



NATIONAL HEARING CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

PRESS RELEASE – For Immediate Release

**NIOSH Hearing Loss Prevention Team Receives 2011 “Media Award”
from the National Hearing Conservation Association**

Westminster, Colo. – March 1, 2011 – The Hearing Loss Prevention Team, a Division of Applied Research and Technology of the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), has received the 2011 “Media Award” from the National Hearing Conservation Association (NHCA) for its contributions to the NIOSH Science Blog that have raised national awareness about hearing loss prevention at work and at home. This award recognizes the efforts of writers and/or producers of news articles and features that serve to heighten public awareness of the hazards of noise.

“We commend the NIOSH Hearing Loss Prevention Team for using technology and rapidly expanding social networking to create instructive science blog posts that reach out to people searching for current factual information and dialogue on hearing loss prevention,” said Dr. Timothy Rink, incoming NHCA President and Chair of its Awards Task Force.

The NIOSH Science Blog – <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/blog/> – covers a wide range of topics that reflect health and safety concerns both at work and at home, and serves as an active medium to exchange ideas and knowledge with scientific experts. Many blog posts related to hearing loss prevention have generated mainstream media attention, including: the risk of hearing loss from vuvuzelas at the World Cup; NASCAR and stock car noise hazards; and posts about recreational firearms noise that led people to take action to correct problems at their firing ranges. To date, more than 25,000 people subscribe to the NIOSH Science Blog.

Dr. Mark Stephenson, of the NIOSH Hearing Loss Prevention Team, accepted the Media Award on behalf of the group at the NHCA’s “Innovation and Technology” conference in Mesa, Arizona on Saturday February 26, 2011.

About the National Hearing Conservation Association (NHCA)

The mission of the NHCA is to prevent hearing loss due to noise and other environmental factors in all sectors of society. NHCA’s membership includes audiologists, researchers, industrial hygienists, physicians and occupational health nurses, educators, professional service organizations, safety professionals, engineers, audio professionals, students, and others who have dedicated their work to the advancement of hearing loss prevention.

For more information about the National Hearing Conservation Association, visit the NHCA online at <http://www.hearingconservation.org> or call 1-303-224-9022. Follow the NHCA on Twitter at www.twitter.com/nhcaorg, on Facebook at <http://bit.ly/vLRg5>, and on LinkedIn at <http://bit.ly/3X2DfT>.

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