



ALERT NO.: SA 12-14

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Plugfones



Marketed as a way for an employee to listen to music with the comfort of hearing protection, this new technology has found its way into several oil field locations and fabrication facilities.

These noise reduction devices state that the noise reduction rating or NRR is up to 25 dB. However, this is an extreme safety concern because noise from the music is not taken into account and in a loud environment which requires hearing protection, the addition of music especially at a raised volume may lead to hearing loss. Furthermore, this reduces all levels of hearing should an emergency arise that prohibits the employee from hearing emergency alarms such as fire or production.

Lastly, other hazards associated with this device include permitting hazards because a non-intrinsically safe devices such as an iPod or phone may be required to operate the device. The length of the cord and connection to a music playing device may also create a safety concern that may interfere with work.

GIS will **NOT** allow the use of these devices at any facility or on customer property while working for GIS. Please feel free to contact the Corporate HSE Department with any questions you may have.

