

examinetics

## THE LANDSCAPE OF OCCUPATIONAL HEARING TESTING:

Making the right choice for your  
Hearing Conservation Program





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# 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

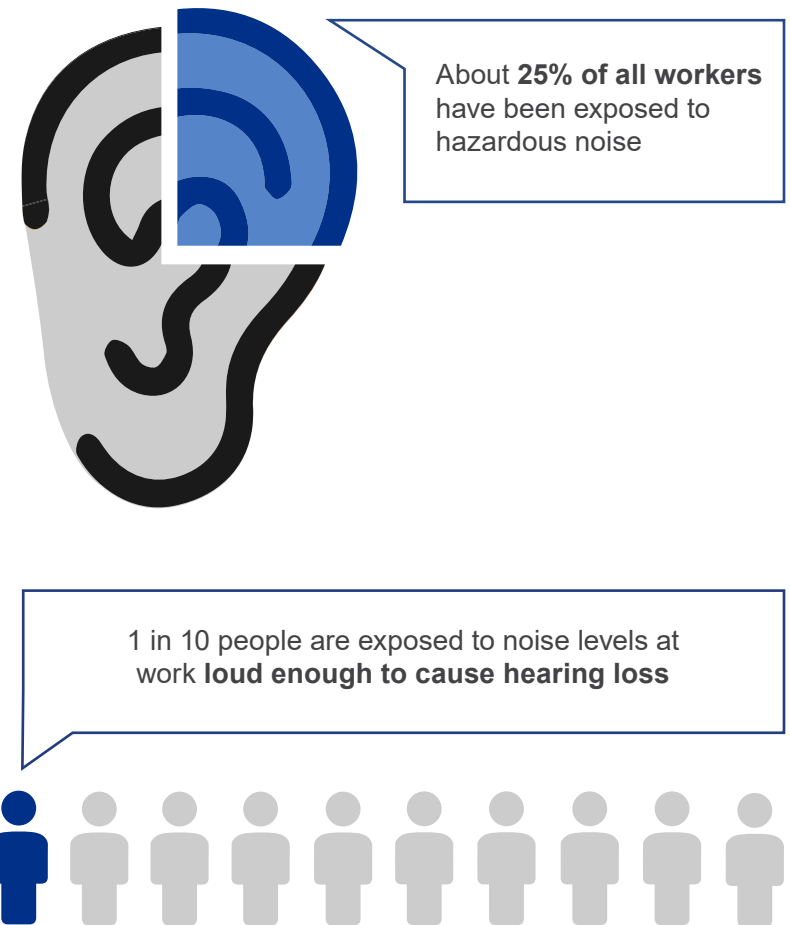
**Staying compliant is important and is made possible by:**

- 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.



# OVERVIEW OF HEARING TESTING OPTIONS

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



## Mobile Unit

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A convenient way to conduct hearing testing is using a mobile unit provider. 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

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

Due to the disruption, health clinics are mostly used when testing small employee populations that need annual testing or just employees who need follow up testing.



## In-House Testing

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This is a “Do-It-Yourself” 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 more than one hundred mobile units and technicians covering the 48 contiguous states, making us 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 an offsite clinic, as close as you can get to your work site. It's not ideal, but may work in some situations, such as when you have a small employee population that needs annual testing, or you have some follow up testing after a mobile unit tested the bulk of your employees.

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 long 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.

This option gets expensive on a cost per employee basis, especially when you consider the direct and indirect costs of time away from work.



## 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 in-house themselves with a purchased or rented audiometer. New tablet-based audiometers have made this more accessible making boothless testing an option for more companies.

The benefit of this “Do-It-Yourself” testing is that employees stay on site to avoid those disruptive clinic visits, and you get a very 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.



## 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 SALUX™



Examinetics' tablet-based audiometer, Salux, is the only hearing testing and training solution designed expressly by a hearing conservation company to meet the needs of regulatory compliance.

Salux is a fully developed hearing testing solution that covers all of your testing needs from start to finish. Now you have the flexibility to test in any method you want, whenever you want, with a partner to help you through all your hearing conservation needs to keep you compliant.

Salux is a robust solution that can be used during onsite testing events as well as on-demand, covering all testing methods in a way that is more convenient for you.

## Salux is an all-in-one hearing testing solution with

- Options for onsite testing with a mobile unit, testing on-demand for in-house testing at your facility, or a combination of both
- A training program that satisfies OSHA requirements
- Full time occupational audiologists on staff for data review
- Hearing conservation dashboard with at-a-glance action items
- Tele-technician option with one of our CAOHC-certified technicians
- Choice of annual subscription and short term rental
- 12 Language options available
- Turnkey data management and option to send notification to participant
- Real-time troubleshooting support



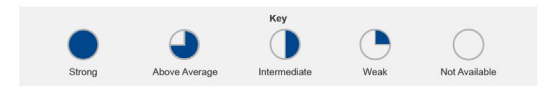
# OCCUPATIONAL HEARING TESTING

While there are multiple options, some fall short of meeting the various needs of any one workplace. In many cases, one facility must use several methods to test and then re-test all the employees at its site. And then when you get to the corporate level, there are usually multiple methods across all the different locations, which creates various data management complexities, not to mention higher costs than needed.

**With Salux, Examinetics has solved these hearing testing pain points by offering the most convenient, most seamless, and most complete hearing testing solution.**

	examinetics	Mobile Unit Providers	Digital Audiometer Manufacturers	Occupational Health Clinics
Cost Effective	●	●	◐	○
Nationwide Coverage	●	◐	●	◑
Consistent Protocol	●	○	●	○
Multi-Language Experience	●	◐	◑	◑
Multiple Testing Methods (onsite, DIY)	●	○	○	○
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 with Salux™

Request a Quote at [www.examinetics.com](http://www.examinetics.com) | or Call at 800-493-5377

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