



## Accurate And Recent Dosimetry A Keystone To Compliance

Accurate and recent dosimetry is the keystone to complying with 29 CFR 1910.95. While area noise assessment is valuable, personal dosimetry provides a more complete picture; many regulatory actions rely upon knowledge of individual dosimetry. “Knowing your noise” is not only vital for compliance, but also helpful when selecting effective hearing protectors for workers with fluctuating noise exposure levels.

Issues related to Compensation Review and Determination of Work Relatedness additional reasons to acquire and maintain dosimetry records.

1. **Compensable Hearing Loss Litigation:** When an employee submits a hearing loss compensation claim and you have accurate *and recent* dosimetry on that person indicating a noise exposure level below 85 dB (8 hour TWA), little foundation for basis of the claim exists, barring documented evidence of work related trauma to the ear or exposure to a blast). Noise exposure levels below 85 dB are considered insufficient to affect occupationally related hearing loss. High levels of hearing loss should also reflect high exposure levels if noise is the cause. When noise and degree of hearing loss are inconsistent, certain hearing loss claims are unwarranted.
2. **Work Relatedness Determination:** T K Group requests accurate employee dosimetry. In the absence of dosimetry, an attempt to determine work relatedness will be made only if applicable cases demonstrate clear non-noise induced loss patterns.

T K Group, Inc. performs sound surveys and recommends “refreshed” documentation annually or when increased noise levels are suspected (due to presentation of noisier equipment, for example).

Detailed reports include:

- Standard Background Noise Levels
- Methodology
- Measurement Equipment Used
- Report Of Findings
- Summary/Recommendations: breakdown of noise measurements by department, facility-wide noise maps, hearing protection data sheets



Please contact T K Group if your company needs to conduct or update your facility noise exposure assessment.  
Know your noise!

---

Authored by: Robert Williams, Au.D. | Director Audiology | T K Group, Inc.