

# **Pratt & Whitney East Hartford Facility**





Director, Facilities & Services, Pratt & Whitney



# Pratt & Whitney East Hartford Facility



Location: East Hartford, Connecticut

**Operations:** Manufacture & Repair of Jet

**Engines and Jet Engine Parts** 

Population: >8500 employees

Size: 4.3 million FT<sup>2</sup> factory space/1.5 million

FT<sup>2</sup> office space/1023 acres





# **Hearing Conservation - Who is involved?**

- Multiple HCP teams exist and work together to reduce noise at the P&W East Hartford Facility
- Each team is a cross functional team which consist of representatives from EHS, Facilities & Services, Machine Tool Services, Hourly Associates, Medical, Management & Engineering

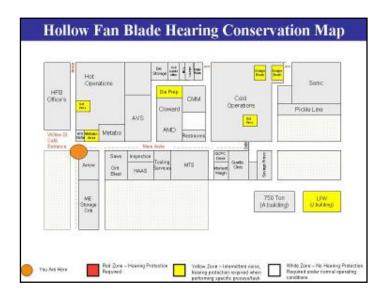
### **HCP Standard Work: Visuals**



### Integration of Exposure monitoring into HCP

- Maps placed at various strategic locations (outside of noisy areas)
- Maps illustrate "Hearing Protection Required" zones
- Maps point to relative location vs. these zones
- Zones shrink over time as noise "point of generations" are eliminated
- Ear plug dispensers placed at these locations for easy access





# **HCP Best Practices - Visuals**



Seeing the Noise....







## HCP Standard Work - Communication



### Hearing Conservation video created

"Now Hear This – Hearing loss is preventable"

- Video focuses on new P&W HCP requirements
- Interviews with existing & retired P&W employees regarding hearing loss
- Prevention & control measures implemented

"Shop Talk" newsletters focused on Hearing protection requirements

### Supervisor talking points for Toolbox Talks

Noise-related conversations in departmental safety meetings

# HCP Standard Work - Communication Pratt & Whitney



### P&W Intranet (mysite) articles:

#### First Cell in Module Centers & Operations Removed from Hearing Conservation Program PPE Requirements

Communications Manager, Turbines and Specialty Manufacturing

Following a successful noise abatement effort, the first cell in Module Centers & Operations (MC&O) has been removed from Hearing Conservation Program (HCP) requirements

Turbine Module Center (TMC) Military Blades Cell 1, an ACE Silver Cell led by Business Unit Manger Ryan Bouffard, reduced noise levels below Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) exposure limits. As a result, no bearing protection is required for employees and visitors in this area during normal operations.

The TMC has invested close to \$500,000 in hearing conservation projects over the last few months with the support of Dave Rusself, director, Facilities & Services. The process has been a challenge from both a cost perspective and the learning curve required to manage hearing conservation projects.



Matt Acknowld (center) from the TMC EH&S Team reviews noise levels at the Blade Cell 1 Hydroffew machine with operator Carolyn Deboine and Bill Tarantino from Machine Tool Services.

#### MC&O and GSP Making Strides Toward Vision of a Quiet Factory

Noise induced hearing loss is preventable, and both Module Centers & Operations (MC&O), along with Global Service Partners (GSP) are committed to reducing noise in the manufacturing environment to improve employee safety.

"We are committed to real noise reduction within the manufacturing work environment. The implementation of noise abatement opportunities identified during our stand down is a top priority," said Mike Pcholinski, vice president, East Hartford Operations & Specialty Manufacturing.

During a recent safety stand down, more than 600 noise abatement opportunities were identified. Over the last month, aggressive actions have taken place across the manufacturing environment to eliminate the root cause of hearing injuries. MC&O and GSP employees, including line supervisors, Facilities & Services and EH&S professionals, along with six contract companies were focused and dedicated to the implementation of noise elimination projects.



Sound dampening blankets installed around Stokes vacuum pump at the Turbine Module Center have reduced the noise level by over 10 decibels.

The cross-functional teams addressing the hearing conservation projects have come up with solutions that are user friendly for operators and allow the MTS team to maintain our equipment," said Kip Wyman, general manager, Turbine Module Center.

#### Hear The Difference? EHRO Noise Reduction Initiatives Succeed

When East Hartford (Conn.) Repair Operations (EHRO) employees voiced concerns about noise levels during the safety stand down last year, they were heard loud and clear. Noise reduction initiatives began immediately, targeting the top noise areas in EHRO.

The EHRO noise reduction team, led by Craig Thompson and Dom Chiulii, focused on reducing noise levels to 82 dBA. Three water jet booths, six plasma spray operations, six plant-wide stokes pumps and a plasma spray dust collector and downdraft booth were the top priorities, as each contributed to noise in excess of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) action standard of 85 dBA. OSHA requires a hearing conservation program for employees exposed to an eight-hour, time-weighted average of 85 dBA, 214 EHRO employees were in such a program.

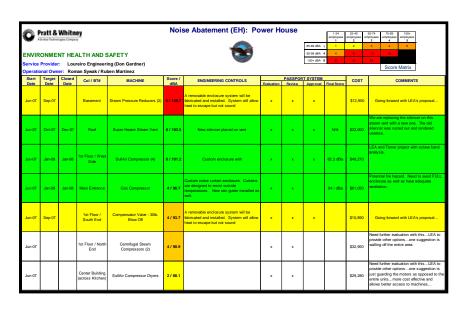


Noise is monitored throughout EHRO, with 14 meters connected to signs that light up when noise exceeds 82 dBA.

### **HCP Standard Work: Risk Matrix**



- Each organization in East Hartford cataloged and categorized processes with noise levels above 85dBA
- Unique Risk Matrix utilized to prioritize noise reduction projects

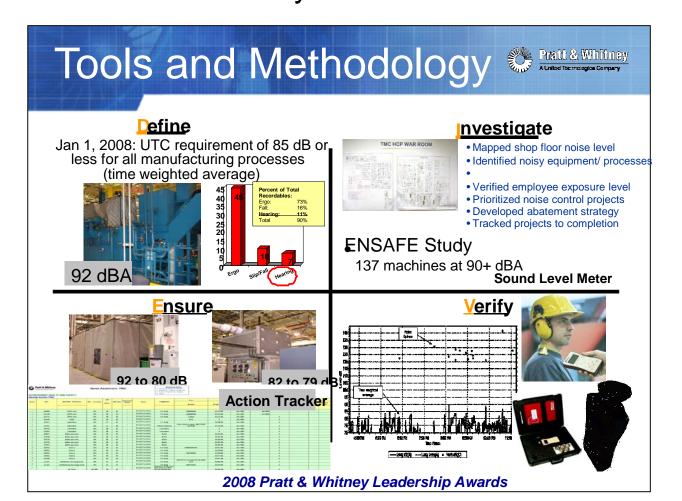




# HCP Standard Work: Investigation



"DIVE" Process used to determine Root Cause & Corrective Actions for Identified Noisy Processes



# HCP Standard Work: Noise Abatement 💝













80 dBA (()

# HCP Standard Work: Noise Abatement Pratt & Whitney







#### **Enclosures for Hand Tools**

















#### Vacuum Pumps 24 Units Abated











2008 Pion & Whitney Leadership Awards

### P&W East Hartford Benefits



### Employees reap the rewards...

- Custom fit PPE ....or NONE!
- Less stress on the job
- Many projects done "in-house"

More quiet work area





# Future Pratt & Whitney East Hartford Facility Hearing Conservation Program:

- Continue to focus on Engineering Controls to eliminate the need for a Hearing Conservation program at P&W East Hartford
- Serve as a benchmark and share best practices with other Pratt & Whitney & United Technologies facilities.