

(d) *In measuring hearing impairment, the lowest measured losses in each of the three frequencies shall be added together and divided by three to determine the average decibel loss. For every decibel of loss exceeding 15 decibels an allowance of one and one half (1½) per cent shall be made up to the maximum of one hundred (100) per cent which is reached at 82 decibels.*

(e) *In determining the binaural percentage of loss, the percentage of impairment in the better ear shall be multiplied by five (5). The resulting figure shall be added to the percentage of impairment in the poorer ear and the sum of the two divided by six (6). The final percentage shall represent the binaural hearing impairment.*

(f) *Before determining the percentage of hearing impairment, in order to allow for the average amount of hearing loss from non-occupational causes found in the population at any given age, there shall be deducted from the total average decibel loss, one half (½) decibel for each year of the employee's age over forty at the time of last exposure to industrial noise.*

(g) *Notwithstanding any other provision of this Article, no claim for scheduled income benefits shall be filed until the lapse of six full consecutive calendar months after the termination of exposure to harmful noise in employment. The time limitation for the filing OF claims for occupational deafness shall not begin to run earlier than the day following the termination of such six months' period. The time for filing claim as provided under this paragraph shall be applicable not only in respect of the last employer, but also in respect of any prior employer who may have liability to pay compensation for the occupational deafness.*

(h) *An employer, otherwise liable under this section, whose employment has contributed to any extent to the employee's occupational deafness shall be liable for the full extent of the deafness of the employee, unless such employer shall establish by competent evidence (including the results of a professionally controlled hearing test) the extent of the employee's deafness as it existed prior to exposure to harmful noise in the employer's employment. Upon such showing the employer shall be liable to the employee only for the proportion of the deafness attributable to the employment by him. An employer liable to the employee for the full extent of the employee's occupational deafness may implead, in a compensation proceeding on the employee's claim, any prior employer or employers in whose employment the employee had been exposed to harmful noise, and if it should be found that the impleaded employer would have been liable to the employee under this section, had the employee proceeded against him, under the claim being adjudicated, the employer held liable shall be entitled to an award against the impleaded employer. The impleading of an employer shall be accomplished by notice on a form prescribed by the Commission. Such notice shall be sent to the impleaded employer and to the Commission. An award may be made in favor of the employer liable to the employee, and against the impleaded employer or employers, which award may be enforced in the same manner as awards to employees. The impleaded employer or employers shall bear equal shares with the employer of the employer's liability to the employee, unless the evidence warrants a different apportionment.*