

examinetics

THE LANDSCAPE OF OCCUPATIONAL HEARING TESTING:

Making the right choice for your
Hearing Conservation Program



HEARING CONSERVATION IN THE UNITED STATES

Why do you need hearing testing?

There are approximately 22 million workers exposed to hazardous noise levels every year. OSHA's Standard on Occupational Noise Exposure (29 CFR 1910.95) helps protect employees from hearing damage due to exposure to harmful noises in the workplace. This regulation went into effect in 1971.

Staying Compliant

Staying compliant is important and is made possible by:

- Keeping up-to-date noise survey records
- Ensuring proper hearing protection
- Offering baseline and periodic audiometric testing
- Training all noise exposed employees on the effects of noise and how to protect their hearing on an ongoing basis.
- Maintaining good audiometric data analytics and follow-up.

<https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1910/1910.95>

Improving your workforce

In addition to being compliant, having a hearing conservation program provides a safer work environment, improved communication, and improves worker health and productivity.



About **25% of all workers** have been exposed to hazardous noise

1 in 10 people are exposed to noise levels at work **loud enough to cause hearing loss**



OVERVIEW OF HEARING TESTING OPTIONS

You have options when it comes to workplace hearing testing...



Mobile Unit

A convenient way to conduct hearing testing is by using a mobile testing company. This form of testing involves a technician coming onsite to administer hearing testing at your facility on a custom van, truck, or trailer.

This turnkey method is commonly used because a company that specializes in hearing testing guides you through all the aspects of testing and compliance.



Health Clinic

Health clinics provide a near-site option for testing. You send your employees to a local clinic that offers hearing testing in addition to other occupational tests and screening.

Health clinics are best used when testing small employee populations that need annual testing or just employees who need follow up testing.



In-House Testing

This is a self-administered testing option made possible by investing in equipment to perform testing at your facility.

Performing hearing testing yourself provides a flexible scheduling option and puts you in the driver seat to arrange the program however you want.

MOBILE UNIT

A common solution for hearing testing is to have a mobile unit, along with a technician, come onsite to administer the testing. Ideal for most businesses, a vehicle comes direct to your parking lot and has audiometers in a sound-dampening booth.

All employees stay on site and the turnkey scheduling and operations takes the burden off you. You receive testing, training, and counseling to satisfy OSHA requirements and you get professional oversight from occupational audiologists for data review and work relatedness evaluations. The larger mobile unit providers usually have a centralized data management solution that summarizes testing results, provides actionable insights, and uncovers potential risks.

This option becomes really cost effective once you have more than around 20 employees.

Not all employees may be available on your day of onsite testing. You will need follow up testing for those missed people, and any retests you may need due to threshold shifts.

Examinetics has mobile unit testing and the ability to test in a conference room at your facility. With more than 140 mobile units and technicians covering the 48 contiguous states, we are the only onsite mobile provider with the scale to cover the entire country using one partner.



Mobile Unit Benefits

- Employees stay onsite
- Full service and professional oversight
- Turnkey operations and technician administered
- Cost effective at >20 employees

Considerations

- Employees who miss testing event or need retesting
- Scheduling may have a wait list

HEALTH CLINICS

Another option is brick and mortar health clinics. You send your employees to a near-site clinic, as close as possible to your work site. This is a fitting option when you have a small employee population that needs annual testing, or you have some follow up testing after mobile unit testing is completed.

There are some things to consider with offsite clinic visits, mainly the disruption to operations. The further away, the more disruption and additional labor and travel costs. Clinics are often walk-in only, leading to wait times and less predictable nurse staffing.

Keeping track of data is another consideration. You don't receive centralized data management for your records or baseline testing. Additionally, you don't get all the services you need such as training or advice on OSHA regulations.

Examinetics has a large clinic network of 6,500 occupational clinics nationwide. We schedule appointments directly and provide centralized data to streamline occupational health program management. Our in-house audiologists provide data review and work relatedness evaluations.



Health Clinic Benefits

- Flexible and timely scheduling
- Cost effective if small number of employees

Considerations

- Send employees offsite
- No training or counsel provided to help meet regulatory standards
- No data management
- Expensive if large number of employees

IN-HOUSE TESTING

Some companies choose to administer hearing testing themselves in-house with a purchased or rented audiometer. New tablet-based audiometers have made this a more accessible and popular option.

The benefit of self-administered testing is that employees stay onsite and you get a flexible scheduling option. You can test when you want year-round and don't have to rely on a third-party provider.

The drawback is you own the hearing conservation program yourself. This can be a positive in that it may help your team take greater ownership. However, it is a consideration since in-house testing requires coordination on your part. You must figure out a data management solution, an employee training program, and how to get professional supervision of the program by an audiologist or a physician. In addition, many of the audiometer providers offer little support and training.

Our on-demand audiometric solution, Salux, is the only tablet-based hearing testing and training solution designed to administer in-house occupational hearing testing that meets the needs of regulatory compliance. It is the only audiometer on the market with an option for a tele-technician, live support team, and the ability to administer testing in 20+ languages. Data is easy to manage with instant data uploads to our client portal and data review by our team of in-house audiologists. The user-friendly interface and simple onboarding makes testing on-demand easier than ever.



In-house Benefits

- Employees stay onsite
- Flexible scheduling
- Can be a cost-effective option

Considerations

- Do-it-yourself testing
- May not get support you need from audiometer company



TESTING WITH EXAMINETICS

Examinetics offers a complete occupational hearing testing solution with nationwide coverage.



Whether you test on a mobile unit or in a conference room, at a near-site clinic, or with Salux On-Demand, you have the freedom of choice.

Having flexibility in testing options allows you to mix and match to create a hearing testing program that fits your priorities and saves you money.

However you choose to test, your hearing testing program is backed by our tenured team of experts and in-house audiologists. Our testing delivery methods are designed to complement each other and ensure consistent protocols across all your facilities. This approach helps maintain accuracy and reliability throughout your program.

In addition, Examinetics provides easy access to all your consolidated data records, with customizable reporting options. Our hearing testing services are designed for convenience and flexibility, making it easier to stay on top of regulatory requirements and maintain a compliant, effective hearing program.

OCCUPATIONAL HEARING TESTING

Examinetics has solved the pain points of occupational hearing testing by offering the most convenient, seamless, and complete hearing testing solution.

	examinetics	Mobile Unit Providers	Digital Audiometer Manufacturers	Occupational Health Clinics
Multiple Testing Methods (onsite, on-demand, and clinic)	●	●	◐	○
Nationwide Coverage	●	◐	●	◑
Consistent Protocol	●	○	●	○
Multi-Language Experience	●	◐	◑	◑
Cost Effective	●	○	○	○
OSHA Required Training	●	●	○	○
Dedicated Audiology Support	●	◑	◑	◑
Data Storage and Management	●	◐	◑	◑
Comprehensive Suite of Compliance Services	●	◐	○	●
Noise Survey Assistance	●	◑	○	○

Examinetics management perceived relative value proposition



Improve your hearing conservation program today

Request a Quote at www.examinetics.com | or Call at 800-493-5377