“Hearing loss prevention training, noise measurements and audiological exams improves work conditions **among industrial fishermen in the south of Brazil”**

Evelyn Albizu - Fundacentro/Ministry of Labor

Since 2007, hearing loss prevention training and education, conducted through research among industrial fishing fleets,
has been given to commercial fishermen in a community south of Brazil. It has proven to be effective in identifying noise
and hearing problems. There are around 6000 industrial fishermen working for 215 fishing companies. Among them, 3500
fishermen are unionized. An occupational health program conducted in 2007, 2008 and 2009 included noise measurements in fishing vessels and audiological exams. Results indicated exposure levels from 85 to 114 dB(A), noiseinduced
hearing loss among 51% of 365 unionized fishermen, and no auditory rest during working periods varying from
20 to 30 days of ocean fishing. In 2009, the Port Authority began requiring audiometric testing prior to issuing or
renewing a fishing license. This is the first step in improving the severe working conditions.

“Occupational hearing loss in Brazil: State of art”

Ana Claudia Fiorini, Pontificia Universidade Catolica de Sao Paulo

Occupational hearing loss is one of the most common health problems among Brazilian workers. Brazilian policy includes
specific strategies to control the problem across all industries. In every place with occupational risks, it is mandatory to
implement health and safety surveillance to protect the workers. The maximum noise exposure level is 85 dBA for eight
hours (5 dB exchange rate). When exposures exceed 80 dBA (action level), it is necessary to implement a Hearing Loss
Prevention Program. There is no official statistical data about occupational hearing loss in Brazil, but scientific research
shows rates varying between 20 to 50% in different industries. In 1998, the Brazilian government created a specific
audiometric test program to allow early identification of hearing loss. Several epidemiological studies will be presented
along with example hearing loss prevention programs developed in Brazilian industries.

‘‘Environmental noise level analysis of call center station”

Teresa Momenshohn – Santos – IEAA – Institute of Hearing Studies
Marielaine Gimenes
Valerie Moura

The aim of this research was to measure the noise of a Call Center station in order to know the telemarketing operator
exposition.. Method: noise was measured with a Bruel & Kajäer (type 2236) sound pressure level meter during one minute,
through 69 different points. Results: we found the Leq varied from 67,4 dB(A) to 72,1 dB(A). They were above the level for
offices suggested by Brazilian Norms and Techniques Association (30 -60 dBA).

“Occupational noise exposure and work accidents in a Brazilian city”

Adriano Dias - Botucatu Medical School, Dept of Public Health

A hospital-based case-control study was conducted in Brazil to examine the relationship between occupational noise
exposure and accident risk. Data were collected from 600 cases and 822 controls (who had a non-occupational accident or
had accompanied someone who suffered an accident). Prevalence, attributable fraction, and adjusted odds ratios were
calculated across four levels of exposure. After adjustment for occupational and non-occupational factors, logistic regression
models showed an association between accident risk and worker noise exposure

“Evaluating Tinnitus in Industrial Hearing Loss Prevention Programs”
Luciara Giacobe Steinmetz – Universidade Tuiuti do Parana
Bianca Simone Zeigelboim - Universidade Tuiuti do Parana
Jair Marques - Universidade Tuiuti do Parana
Thais Morata –
Adriana Bender M. Lacerda - Universidade Tuiuti do Parana
Noise measurements, a questionnaire, a Brazilian version of the Tinnitus Handicap Inventory (THI), and audiometry were conducted with
52 workers enrolled in a hearing conservation program who suffered from tinnitus. Significant correlations were observed between;
periodicity of tinnitus and noise level; degree of tinnitus and chemical exposure; overall THI score and each scale; emotional scale and
functional scale scores, THI score and general health. An evaluation of tinnitus in the workplace could benefit tinnitus sufferers.

‘‘The use of Personal sound stereo system and the presence of tinnitus”
Teresa Momenshohn – Santos – IEAA – Institute of Hearing Studies
Mariana Nogueria
Camila Lamas
Marianne Gutierre Molinaro
Thaysa Freitas
Gabriela Bueno
Aim: to investigate the association between the use of personal sound system (PSS) and the presence of tinntus. Method:
sample was composed by 199 individuals. All of them answered a questionnaire about use of PSS and tinnitus. Results: out
of 199, 101 referred the use of PSS, median time of use was 1,9 hours/day. Tinnitus was present in 53 subjects: it was
constant in 3 and occasional in 20.

“Tinnitus and auditory complaint in a population that attends noisy exposure”
Teresa Momenshohn – Santos – IEAA – Institute of Hearing Studies
Larissa Poli Moreira
Mariana Pelegrini Biserra
Andrea Paz
Neury Hayashi
To investigate the occurrence of tinnitus and auditory complaint in a population that attends noisy environments. Method:
200 people invited to answer a questionnaire about auditory complaint, tinnitus, and attendance to noisy shows and/or
workplaces. Results: Out of 200, 29 referred not to hear well, 31 presented tinnitus, 77 attended noisy shows and 57 works
in noisy places. Association between tinnitus and noisy shows was 6:77, and tinnitus and noisy workplace was 9:57.