

# Noise

Noise-induced hearing loss is permanent and incurable

## Essentials

	Sources of noise
	Risk Assess
	Controls
	Information Instruction Training

- Avoid working in areas where the noise levels may pose a risk
- Look for and follow Hearing Protection Signs
- Wear hearing protection correctly and store appropriately
- Where excessive noise is present, ensure that equipment is maintained and operated correctly
- Health surveillance is provided for those employees who are at risk

# Noise

## Noise impact in and around the workplace

### Sources of noise

- Simply – if you need to raise your voice to talk to someone close-by, then noise levels may pose a risk
- Noise can be emitted from plant and equipment and by certain work activities
- Loud music/radio can also be a source of noise

### Risk assess

- Signs indicate areas where noise levels are high
- Noise surveys can also highlight areas of excessive noise
- The level and duration of exposure to noise are key
- Is alternative less noisy equipment available?

### Controls

- Can noise sources be switched-off while you work?
- Are barriers/enclosures available to shield noise?
- As a last resort, hearing protection worn properly will help reduce the risk
- Think of noise disturbance on others (e.g. public) – inform people impacted on noise levels and duration

### Information, Instruction & Training

- Report any hearing concerns you have
- Hearing protection should be kept clean and stored appropriately
- Follow training on correct use of hearing protection

