Deafness and other Communication Disorders.

Louder noises levels require less exposure time to result in hearing loss. Noise-induced hearing loss is a clear danger when employees work in environments at 85 decibels or more. OSHA limits peak, short-term decibels to below 140 and 115 decibels for no more than 15-minute stretches. To ensure the safety of employees, employers need to assess the noise levels and take the necessary precautions to protect hearing in the work environment.

Benefits

Safety practices provide more benefits than risks. While there is a cost to safety, it is well worth it. The return on investment is rewarding when safety practices are implemented correctly.

Benefits:

- Number of injuries and fines decrease
- Money saved in medical cost
- Improved employee satisfaction and retention
- Increased attraction of high-performing employees
- Improve productivity

These are just a few common benefits, but companies may find individual benefits when they implement safety.



Off-site

Off-site transportation includes the risks that occur off company property. An employee who is injured away from company property while working is legally under the company's legal protection. Someone in a vehicle delivering product qualifies for worker's compensation if harmed in the process due to poor maintenance. Offsite transportation is not limited to cars. This involves transportation by land, air, or water. For this reason, companies need to have a clear and easy to understand policies that address transportation safety.