



Listening Devices and the Hazards They Present

CAGC INFORMATION ALERT

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Information Alert

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The CAGC would like to remind members and their employees of the potential dangers surrounding the use of listening devices such as MP3's and iPods while working in the field.

Workers have specific obligations under provincial legislation that require them to be aware of the other activities and people (those working around you or with you) in the area they are working in. Listening to music or wearing headphones while working on the line has the potential to create new hazards, and in fact impede a worker's ability to react in emergency situations.

While batteries contained in iPods or Phones are typically of a low voltage (3.7v), it should be communicated to workers that the risk of an unplanned detonation of the detonator can still occur if the lead/cap/det wires were to somehow come in contact with the enclosed battery pack.

It should also be noted that if the unit has the ability to download directly from the internet – such as an iPhone, Blackberry, PDA etc - it could create a potential radio frequency hazard (transmitter).

In order to ensure the safety of everyone on the job site, workers are asked to follow the policies and procedures as outlined and communicated to them by their employers.