Article Side

Hearing Protection Should Be Given More Importance by People Working in the Music Industry by Wendy Leung

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Slow music is pleasant to ears but loud music that irritates us is called noise. Every people in this world affected adversely by the noise pollution but the most affected are the working persons who work hard day and night and due to this noise not able to sleep well and have a proper relaxation of mind. This affects their work and health and subsequently degrades their performance. Recently government of United Kingdom made a law that solves this problem and monitors the noise exposure of people at work. According to this there is a legal requirement for all employers in the UK to provide protection from loud noises within the work place. On 6 April 2006, this law came into effect.

According to the law there are some basic requirements for the employers to be fulfilled. First of all if the employees are exposed to loud noises in the working hours it is the duty of employer to make a noise risk assessment by which any danger to their hearing can be identified. There must be complete guarantee of this assessment, either with the help of measurements of noises in the premises of the organization, or any other reliable data. For this only those people that are proficient in risk assessment must be hired and their duty is to keep records of these assessments. Another requirement is that certain action must be taken if the noise exposure exceeds the limits set by the legislation.

There are different levels of noise exposures but there are two main types of noise that were set up the legislation to take care of any damage to employees. The first type is repeated noise that increases slowly and gradually but leads to permanent hearing damage. This type of noise is checked over a period of time, usually over a week by making a consistent difference. The second type of noise is very loud noise that leads to permanent hearing damage in a very short time or almost immediately. This type of noise is checked by measuring the highest level of the sound.

After making a record of the assessments the second step is to take appropriate actions against it. An initial measure is to reduce the noise machinery and provide the employees ear plugs of good level. Ear protection is done after consultation with the employees and whatever they thought the best type of protection. Appropriate instructions and training must be provided by the safety manager or an external specialist. If the upper limit of exposure reaches the ear protection must be provided by the employer. In case of upper exposure limit "ear protection zones" must be marked in the places and it is compulsory for everyone to wear ear protection. It is also compulsory for the employer to provide health surveillance for the people who are at risk of hearing damage. The employees can also have pre-existing hearing problems, so it is a must condition for the employer to make arrangements for proper checking of the employees at the time of their joining.

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