**DRAFT NOISE TEAM FQAs**

**Question:** What are the Mining Industry Tripartite Occupational Health and Safety Targets in relation to NIHL?

**Answer:**

* **By 2008**: The hearing conservation program implemented by industry must ensure that there is no deterioration in hearing greater than 10% amongst occupationally exposed individuals
* **By 2013**: Total noise emitted by all equipment (including individual machines) installed in any workplace must not exceed a sound pressure level of 110dB(A)

**Question:** Which Leading Practice(s) from the Learning Hub‘s Noise Team is currently being implemented by the Mining Industry?

**Answer:**

* The Hearing Protection Device Selection Tool and Training Awareness Material including DVD’s and lesson plans

**Question:** What is the HPD selection tool?

**Answer:** It as a software tool that will enable Occupational Hygienists to select the correct HPD per occupation based on noise exposures in the workplace.

**Question:** What does training and awareness material entail?

**Answer:**

* The training material includes two DVDs, training manuals for trainers and comic strip booklets and is available in four official languages. The first DVD explains the effects of noise, compensation issues, control of noise and personal protection. The second DVD deals specifically with hearing protection devices and on their usage, care and maintenance.

**Question:** Where can these leading practices being applied?

**Answer:**

* The HPD tool as well as the training material will be applicable to all mines and other industries with noise levels >85 dB(A). It can also being applied to conform to some the requirements of the Mine Health and Safety Act 29/1996 regarding The Mandatory Code of Practice on Noise Conservation Programmes

**Question:** What are benefits?

**Answer:**

* Reducing personal noise exposure by ensuring the correct HPD is selected per occupation
* Reducing risk of early Noise Induced Hearing Loss through awareness training on the hazards and consequences of noise as well as the correct use of PPE.
* Reduction in compensation levies
* Making people aware of the effects of high noise inside and outside the work place with the benefit in protecting their own well-being.

**Question:** What is the investment required to implement this practice?

**Answer:**

* Selection and keen adoption of the leading practice
* Stakeholder buy-in
* Training time

**Question:** Who provides the training?

**Answer:**

* Learning Hub at the Chamber Of Mines and its free of charge

**Question:** How long is the Training?

**Answer:**

* About two hours

**Question:** What training will be needed as part of the adoption?

**Answer:**

* Training on the correct application of the software (HPD\_TAS\_Tool) and Training Guide
* Training and guidance material for the Training Instructor’s and Occupational Hygienist forms part of the HPD\_TAS\_Tool.
* A training manual-including a DVD - has already been written but customized training course may also be necessary for those directly affected by the adoption.

**Question:** Who are affected by the adoption?

**Answer:**

* CEO’s Mine Managers, Union Leaders, Occupational Hygienists, Section Managers, Mine Overseers, Teams/Crews, engineers, safety specialists and the workforce etc.

**Question:** What technical support will be needed as part of the adoption?

**Answer:**

* Learning Hub assistance in forming the Community of Practice for Adoption (COPA’s) forums; which are peer to peer communication forums mainly for knowledge sharing, continuous improvement, energizing the process etc,
* Technical training of potential trainers, facilitators, instructors and champions on the HPD\_TAS Tool
* Technical support from the Learning Hub noise team through site visits and interaction to facilitate widespread Adoption of the leading practice System

**Question:** What are the leadership levels that need to support the adoption of the leading practice?

**Answer:**

* CEO’s, Mine Manager, GM’s, GEEs, Union Leaders, Occupational Hygienists, Section Managers, Mine Overseers etc.