

## Safety Message of the Day for IMEA Members



## Noise at Work Safety Message

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Our hearing is precious to us. Once we diminish or lose our hearing, we can never fully recover it. Both on the job and at home, there are many ways to be overexposed to sounds that can damage our hearing. It is essential to realize how loud is too loud and how to protect yourself.

Many tools, equipment, and processes in the workplace generate high levels of noise that will have a negative effect on the hearing of the exposed workers. According to the CDC, over 22 million workers are exposed to hazardous noise levels at work each year. Occupational hearing loss is one of the most common workplace injuries today in the United States.

Damage to our hearing can happen over a short time or over an extended period of time, depending on the source of the sound. Short, loud bursts of noise, such as explosions or gunshots, can damage our ears in a short time of being exposed. Less hazardous noise, such as woodworking equipment, heavy equipment, and machinery, can lead to damage over an extended amount of time being exposed to the noise.

## Protect your hearing, Once it goes, it is gone, Take hearing protection seriously