Why it's time for fit testing.

Evidence suggests that hearing protection fit testing can improve the outcomes of hearing conservation programs. Since 2008, the US OSHA/ NIOSH/NHCA Alliance has recognized fit testing as a best practice. Now, the first ever fit-test standard sets the bar for fit-test systems. 3M's awardwinning E-A-Rfit™ Dual Ear Validation system complies with this standard. With EARfit, you can fit test with confidence.









Over <u>22 million</u>

are exposed to hazardous noise exceeding 85 dBA1

Over 27 million

Americans live with noise-induced hearing loss¹

Fit testing contributed to a decline in hearing shift rates from 5.5% to 1.3% in one Australian aluminum

industry study²

Fit testing can show improvement in personal attenuation ratings (PAR), now and over time

What ANSI/ASA S12.71-2018 means for you.

The new ANSI/ASA S12.71-2018 standard provides performance criteria for fit-test systems. It specifies key information that manufacturers must tell customers, making it easier to compare systems.

Fit testing hearing protection can help you:



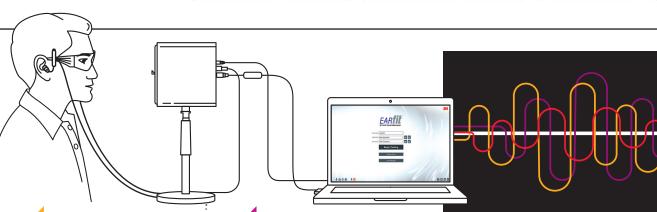
Identify employees who are unable to properly fit their hearing protection



Verify that your hearing protection devices yield adequate protection



Educate employees about protecting themselves from noiseinduced hearing loss⁴



Calibration/ Verification **Procedure**

Maximum Allowable **Ambient Sound**

Maximum Sound ••• Exposure Caused by the Test Signal

Results Comparable to Established "REAT" 04Lab Test Method

Range of Valid **Attenuation** Measurements

06 ··· PAR Uncertainty

ANSI/ASA S12.71-2018 **Performance** Criteria for Fit-Test Systems



Want to Know

Questions to Ask **Before You Buy a Fit-Test System?**



our Hearing Protection Fit-Testing eBook to find out.

Volume 66, Issue 3, April 2016, Pages 208–214, https://doi.org/10.1093/occmed/kqv168.

Wei Gong, Xin Liu, Yufei Liu & Ling Li (2019). Evaluating the effect of training along with fit testing on foam earplug users in four factories in China, International Journal of Audiology, 58:5, 269-277, DOI: 10.1080/14992027.2018.1563307.

4 Murphy, W.J. Comparing personal attenuation ratings for hearing protector fit-test systems. CAOHC Update. 2013;25(3):6–8.