

TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS OF ILLINOIS RISK MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

## RISK REMINDER

PARTNERING WITH TOWNSHIPS

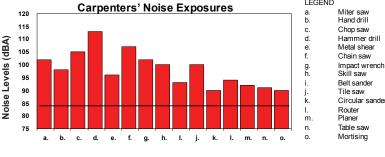
## Can You Hear Me Now? Noise Levels in Construction

OSHA estimates that construction workers exposed to noise levels over the action level of 85dB, will lose between 12 and 30 percent of their hearing on the job. So far, construction has dodged the legislative bullet and has been excluded from mandatory hearing conservation programs. The only current construction requirement is to use ear protective devices that are fit by a competent person.

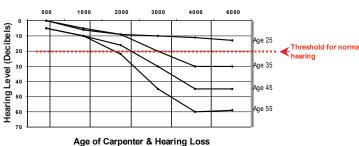
COMPOUNDING THE PROBLEM, a new study by the University of Montreal, published in the Journal of the Acoustical Society of America shows that chronic exposure to noise plus carbon monoxide increases hearing loss further. Workers exposed to noise levels above 90dB had trouble hearing high frequencies. An even larger shift in hearing loss was observed among workers with more than 25 years of noise exposure.

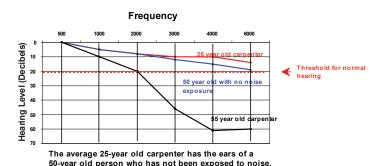
The U.S. National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health estimates that nearly one million workers each year are exposed to significant levels of carbon monoxide. Those at risk include welders, fork lift operators, foundry workers, industrial mechanics, diesel engine operators, and miners.

IS YOUR HEARING PROTECTION ADEQUATE? Only by measuring your noise exposure levels can you ensure that your hearing protection you are providing your employees is adequate. CCMSI can take a time weighted noise measurement to assist in the selection of your hearing protection.



Tools & Tasks





For more information, contact TOIRMA at (888) 562-7861