



Is your hearing protection fit for purpose?

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Harmful noise is one of the top 3 health hazards in the workplace. From 2016 Harmful Noise will be officially recognised as an irreversible health hazard within the new PPE Regulation. This puts hearing protection in the same level of high risk categorization as respiratory protection and fall protection.



How will this change of categorization affect you?

Your supplier of hearing protection products

Manufacturers of hearing protection products will be subject to more stringent on-going quality control procedures, including quality control of products or quality assurance for the entire manufacturing site. In addition, new CE marking will be applied on all packaging and products (where feasible).

Your users of hearing protection products

Protection from harmful noise needs to be taken seriously, and using the right product and wearing it correctly is vital. The new Regulation recognises this and will bring added confidence to users that the products they are wearing are able to provide reassured protection.

As Safety Officer what do you need to do?

- You will need to make sure you're buying hearing protection from a manufacturer that complies with the new Regulation when it becomes mandatory after 2019.
- Training of workers in the correct selection of personal protective equipment is already an essential requirement under the PPE User Directive 89/656/EEC.

What happens and by when

March 2016

- New Regulation published in the Official European Journal and adopted by member bodies
- Test houses, Notified Bodies and Manufacturers to start becoming familiar with the new Regulation

March 2018 (transition period)

- Both the products meeting the old PPE Directive and the new PPE Regulation can be placed on the market

3M is here to help



3M has over 50 years' experience of developing innovative hearing protection products.

At 3M we recognise the importance of providing the appropriate level of support for our customers. Whether it's helping you choose the right products for particular hazards and working environments, or helping you keep up to date with changing legislation and the implications for your workplace.

3M has a team of dedicated hearing technical and regulatory experts around Europe.

At 3M our manufacturing processes already operate to the more stringent quality monitoring principles required by the new Regulation, and our team of experts actively participate on many European CEN Standards Committees as well as trade associations such as the European Safety Federation.

3M can help you fulfil your essential training requirement.

As with any personal protective equipment used in high risk environments, you need to be fully confident that you select the appropriate hearing protector suitable for your workplace needs. 3M can help. We offer a range of training services including:

- Presentations
- Seminars
- Face to face demonstrations
- User training videos
- Webinars
- Fit testing

- Notified Bodies can certify products against the new Regulation
- Manufacturers can apply the CE mark and place products on the market meeting the new Regulation

March 2019 (implementation period)

- The new PPE Regulation fully implemented
- New products placed on the market will be required to meet the new Regulation

Is your hearing protection fit for purpose?

Book your place on one of our webinars or seminars

3M is offering you the opportunity to understand more fully the new Regulation and how it will affect your workplace. We are running a series of webinars and seminars across Europe during 2016.

To include:

- Introduction to the new PPE Regulation
- Demonstration of 3M™ E-A-Rfit™ Validation System
- Free to attend



How to book your place

Visit www.3M.eu/Cat3
Or contact your local
3M representative.



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