

Hearing Protection Fit Testing (HPFT)

Hearing Protection Fit Testing (HPFT) is a service designed to help validate hearing protection and compliance with hearing protection fit testing.

It delivers measurements of each employee's protection, to improve employee protection while simultaneously helping employees understand the importance of proper fit.

With HPFT, employees will learn how to properly fit their hearing protection, and increase confidence the selected PPE is appropriate for their environment.

- Fast and objective
- Quantitative and qualitative methods
- Personal Attenuation Rating (PAR) of hearing protection
- Offers training for consistent fit
- Provides documentation for compliance reporting



What's in it for me?

This testing can reduce instances of work-related Standard Threshold Shift (STS), while also increasing employee engagement and "buy-in" to safety culture.

What can Terracon do?

1. Perform the testing at a frequency of the client's choosing: annual, every other year, quarterly for new hire orientation, in conjunction with annual audiometric testing, or a combination of the above.
2. We can reinforce training by giving employees hands on experience as to why the fit of hearing protection is important.
3. We can explain what a PAR is, the importance, and what it means for employee safety in the workplace.
4. We can provide a client with individual reports for employee files/records retention. These are most often stored with other similar files, such as audiogram results.
5. We can provide a summary report of all employees tested and results.



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Technology that takes hearing conservation to the next level with hearing protection fit testing

What is Hearing Protection Fit Testing?

HPFT is a service designed to help validate hearing protection and compliance with hearing protection fit testing. It delivers an objective measurement of each employee's protection, with both quantifiable and qualitative methods available. HPFT facilitates improved protection of your workforce while helping employees understand the importance of proper fit. With the HPFT, your employees will learn how to properly fit their Hearing Protection Devices (HPDs), and you'll have the confidence they are wearing the right protection for their environment.

- It is fast and objective, with quantifiable and qualitative methods available
- Personal Attenuation Rating (PAR) of hearing protectors
- Offers training for consistent fit
- Provides documentation for compliance reporting

Fit Testing in 3 Simple Steps:

1. Employees fit their own hearing protection (plugs or muffs)

2. Run the test for PAR

- In less than 5 seconds, personal attenuation rating (PAR) is achieved, indicating an individual's noise reduction levels for a given HPD; A "Personal Noise Reduction Rating (NRR)"
- Advantage: Reflects an individual's fitting methods and indicates if additional training is necessary in hearing protection fit testing

3. Discussion and Discovery

- Discuss results with employees
- Coach on opportunities to improve fit
- Retest, as needed, to confirm fit.
- Documented Results: Easy-to-understand test results are documented for each test subject.

Clients gain more than simply test completion

Hearing protection fit testing does 3 things: Audit, Fit, Assess

1. **Audit:** Integrating hearing protection fit testing into your hearing conservation program benefits everyone from new hires to high-risk workers.

- Establish baseline values for new workers
- Helps identify workers receiving inadequate protection that leaves them at risk of threshold shifts
- Validate high protection levels required by workers in high noise areas

2. **Fit, Train, and Motivate:**

- Provides tool for training proper fitting techniques and to assess proficiency
- Motivates employees by helping them realize the control they have in protecting their hearing

3. **Assess and Manage:**

- Improves long term performance of your hearing conservation program
- Indicates employees needing further fit training or alternative hearing protectors
- HPFT aids in selecting the most appropriate hearing protection and help minimize over/under protection