

SECTION 6: HEARING CONSERVATION

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6 HEARING CONSERVATION

1. PURPOSE

This plan is designed to provide direction and procedures to be used to protect the hearing of Dreamline Aviation's employees.

2. NOISE EXPOSURE

When noise levels exceed permissible limits, administrative and engineering controls are required to reduce exposures as much as possible. If these controls fail to sufficiently reduce excessive noise levels, hearing protective devices must be used. Dreamline Aviation will afford employees the opportunity to select their protective devices from a variety of suitable choices.

Employer-provided hearing protection must be worn by employees who are exposed to an 8-hour time-weighted average (TWA) above 90 decibels or above any other level shown in the table below. If noise levels equal or exceed an 8-hour TWA of 85 decibels, employers must give employees the option of wearing employer-provided hearing protectors.

Note: Dreamline's Management will encourage all employees exposed to any significant noise level under Permissible Noise Exposure limits, to wear supplied foam ear plugs. A supply of these is located in Hangar 4 outside of the Avionics office.

Note: The average dBA for Dreamline Aviation jets is 78 dBA on Take-Off.

PERMISSIBLE NOISE EXPOSURE

Sound Level (dBA)	Permitted Duration per Workday (hours-minutes)	Hours	Sound Level (dBA)	Permitted Duration per Workday (hours-minutes)	Hours
90	8-0	8.00	103	1-19	1.32
91	6-58	6.96	104	1-9	1.15
92	6-4	6.06	105	1-0	1.00
93	5-17	5.25	105	0-52	.86
94	4-36	4.60	107	0-46	.76
95	4-0	4.00	108	0-40	.66
96	3-29	3.48	109	0-34	.56
97	3-2	3.03	110	0-30	.50
98	2-38	2.63	111	0-26	.43
99	2-18	2.30	112	0-23	.38
100	2-0	2.00	113	0-20	.33
101	1-44	1.73	114	0-17	.28
102	1-31	1.52	115	0-15	.25

3. NOISE PROTECTION

Workers exposed to high noise levels (at or above an eight-hour time-weighted average of 85 decibels) must wear hearing protectors. The employer must provide the protectors and teach workers how to use and care for them. [8 CCR§§ 5098(a)(4); 5099.]

For workers exposed to noise at or above an eight-hour time-weighted average of 85 decibels, Dreamline will provide training annually and updated along with changes in protective equipment and work processes. This training will include:

- the effects of noise on hearing;
- the advantages and disadvantages of hearing protectors;
- instructions on the use, care, fitting, and selection of hearing protectors; and
- an explanation of audiometric testing and procedures.

3.1 Dreamline's Noise Protection

Dreamline maintains a supply of uncorded earplugs against the south east wall of Hangar 4. These are to be used by Maintenance and Line Service personnel whenever they are exposed to high noise levels.

Maintenance and Line Service supervisors will encourage the use of these devices when they notice that noise levels have risen within the workplace.

4. TRAINING

Each new Maintenance and Line Service employee will receive training on hearing protection during their Basic Indoctrination. This training will inform each of:

- The effects of noise on hearing
- Instructions on the use of foam earplugs
- Temporary protection of one's hearing by manually plugging the ears while walking on the ramp when aircraft engines and/or APU's are emitting high noise levels.
- Seeking medical assistance in measuring hearing loss

Resources for Basic Indoctrination training on hearing protection can be found in Section 15 of this Manual.