CSA Z1007
HEARING LOSS PREVENTION PROGRAM MANAGEMENT
A new standard from the Canadian Standards Association
Overview

• Genesis of the standard
Canada

• Exposure Level at which hearing protection must be used
  – 11 Jurisdictions Use 85 dBA
  – 1 Uses 87 dBA
  – 1 Uses 90 dBA

• Exchange rate
  – 11 Jurisdictions Use a 3-dB Exchange Rate
  – 3 Jurisdictions Use a 5-dB Exchange Rate
Overview

• Genesis of the standard
• Canada/U.S. Regulatory Environments
• Considerations in Development
• Scope of the Standard
• Next Steps
• Discussion – Left unresolved
• Conclusion
Canada

• **Different Criteria in 14 Jurisdictions**

• **Action Level(s)**
  – 4 Provinces Begin Hearing Conservation Activities at 80 dBA
  – 2 Provinces Begin at 82 dBA
  – One Jurisdiction Starts at 84 dBA
  – One Jurisdiction Starts at 85 dBA
  – Six Jurisdictions Are Silent in their Regulations as to When a Hearing Conservation Program Must Commence.
# Canada & U.S.A – HLPP - A Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>USA</strong></th>
<th><strong>Canada</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Federally Regulated and Inspected</td>
<td>- Provincially Regulated and Inspected</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Regulations are Uniform Across the Country</td>
<td>- Different Criteria in 14 Jurisdictions Across the Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Action Level – 85 dBA</td>
<td>- Action Level(s) – 80 (4), 82 (2), 84 (1), 85 (1), Not Specified (6)</td>
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<td>- Protection Level – 90 dBA</td>
<td>- Protection Level – 85 (11), 87, 90 dBA</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Exchange Rate – 5 dB</td>
<td>- Exchange Rate – 3 dB (11), 5 dB (3)</td>
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Considerations in Developing Z1007

• To Reduce the Incidence of NIHL
  – To Be Effective Must Be Referenced in Regulation by the Jurisdictions

• Targeted at the both the Knowledgeable and Uninformed Manager
  – Needs to be Both Succinct and Informative
Separating the Normative from the Informative

• Blue in the Informative
• Black in the Normative
Considerations in Developing Z1007

• **Management Standard**
  – Presumption that Some (Much) May be Contract Work

• **Focus Solely on Workplaces**
  – Human Rights issues –
  – Fit for Duty
  – Dealt with Many, But Not All Workplaces
    • Temporary, Seasonal, Transitional Employment
The Scope of the Standard

Hearing Loss Prevention Programs (HLPP)

- Program Responsibilities and Administration
- Noise Surveys
- Assessment of Worker Exposure to Noise (Dosimetry)
- Engineering Controls (Noise Reduction and Barriers)
- Administrative Controls (Job Procedures)
The Scope of the Standard

Hearing Loss Prevention Programs (HLPP)
- Roles and Responsibilities
- Engineering & Administrative Controls
- Hearing Protection (PPE and Enclosures)
- Training
- Audiometry
- Record Keeping
- Program Monitoring and
- Continuous Improvement
The Scope of the Standard

- Persons Responsible for Creating and Managing the HLPP
  - Owner/Operators
  - Designated Safety Persons

- Professionals Consulting Within & Outside Their Area of Specialty
  - Occ. Nurses, and other EH&S Consultants

- Persons Who Want a Road Map
Some of the Highlights

- > 85 dBA $L_{EX,8}$ With 3-dB Exchange Rate
- > 105 dBA $L_{EX,8}$ for Double Protection and Recommended Octave-Band Derating
- Priority to Engineering Controls
- Raises the Issue of Hearing Acuity as a Fit-for-Duty Criterion
- Proposes Seasonal, Temporary, and Construction Workers Database to Manage Their Programs
Standards Structure

Z1007
Hearing Conservation

Z107.56
Noise Measurement

Z107.56
Noise Exposure Monitoring

Z94.2
Hearing Protectors

Z94.2
Selection, Care, and Use

Z107.58
Noise Declarations

Z107.6
Hearing Assessment
The Scope of the Standard

Education & Training

- Detecting the Noise Hazard
- Monitoring Program Performance
- Hazard Communication
- Controlling Noise Exposure
- Hearing Protection Devices
- Audiometry

Elements of an HLPP

Record Keeping
Next Steps

- Complete the Revisions Based on Public Review
- Publish
- Educate
- Reference in Regulation/Legislation
- Start the Revisions for the Next Version
Left Unresolved

• Is Hearing Acuity a *Fit for Duty* criteria?
  – If it is, how do you deal with hearing impairment created by the work environment
  – If it isn’t, how do you keep people safe?

• What is the Protocol for Persons with Hearing Aids
  – There isn’t a single protocol that can address this issue

• Transient, Temporary, and Short Term Workers need to be covered – How do we do that?
  – Is this the employer’s responsibility?
  – Is this the regulators responsibility?
Conclusions

• Change Takes Measured Steps and Persistence
• To Get the Right Answers, the Right Questions Must be Asked

“In all affairs, it’s a healthy thing now and then to hang a question mark on the things you have long taken for granted”…….Bertrand Russell

– NIHL Can Be Eradicated. It Just Takes Will and Time

“Calling noise a nuisance is like calling smog an inconvenience. Noise must be considered a hazard to the health of people everywhere”….. Former U.S. Surgeon General William Stuart
Members of the Z1007 Committee

- Alberto Behar – Tech Committee Co-Chair
- Elliott Berger, Laurie Wells - 3M
- Ilma Bhunnoo – Workplace Safety & Prevention Services (WSPS)
- Stephen Bly – Health Canada
- Beverly Borst – 3M Canada
- Sasha Brown – WorkSafe BC
- Marc Cousineau – Ont. Ministry of Labour
- Alex Fedee – Via Rail Canada
- John Franks – NIOSH (Retired)
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To order a copy of Z1007 from CSA please go to shop.csa.ca after May 30, 2015.