



Received 2/28/06
MSHA/OSRV



February 21, 2006

MSHA
Office of Standards
Regulations, and Variances
1100 Wilson Blvd, Room 2313
Arlington, Virginia
22209-3939

re: MSHA – RIN 1219-AV44

To whom it may concern:

Please allow me to introduce our company and product offering to enhance safety and communications in the mining industry.

Peltor is a global leader in 2-way communication products for use in high noise environments. Our dedication to offering quality products began over 50 years ago in Sweden. Today, the extensive Peltor line offers the broadest selection of headsets and 2-way radio accessory products for use in military, law enforcement, hunting, sport shooting, aviation, racing, manufacturing and resource industries.

Regarding your request for information, and more specifically your communication questions in section E. Peltor offers numerous products to solve both hearing conservation and effective communications issues underground.

Our core competency is not in the ability to solve mining infrastructure issues; rather it is in the ability to integrate and develop the latest in technology advancements into our headset products - in turn greatly enhancing the infrastructure and technologies chosen within the mine. A great example of a product that can immediately help the safety and communication in the mining industry, and also be used in the future as a platform to integrate more technology into, is the **Peltor PowerComPLUS**. It is an all self-contained 2-way radio headset product – i.e. the 2-way radio is built right up into the ear cups – and has the ability to be used in combination with breathing apparatus by integrating a throat microphone or adapting onto the various mask microphone systems currently in use. The PowerComPLUS was launched by Peltor 4+ years ago in the United States in response to industry demand for a better solution versus the traditional " belt radio + headset " configuration. The traditional solution had too many wires, was too cumbersome and had many safety issues related with exposed dangling wires, etc. The need was for a fully integrated headset radio product with no wires – the PowerComPLUS. It is successfully being sold by leading distributors of safety PPE equipment into many diverse industrial applications – both hazardous and non-hazardous applications.

Attached is information specifically on the PowerComPLUS and our latest Peltor Communications catalogue. Once the process of gathering and collecting all the industry information is complete, please do not hesitate to contact me for further information or discussions related to our products and how they can be further developed for underground mining in the future.

Sincerely,

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www.aearo.com

AB44-COMM-34



2-WAY RADIO IS IN THE HEADSET

EXCLUSIVE ALL-IN-ONE COMMUNICATION - PowerCom Plus is the better, and more affordable way to communicate in high noise environments. There are no expensive belt radios. No wires to tangle. And, it's loaded with proven performance features.

- Up to 30 Programmable Channels 462-467 MHz
- Certified Intrinsically Safe*
- Hearing Protection with an NRR of 25 dB
- VOX and PTT Radio Transmit
- 38 CTCSS Privacy Tones
- Ghost Voicing Mode Control
- Surround Sound Listening
- Noise-Canceling Microphone

USE YOUR HEAD. PowerCom Plus is the smarter way in two-way.

For more information, visit www.peltor.com or call 1-800-665-2942



*Approved for use in hazardous locations to the following certifications:
Factory Mutual Class I Groups C,D; Class II Groups E,F,G; CL III
CSA Class I Groups A,B,C,D; Class II Group G, Coal Dust; CL III

PELTOR® POWERCOM 2-WAY RADIO HEADSETS

**EXCLUSIVE ALL-IN-ONE
COMMUNICATION
NO MORE WIRES OR
EXPENSIVE BELT RADIOS**



POWERCOM PLUS™



POWERCOM PLUS™
FORESTRY



POWERCOM

Transmit/receive frequencies	462 - 467 MHz	462 - 467 MHz	462 - 467 MHz
Pre-Programmed channels	22	22	22
Channel re-programmability	•	•	•
Privacy sub-code channel system (CTCSS tones)	38	38	38
Distance/coverage	up to 2 miles*	up to 2 miles*	up to 2 miles*
Voice activated transmit	•	•	•
English/Spanish/French ghost voice selection	•	•	•
Rechargeable battery pack compatible	•	•	•
Batteries	2 AA	2 AA	2 AA
Ambient surround listening feature	•	•	•
Thumb activated PTT on right earcup	•	•	•
Remote finger PTT (TK56) compatible	•	•	•
Noise canceling electret microphone	•	•	•
Alternate 2-way radio interface capability	•	•	•
FCC & Industry Canada approved	•	•	•
Intrinsically safe approved	•	•	•
Low battery voice prompt indicator	•	•	•
Squelch adjustment	•	•	•
Hi/Low transmit power selection	•	•	•

* dependent on environmental conditions and surrounding structure(s)

AB44-COMM-34-A1

PowerCom PLUS Headsets

MT53H7A4610	PowerCom Plus, Headband model, NRR 25 dB**
MT53H7B4610	PowerCom Plus, Neckband model, NRR 25 dB**
MT53H7P3E4610	PowerCom Plus, Hardhat mount, NRR 24 dB**
88022-00000	Forestry PowerCom PLUS kit - screen/hardhat/headset combo

PowerCom PLUS Intrinsically Safe Headsets

MT53H7A4620	PowerCom PLUS I.S., headband model, NRR 25 dB**
MT53H7B4620	PowerCom PLUS I.S., neckband model, NRR 25 dB**
MT53H7P3E4620	PowerCom PLUS I.S., hardhat mount, NRR 24 dB**

PowerCom Headsets

MT53H7A4600	PowerCom, Headband model, NRR 25 dB**
MT53H7B4600	PowerCom, Neckband model, NRR 25 dB**
MT53H7P3E4600	PowerCom, Hardhat mount, NRR 24 dB**

Accessories***

88009-00000	Rechargeable Ni-MH battery pack and transformer kit
FL6CS	Cell phone patch cord - 2.5mm stereo plug
FL6CT	Listen-only patch cord - 3.5mm stereo wired in mono for walkman
FL6BT	Listen-only patch cord - 3.5mm mono for 2-way radio monitoring
FL6BS	Listen-only patch cord - 2.5mm mono for 2-way radio monitoring
TK56	Remote finger PTT - 36 inch long wire
FL6BR + FL50†	Alternate 2-way radio patch cord kit + in-line PTT patch cord
FP9007-US	Headset carrying bag
HY79	Replacement earcushions & foam
M995	Boom microphone foam windsock
MT90-01	Throat microphone

** tested in an accredited NVLAP laboratory
** Factory Mutual (FM) Class I Groups C, & D; Class II, Groups E, F & G; Class III
Canadian Standards Association (CSA) Class I Groups A, B, C, & D; Class II, Group G; Class III

† contact customer service for list of radio specific in-line PTT patch cords available
*** accessories cannot be used with the PowerComPLUS I.S., if used it will void the I.S. certification approvals

Technical Information
Phone: 1-800-665-2942
Fax: 1-705-733-3565

U.S. Customer Service
Toll Free: 1-800-665-2942
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The Sound Solution
www.peltor.com

Received 2/28/06
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PELTOR®



the SOUND SOLUTION

SPRING 2006

AB44-COMM-34-A2

Peltor is the global leader in 2-way communication products for use in high noise environments. Our dedication to offering quality products began over 50 years ago in Scandinavia. Today, the extensive Peltor line offers the broadest selection of personal safety headsets and 2-way radio accessory products for use in military, law enforcement, hunting, sport shooting, aviation, racing and manufacturing environments.

From our preferred tactical hearing protectors to our self-contained 2-way radio headsets, all **Peltor** products offer exceptional quality and performance and offer solutions to high noise communication. By incorporating the latest technological advances in electronics, materials and designs, our products are among the most innovative in the industry.

Innovation. Experience. Quality. Comfort.
All reasons why Peltor is the Sound Solution!



the sound solution

UHF 2-way RADIO Headsets

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2-way RADIO ACCESSORIES

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2-WAY UHF RADIO
2-WAY RADIO ACCESSORIES
BLUETOOTH ACCESSORIES
AVIATION
AM/FM RADIO
RACING FANS
HUNTING & SHOOTING
MILITARY & SPECIAL OPS
WIRED

Integrated 2-Way Radio Headsets

Peltor's new family of integrated radio headsets are designed with your business productivity in mind!

Always innovative and quick to incorporate the latest in electronics in our products, Peltor has achieved the ultimate in a communication product by combining a headset and 2-way radio all in one! The PowerCom series offers the most versatile set of features including frequency reprogramming and up to 2 miles of transmitting power and range, ideal for use in environments where long distance communicating is a must and environmental conditions change. The LiteCom series offers features ideal for short range communicating (200 yards), and fixed environmental conditions.

This family of integrated 2-way radio headsets are the perfect tool for communicating in high noise environments. Simple to operate and comfortable to wear, these headsets offer numerous features that will improve workplace efficiency.



PowerCom :: 462-467 MHz UHF Radio Headset

- NRR 25 dB headband model
- Optional hardhat clip-in model (NRR 23 dB) and neckband model (NRR 25 dB)
- Pre-programmed to 22 channels (GMRS-FRS frequencies). Channels are re-programmable –contact customer service for nearest authorized 2-way radio dealer
- 38 analogue privacy code subchannels (CTCSS)
- Voice activation or cup mounted push-to-talk transmission
- Noise canceling boom microphone
- Voice response mode selection selectable in English/Spanish/French
- Auxiliary jack for patchcords and a remote finger PTT
- FCC and Industry Canada approved
- 2 AA batteries required

MT53H7A4600 Headband
MT53H7B4600 Neckband
MT53H7P3E4600 Clip-in hardhat mount



PowerCom PLUS™ :: 462-467 MHz UHF Radio Headset

- The upgraded "PLUS" feature of this model are the 2 ambient pick-up microphones located on the outside of both cups. These microphones provide enhanced electronic ambient surround listening and distortion-free amplification of low level surrounding sounds up to 18 dB reproduced inside the cup
- All other features and functions are exactly the same as listed under PowerCom above
- Forestry communication kit includes the orange hardhat mount Powercom PLUS, wire mesh visor and hardhat with 6-point suspension
- Intrinsically Safe Approved part number models are certified to both CSA and Factory Mutual for use in hazardous locations

MT53H7A4610 Headband
MT53H7B4610 Neckband
MT53H7P3E4610 Clip-in hardhat mount
88022-00000 Forestry kit

MT53H7A4620* Headband - Intrinsically Safe Approved Model
MT53H7B4620* Neckband - Intrinsically Safe Approved Model
MT53H7P3E4620* Clip-in hardhat mount - Intrinsically Safe Approved Model

* Approved for use in hazardous locations to the following certifications:
Factory Mutual Class I Groups C,D, Class II Groups E,F,G, CL III
CSA Class I Groups A,B,C,D; Class II Group G, Coal Dust; CL III



LiteCom :: 49 MHz Radio Headset - Great for Tours!

- NRR 25 dB headband model
- Optional hardhat clip-in model (NRR 23 dB) and neckband model (NRR 25 dB)
- Pre-programmed to 5 licence free channels. Channels are NOT re-programmable
- Voice activation or cup mounted push-to-talk transmission
- Noise canceling boom microphone
- Voice response mode selection confirmation selectable in English/Spanish/French
- Auxiliary jack for patchcords and a remote finger PTT
- FCC and Industry Canada approved
- 2 AA batteries required

MT53H7A4900 Headband
MT53H7B4900 Neckband
MT53H7P3E4900 Clip-in hardhat mount



Rechargeable Ni-MH Battery Kit

- Great accessory for Peltor product's requiring 2 AA batteries
- Mounts easily into earcup
- includes a wall transformer and one battery pack (2.4V, 1400 mAh)
- Charger equipped with LED showing charging status
- Battery recharging time 4-5 hours
- Rated for approximately 500 recharges

88009-00000 Rechargeable Ni-MH battery kit

Kit includes 2 AA rechargeable batteries



Hardhat clip-in and neckband models are available in all platforms - LiteCom, PowerCom, PowerComPLUS

patch CORDS & accessories

FL6CS	Cell phone cable, 2.5 mini stereo plug
FL6CT	Receive only patch cord for entertainment devices, 3.5mm stereo plug
FL6BT	Receive only patch cord for 2-way radios, 3.5mm mono plug
FL6BS	Receive only patch cord for 2-way radios, 2.5mm mono plug
FL6BR	Downlead cable for connecting to a secondary/auxillary 2-way radio, requires mating radio specific FL50 PTT adaptor, contact customer service
TK56	Remote ring finger Push-to-talk button, 48" straight cable (shown below)
FL5503	Remote lapel PTT button (plugs into bottom of headset)
MT90-01	Throat microphone
M995	Boom microphone wind sock
M60/2	Cup microphone windscreen for PowerComPLUS headsets
HY79	Replacement black ear seals and foam inserts (pair)
FP9007-US	Headset carrying bag



NOISE-ATTENUATING COMMUNICATION HEADSETS

Peltor's headsets are designed for industrial users working in high noise environments.

They offer the versatility along with the protection, durability and comfort that you expect from the worldwide leader in communication headsets.

Clear, reliable communication is essential, and sometimes life threatening, in any high noise radio communication environment. That is why Peltor uses only the latest technologies in both earcup design and electronics. All Peltor headsets have the highest quality audio and transit specifications enhancing the communication capabilities of the user and making them the ideal choice for demanding industries such as:

- Heavy equipment operators
- Construction
- Manufacturing
- Agricultural
- Racing
- Forestry



MT Series H79 High Noise Headsets

- NRR 25 dB headband model
- Optional hardhat clip-in model (NRR 21 dB) and neckband model (NRR 24 dB)
- Noise canceling boom microphone
- Soft foam earcushions
- Deep earcup design for all day comfort
- Radio specific FL50 push-to-talk adaptor cable required (sold separately)

MT7H79A	Headband
MT7H79B	Neckband
MT7H79P3E	Clip-in hardhat mount
MT90	Throat microphone accessory



MT Series H10 Extreme Noise Headsets

- NRR 27 dB headband model
- NRR 26 dB hardhat mount
- Noise canceling boom microphone
- Deep earcup design for all day comfort
- Radio specific FL50 push-to-talk adaptor cable required (sold separately)

MT72H540A-395-BA	Headband
MT72H540P3E-395-BA	Clip-in hardhat mount



MT Series Fireman Helmet and Wide Brim Hardhat Compatible

- NRR 23 dB
- Noise canceling boom microphone
- Neckband model only available
- Soft foam earcushions
- Velcro crown strap fully adjustable
- Radio specific FL50 push-to-talk adaptor cable required (sold separately)

MT7H31B	Neckband
MT7H31B1	Neckband with right ear slotted & empty for ambient listening
MT90	Throat microphone accessory

MT Series Lightweight Low/No Noise Application Headsets

- Stainless rubber-coated steel band
- 2 sided and 1 sided models available
- Earpieces and band are height adjustable
- Noise canceling boom microphone
- Radio specific FL50 push-to-talk adaptor cable required (sold separately)

MT32H02	2-sided
MT32H01	1-sided



TacticalPRO Series Electronic Ambient Listening Headset

- **Ideal for forklift drivers**
- NRR 26 dB
- Optional hardhat clip-in model (NRR 22 dB) and neckband model (NRR 25 dB)
- Noise canceling boom microphone
- Ambient listening cup microphones provide distortion-free, amplification of low level sounds up to 18 dB
- Auto shutdown power saving feature
- 2 AA battery compartment for 270 hours of operation
- Rechargeable battery pack available (see page 2)
- Radio specific FL50 push-to-talk adaptor cable required (sold separately)

MT15H7A-07 SV	Headband	MT15H7P3E-07 SV	Clip-in hardhat mount
MT15H7B-07 SV	Neckband	MT90	Throat microphone accessory



MT Series Throat Microphone/Earpiece Combination

- Ideal for respirator communication
- Lightweight, compact
- Earpiece is adjustable for different ear sizes
- Throat microphone includes an adjustable neckstrap with buckle snap
- Optional version with earplug available for higher noise situations
- Radio specific FL50 push-to-talk adaptor cable required (sold separately)

MT9HTM05	Throat microphone with adjustable ear speaker
MT9HTM06	Throat microphone with earplug



All headsets on these pages require a mating FL50 Push-to-talk adaptor cable and will work with any new/old/existing radio's. Simply select the appropriate adaptor for your radio.

FL50 PUSH-TO-TALK ADAPTOR CABLES & ACCESSORIES

Heavy duty in-line push-to-talk adaptor cable has headset jack built in, comes with radio specific cable/plug assembly, is waterproof, and has a 360 degree rotating clothes clip.

FL5014	Motorola GP300 style plug
FL5017	Motorola 3.5mm stereo threaded Visar style plug
FL5018	Motorola HT1000 plug style
FL5012	Motorola 6-pin Hirose plug style
FL5030	Motorola HT750 plug style
FL5034	Icom right angled 2.5/3.5 plug style
FL5035	Kenwood 2.5/3.5 plug style
FL5078	Kenwood modular sidemount plug style
FL5010	Icom straight 2.5/3.5 plug style

TKD5502/1 Shroud to protect PTT button from unwanted activation (see image at left)

For full radio PTT listing, please refer to price book or contact customer service.





HT Series :: Listen-Only Headsets

- NRR 25 dB headband model
- Yellow neckband bevelled model for use under widebrim hardhats
- Optional hardhat clip-in model (NRR 23 dB) and neckband model (NRR 24 dB)
- Multiple plug configurations
- All download cables hardwired into cups
- Soft foam earcushions
- Deep earcup design for all day comfort

HTM79A	Headband; 3.5mm mono plug	HTM79B-42	Neckband; 3.5mm threaded stereo plug
HTM79A-03	Headband; 2.5mm mono plug	HTM31B-42	Neckband; 3.5 mm threaded stereo plug, yellow bevelled cups
HTM79A-25	Headband, 1/4" mono wired plug	HTM79P3E	Hard hat mount; 3.5mm mono plug
HTM79A-42	Headband; 3.5mm threaded stereo plug	HTM79P3E-03	Hard hat mount; 2.5mm mono plug
HTM79B	Neckband; 3.5mm mono plug	HTM79P3E-25	Hardhat mount, 1/4" mono wired plug
HTM31B	Neckband, 3.5 mm mono plug, yellow bevelled cups	HTM79P3E-42	Hard hat mount; 3.5mm threaded stereo plug
HTM31B-03	Neckband, 2.5 mm mono plug, yellow bevelled cups	HTM540A-395-BA	Headband model, NRR 27, blue cups
HTM79B-03	Neckband; 2.5mm mono plug	HTM540P3E-395-BA	Hardhat clip in model, NRR 26, blue cups
HTM79B-25	Neckband, 1/4" mono wired plug		

HT Series Listen-Only Headsets with Disconnect Cable Option

- Headsets with cup mounted jack
- Cables can disconnect from cup and be replaced/changed as required
- Download cables sold separately

HTM79A-49	Headband model, 2 cups, speakers in both earcups
HTM79A-49A	Headband model, 2 cups, speaker in one earcup only
HTM79B-49	Neckband model, 2 cups, speakers in both earcups
HTM79B-49A	Neckband mounted, 2 cups, speaker in one earcup only
HTM79P3E-49	Hardhat mount model, 2 cups, speakers in both earcups
HTM79P3E-49A	Hardhat mount model, 2 cups, speaker in one earcup only

Cable options:

FL6N	3.5mm stereo plug, 3 foot straight cable
FL6N-01	3.5mm threaded stereo plug, 3 foot curly cable
FL6M	2.5mm mono plug, 3 foot straight cable
FL6M-03	2.5mm mono plug, 8 inch curly cable
FL6H	3.5mm mono plug, 3 foot straight cable
FL6H-03	3.5mm mono plug, 8 inch curly cable

TacticalPRO Series Listen-Only Electronic Ambient Listening Headset

- NRR 26 dB
- Folding padded headband, optional neckband version also available (NRR 25 dB)
- Ambient listening electronics provide distortion-free, amplification of low level sounds up to 14 dB
- Audio jack for radio input monitoring (see above in HT Series Disconnect model listing for cable options)
- Incorporates new ASIC technology
- Auto shutdown power saving feature
- AA battery compartment for 1000 hours of operation
- Rechargeable battery pack available (see page 2)

MT15H7F SV	Folding headband
MT15H7B SV	Neckband
MT15H7P3E SV	Hardhat mount

PTL HT Series :: Listen-Only Headsets with "Push-to-Listen" Electronics

- NRR 25 dB
- PTL electronics are built into one earcup - speaker with audio jack are in the other earcup
- Single AA battery compartment for 270 hours of operation
- Audio listening patch cables sold separately
- Cables can disconnect from cup and be replaced/changed as required



Hi-Viz yellow cups

MT155H530A-49A	Headband model	MT155H530A-49A GB	Headband model - Hi-Viz
MT155H530B-49A	Neckband model	MT155H530B-49A GB	Neckband model - Hi-Viz
MT155H530P3E-49A	Hardhat mount model	MT155H530P3E-49A GB	Hardhat mount model - Hi-Viz

Cable options:

FL6N	3.5mm stereo plug, 3 foot straight cable	FL6M-03	2.5mm mini mono plug, 8 inch curly cable
FL6N-01	3.5mm threaded stereo plug, 3 foot curly cable	FL6H	3.5mm mono plug, 3 foot straight cable
FL6M	2.5mm mini mono plug, 3 foot straight cable	FL6H-03	3.5mm mono plug, 8 inch curly cable

Lapel Mic

- 3.5mm audio jack with rubber cover protector for when not in use
- Noise canceling microphone, high output speaker, water resistant housing
- Push-to-talk for radio transmit
- HTM06-02 HearPlug plugs into audio jack for monitoring radio messages in louder noise environments requiring hearing protection
- Heavy-duty polyurethane curly cable assembly down to radio

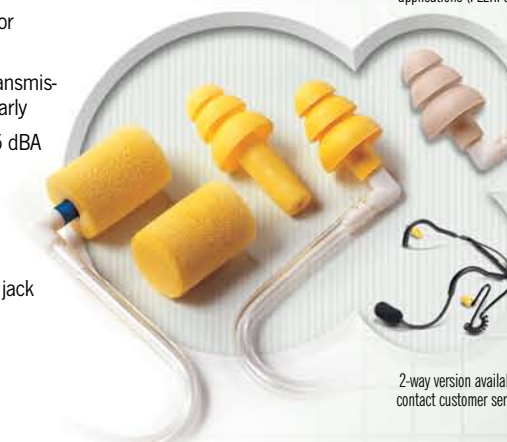


88000-00000	with Motorola GP300 plug/curly cable	88008-00000	with Kenwood TK280 plug/curly cable
88001-00000	with Motorola HT1000 plug/curly cable	88034-00000	with Vertex VX-210 plug/curly cable
88002-00000	with Motorola HT750 plug/curly cable	88042-00000	with Icom F30G plug/curly cable
88003-00000	with Motorola EX500 plug/curly cable		
88004-00000	with Kenwood 2.5/3.5 plug/curly cable		
88005-00000	with Icom straight 2.5/3.5 plug/curly cable		
88006-00000	with Motorola FRS single pin plug/curly cable		
88007-00000	with Motorola XTN 2.5/3.5 plug/curly cable		

HearPlugs :: Listen-Only Earpiece

- Available with reusable (NRR 21 dB) or disposable (NRR 29 dB)
- Unique plug with hole allows radio transmissions to pass through & be heard clearly
- Transducer limits volume spikes to 85 dBA
- Soft, medical grade acoustic tube comfortably wraps around behind the ear for a universal fit
- Plugs into any radio lapel speaker microphone with an audio accessory jack

HTM06	3.5mm mono plug, 25" straight cable
HTM06-02	3.5mm mono plug, 8" curly cable
HTM07	2.5mm mono plug, 25" straight cable
HTM07-02	2.5mm mono plug, 8" curly cable
HTM08	3.5mm threaded stereo plug, 25" curly cable
PELTIP1	Reusable communication earplugs - box of 25 pair
PELTIP2	Disposable communication earplugs - box of 100 pair
PELTIP3	Almond color reusable communication earplug - 500 each / box



Almond-colored reusable earplug available for discrete applications (PELTIP3)

2-way version available, contact customer service

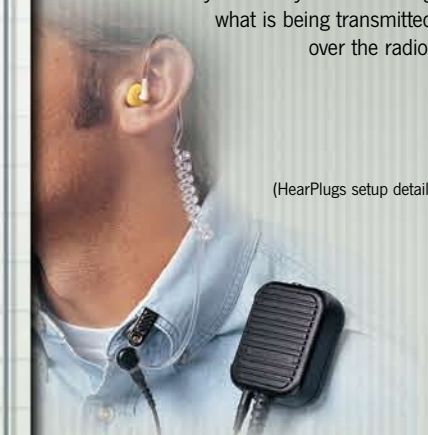
Listen-Only Headset SOLUTIONS

Lightweight communication options with heavy-duty performance.

PTL Listen-Only :: New "push-to-listen" ambient listening electronic technology. The electronics are turned on and off with a touch of a button located on the side of the earcup. In the other earcup is a speaker with an audio jack for plugging into lapel microphone audio jacks or CD/MP3 players. The PTL electronics will stay on for 30 seconds and then turn off automatically unless pressed again. Ideal application for workers in environments where intermittent ambient listening is required.

Lapel Mic :: Allows users to conveniently transmit and receive radio messages remotely. It features an ergonomic low profile design with an 8 position, 360 degree swivel clothes clip. Ideal for users that do not wish to hold or remove a 2-way radio from their belt in order to transmit or hear instructions.

HearPlugs :: Virtually weightless listen-only earpieces feature the unique combination of high-quality audio reception with a NLVAP certified noise reduction rating. In addition, the HearPlugs earpiece increases the efficiency of radios used in high noise by not having to repeat-or worse-miss important messages due to the inability of clearly understanding what is being transmitted over the radio.



(HearPlugs setup detail)



Bluetooth Wireless Solutions Headsets

Connection without the restriction of wires! Introducing Peltor's new Wireless Solutions headset featuring the latest in Bluetooth technology. This headset allows for ultimate flexibility when "synched-up". Transmit and receive without the need for inter-connecting cords and wires.

Unbelievably convenient and easy to use! Within a few seconds of initially synchronizing the headset and adaptor to each other, they are ready to be used as a system. The synchronizing step is required once when first purchased, after which they are linked wirelessly even after being cycled on and off during non-use.

- NRR 25 dB headband model
- Optional hardhat clip-in model (NRR 21 dB) and neckband model (NRR 24 dB)
- Wireless between headset and adaptor up to 50 ft.
- Multiple radio connector options available
- Noise canceling microphone
- 2AA batteries required
- Rechargeable battery pack kit available (see page 2)

MT53H7AWS2	Headband model, NRR 25 dB	FL6014-WS	Motorola GP300
MT53H7BWS2	Neckband model, NRR 25 dB	FL6018-WS	Motorola HT1000
MT53H7P3EWS2	Hardhat mount model NRR 23 dB	FL6030-WS	Motorola HT750/HT1250
FL6010-WS	Icom, 2.5/3.5 plug	FL6035-WS	Kenwood TK260/270/350

For full bluetooth radio adaptor listing, please refer to price book or contact customer service



Ground Mechanic Cup Mounted PTT Series

- NRR 25 dB
- Folding headband for compact storage
- Military grade, kevlar reinforced headset download cable 30" long
- Reinforced, easy to grip plug assembly
- Compatible with existing David Clark C31 series extension cables
- Thumb activated PTT button on left earcup
- Noise canceling microphone

MT7H79F-68	Cup PTT black cups
MT7H79F-68 GB	Cup PTT Hi-Viz cups
FL3-21	Curly extension cable - 11 to 18 feet
FL3-22	Curly extension cable - 22 to 29 Feet
FL3-23	Straight extension cable - 40 Feet



Ground Mechanic Belt Station PTT Series

- NRR 25 dB
- Folding headband for compact storage
- 3 foot curly download cable with military grade connector/cable assembly
- Reinforced, easy to grip plug assembly
- Numerous length belt station push-to-talk cord assemblies
- Noise canceling microphone

MT7H79F-01	Cup PTT black cups
MT7H79F-01 GB	Cup PTT Hi-Viz cups
FL5006	Belt Station PTT curly cord assembly 11-18' long
FL5006-01	Belt Station PTT curly cord assembly 22-29' long
FL5008-01	Belt Station PTT straight cord assembly 40' long



Ground Mechanic Bluetooth Wireless Solutions Series

- NRR 25 dB headband model
- Wireless between headset and adaptor up to 50ft.
- Noise canceling microphone
- 2AA batteries required
- Rechargeable battery pack kit available (see page 2)

MT53H7AWS2	Headband
MT53H7AWS2 GB	Headband Hi-Viz cups
FL6007-WS GB	Bluetooth adaptor - Hi-Viz



GROUND SUPPORT HEADSETS

Peltor has led the way in two-way headsets for over 50 years by combining state-of-the-art electronics and hearing protection to provide outstanding communication capabilities in very high noise environments.

Airports around the world depend on Peltor for reliable, glitch free and easy to use performance.

Peltor Ground Mechanic Headsets are designed to provide clear communications and hearing protection during high noise push-back and ground support operations. Plugging into the exterior aircraft intercom jack, two hardwired options include an in-line belt station push-to-talk (PTT) or cup mounted PTT and one wireless Bluetooth option.



am/fm RADIO HEADSETS

AM/FM Radio & Hearing Protector all-in-one!

Protect your hearing and listen to the radio at the same time! Peltor AM/FM radio headsets are a must for working in noisy environments. They are lightweight and comfortable, making it the perfect accessory for working safely in the workshop, on the job, in the yard, or at the races!

With Peltor's AM/FM radio headsets, you can tune in, protect your ears, and keep your hands free. Instead of the nerve-racking noise of power tools, lawn mowers, or working noise, you choose your favorite music, sports, news, or talk show station. Just put it on to tune out the noise and tune in the enjoyment!



cup
microphone
detail



WorkTunes™ 22

- NRR 22 dB
- Economical low cost
- Soft foam earcushions
- Headband fully adjustable
- AM/FM radio audio limited to 82 dB eqv.
- 2AA batteries required
- Worktunes22 forestry kit includes the orange/black hardhat mount Worktunes 22, wire mesh visor and hardhat with 6-point suspension

HRX52A 343-SV-GV Worktunes 22 Grey/Black
 HRX52A 343-SV-OR Worktunes 22 Orange/Black
 HRX52P3E 343-SV-OR Worktunes 22, Orange/Black, hardhat clip-in, headset only
 88024-00000 Worktunes 22 forestry kit

WorkTunes™ 25

- NRR 25 dB
- Soft foam earcushions
- Headband fully adjustable
- AM/FM radio audio limited to 82 dB eqv.
- 2AA batteries required

HRX79A GU Headband

Alert :: AM/FM Radio with Ambient Listening Ability

- NRR 25 dB
- Ambient listening cup microphones provide distortion-free, amplification of low level sounds up to 18 dB
- Audio jack for auxiliary radio input monitoring (see page 12 for audio patch cords available)
- AM/FM radio audio limited to 82 dB eqv.
- 2AA batteries required
- Rechargeable battery pack kit available (see page 2)

M2RX7A Headband
 M2RX7P3E Hardhat clip-in

WorkStyle :: FM Stereo Headset

- NRR 24 dB
- High fidelity FM radio receive electronics
- Soft foam earcushions
- Headband fully adjustable
- FM radio audio limited to 82 dB eqv.
- 2AA batteries required
- Rechargeable battery pack kit available (see page 2)

HTRXS7A2 WorkStyle



Scanner :: Listen-Only Headset

- Stereo/mono switch up on cup
- Curly cable – 2 ft long
- 3.5mm stereo plug
- Volume control knob
- 4 color team combinations to choose from

HTM52A-02 BM Scanner headset black/blue
 HTM52A-02 OR Scanner headset black/orange
 HTM52A-02 RD Scanner headset black/red
 HTM52A-02 GU Scanner headset black/yellow

* Scanner sold separately.



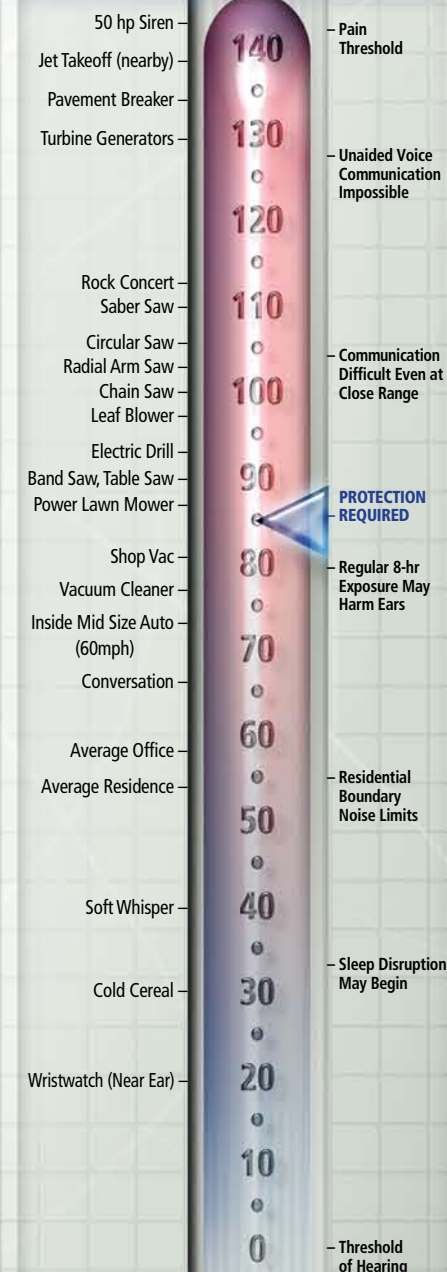
RaceTunes™ 22

- NRR 22 dB
- Audio jack mounted on headset, comes complete with mating patch cord cable (3.5mm-3.5mm stereo plugs) for scanner monitoring or CD/MP3/iPod listening
- Soft foam earcushions
- Headband fully adjustable
- AM/FM radio audio limited to 87 dB eqv.
- 2AA batteries required

HRX52A-01347-BD-GV RaceTunes 22



SOUND Level GUIDE



DECIBELS

tactical HEARING PROTECTORS

The "Listening" Muffs That Help Protect Against Harmful Noise While Amplifying Low Level Sounds.

The Tactical line of hearing protectors from Peltor are uniquely designed to give shooters the best of both worlds: Instantaneous protection from dangerous impulse noise such as gunfire, along with the distortion-free amplification of low level sounds such as range commands and conversation. The electronics are designed to limit amplified sounds to an ideal 82 dBA.

Tactical hearing protectors combine the high performance of our passive muff with advanced electronics. Wearers can hear low level sounds with remarkable clarity, but when dangerous noises occur the electronics limit the noise.

The performance of the Tactical hearing protectors from Peltor has led the way in the hearing protection industry for years and helped make them the gold standard of law enforcement, the military, and shooters all over the world.



Shooter PTL™

- NRR 25 dB
- New push-to-listen ambient listening electronic technology
- Electronics are turned on and off with a touch of a button located on the side of the earcup
- PTL tactical feature is mono in one earcup only
- Auto shutoff powersaving feature after 2 hours if PTL button not pressed
- Single AA battery compartment for 270 hours of operation
- Folding headband

97088-00000 Folding headband



TacticalPRO

- NRR 26 dB
- Folding padded headband, optional neckband version also available (NRR 25 dB)
- Ambient listening electronics provide distortion-free, amplification of low level sounds up to 14 dB
- Features Digital Sound Suppression technology
- Audio jack for radio input monitoring
- Auto shutdown power saving feature
- AA battery compartment for 1000 hours of operation
- Rechargeable battery pack available (see page 2)

MT15H7F SV Folding headband
MT15H7B SV Neckband



Tactical 7 Classic™

- NRR 24 dB
- Optional neckband model available, NRR 23 dB
- Padded, adjustable, Stainless steel headband
- Single knob, on/off/volume control adjustment
- Audio jack for radio input monitoring
- 9 Volt battery compartment for 80 hours of operation
- Ambient listening electronics provide distortion-free, amplification of low level sounds up to 25 dB

MT1H7A Headband
MT1H7B Neckband

Tactical 6S™/Soundtrap™

- NRR 20 dB
- Slim-line folding headband for compact storage, optional neckband version available (NRR 19 dB)
- Ambient listening electronics provide distortion-free, amplification of low level sounds up to 14 dB
- Individual cup on/off/volume control knob
- 4AAA batteries (2 per cup) for 300+ hours of operation
- Tactical 6S available in 2 camoflage patterns, RealTree MAX4 and Hardwood pattern

MT15H67FB-01 Tactical 6S, Compact folding headband
97039-00000 Tactical 6S, Neckband
97086-00000 Tactical 6S Hardwoods Green cup print, Olive green compact folding headband

97087-00000 Tactical 6S MAX 4 Cup Print, Olive green compact folding headband
MT15H67FB Soundtrap, Olive green model with audio jack option



Tactical Sport

- NRR 20 dB
- Ambient listening electronics provide distortion-free, amplification of low level sounds up to 15 dB
- 500 hrs on 2 AAA batteries
- Folding headband
- Digital 3 button touchpad
- Modular manufacturing
- Features Digital Sound Suppression technology
- Includes 2 spare interchangeable outer orange shells for use during hunting

MT16H210F-479-SV Tactical Sport



PowerComPLUS Shooting Range Communicator

- NRR 25 dB
- Wireless UHF 2-way Headset (462-467 MHz)
- 22 channels (GMRS-FRS frequencies), 38 CTCSS privacy sub-channels
- Ambient listening electronics provide distortion-free, amplification of low level sounds up to 18 dB
- 2 hour auto shutdown power saving feature
- 2AA batteries required
- For a complete list of accessories specific to this headset, refer to page 2

MT53H7A4610 PowerComPLUS / electronic ambient listening / headband



audio patch CORDS & accessories

FL6N	3.5mm stereo plug, 3 foot straight cable
FL6N-01	3.5mm threaded stereo plug
FL6M	2.5mm mini mono plug, 3 foot straight cable
FL6M-03	2.5mm mini mono plug, 8 inch curly cable
FL6H	3.5MM mono plug, 3 foot straight cable
FL6H-03	3.5mm mono plug, 8 inch curly cable
HY79	Replacement black earcushions and foam pads (pair) for TacticalPRO, PowerComPLUS and Tactical 7 Classic products
HY68	Replacement earseals & foam pads (pair) - green - Comtac, Soundtrap and Tac6 Camo
HY67	Replacement black earcushions and foam pads (pair) for Tac 6 MT15H67FB-01 and 97039-00000 and TacticalSport
FP9007-US	Blue headset carrying back (shown below), for OD green version order as FP9007-USGREEN





Belt Box Detail

EarCom™

The "in-ear", low profile design of Peltor's EarCom is a discreet, effective 2-way communication solution. Incorporating bone conduction technology, this earpiece offers both radio transmit & receive in one simple, comfortable earpiece.

- High quality radio receive audio – Monitor radio traffic discreetly
- Vibration conducting microphone for outstanding in-ear voice pick-up. No need to yell, both regular and whisper voice levels will transmit perfectly
- Curly section for unlimited head movement
- Small finger PTT with velcro strap can be custom mounted almost anywhere for hands-free radio transmit ability

MTM01	Motorola 3.5mm threaded plug, HT1000*, Astro Digital*	MTM05	Motorola FRS single pin plug, Talkabouts
MTM02	Motorola right angled 2.5/3.5 plug, GP300	MTM06	Motorola HT1000 plug
MTM03	Kenwood right angled 2.5/3.5 plug, TK260	MTM07	Motorola HT750 plug
MTM04	Icom straight 2.5/3.5 plug,	MTM08	Motorola EX500 plug
		MTM09	Kenwood TK380 plug

HearPlug :: 2-Way Headset

- Lightweight, robust headset with earplug
- Earplug blocks out ambient sounds to allow clear transmissions to be heard
- Hardwired in-line PTT cable assembly with radio cable connector

MT21HTM01	Motorola HT1000 style connector
MT21HTM02	Motorola GP300 style connector
MT21HTM03	Motorola HT750 style connector

For alternate radio connectors, please refer to price book or contact customer service

2-way Speaker Headset

- Lightweight, robust headset with over the ear speaker
- Speaker sits flush over the ear for ability to hear radio transmissions and ambient noises
- Hardwired in-line PTT cable assembly with radio cable connector

MT21HTM01-SP	Motorola HT1000 style connector
MT21HTM02-SP	Motorola GP300 style connector
MT21HTM03-SP	Motorola HT750 style connector

For alternate radio connectors, please refer to price book or contact customer service

Bander Headset

- Cloth headband wrap
- Flexi boom microphone
- Over-the-ear speaker
- Applications :: Urban conflict missions / Recon missions / Patrol duties
- Fits under both ACH and PASGT military helmets
- Includes a hardwired in-line push-to-talk terminated with AN/PRC-148 MBITR radio connector
- Includes one pair of Combat Arms Earplugs for high noise applications

88032-00000 Bander Headset

Com-Tac II & Swat-Tac II

- Talk-thru headsets designed for military and swat operations
- For use under PASGT and ACH ballistic helmets
- All exposed wires are made from re-inforced kevlar cable
- 2AA batteries required for 270 hours of operation
- Slim-line folding metal headband with soft leather overwrap
- Battery cover waterproof
- Mating radio push-to-talk adaptor cable required

MT15H69FB-47	ComtacII, Green OD Cups, 20" straight hardwired download, flexi boom microphone
MT15H69FB-47 SV	SwatTACII, Black Cups, 20" straight hardwired download, flexi boom microphone
MT15H69FB-61	ComtacII, Green OD Cups, 30" straight hardwired download, flexi boom microphone
MT15H69FB-61 SV	SwatTACII, Black Cups, 30" straight hardwired download, flexi boom microphone
MT15H69FB-19	Split audio Dual ComtacII, Green OD Cups, 2 x 20" download cables (one from each earcup), flexi boom microphone
MT15H69BB-47	Backband Comtac II, Green OD Cups, 20" straight hardwired download, flexi boom microphone, over-the-helmet strap
MT15H69BB-19	Backband Split audio Dual Comtac II, Green OD Cups, 2 x 20" straight hardwired download, flexi boom microphone, over-the-helmet strap



Mating Push-to-Talk Adaptor Cables

- Rugged adaptor box for extreme conditions
- Waterproof
- Recessed headset jack
- 360 degree swivel clothes clip on back

FL5018-02	Motorola HT1000/XTS2500/3000 series
FL5030-02	Motorola HT750 series
FL5040-02	MBITR (AN/PRC-148), 30" straight cable
88025-00000	25" curly extension cable for all FL5040 part numbers
88043-00000	10" straight extension cable for all FL5040 part numbers
FL4H	Panasonic CF-18 Tough Book extension adaptor for all FL5040 part numbers
FL5040-04	Same as FL5040-02 but with 10' straight cable
FL5040-05	LV2 & AN/VIC-3 Adaptor, 30" straight cable, U-329/U - plugs directly onto intercom - bail-out cable not required
FL5040-06	Same as FL5040-05 but with 10' straight cable
FL5040-07	Harris Falcon II H-250/U, 30" straight cable
FL5040-09	LV2 & AN/VIC-3 Adaptor, 30" straight cable, AP-107 - bail-out cable sold seperately

For full radio PTT listing, please refer to price book or contact customer service



FL5040-02 shown above

PTT Shroud Accessory TKD5502/1

FL7000 Series PTT + Lapel Mic

- Combines a lapel microphone and radio push-to-talk all into one unit
- Compatible with all Com-Tac II & Swat-Tac II headsets
- Speaker can be turned off and audio routed into headset only
- Headset jack integrated into top of microphone housing
- Great ergonomics

FL7014-02	GP300, GTX, P1225, SP50, P110, CT150/250/450/450-LS, CP100
FL7018-02	HT1000, XTS2500/3000/3500/5000 series
FL7030-02	Motorola HT750 series
FL7010-02	Icom Icom straight 2.5/3.5 plug
FL7078-02	Kenwood TK480/481, 290/390/380, TK2140/3140
FL7035-02	Kenwood TK220/320, 240/340, 430/431, 250/350/353, 260/360, 270/370, Free Talk, 3100



military & special ops Headsets

Clear and reliable communication is critical to the success of any operation.

Peltor's advanced electronic talk-thru headsets combine our most sophisticated ambient listening electronics with slim-line earcups to fit under most military and swat helmets including PASGT, ACH, MICH and TBH helmet systems.

The electronic talk-thru design will allow for continuous communication on 2-way radios even when batteries fail, only the talk-thru feature is inoperable until the batteries are replaced.

The talk-thru microphones are recessed and located in the front of each earcup. They offer omnidirectional ambient listening for 100% awareness of surrounding environmental conditions. The microphone electronics will instantaneously suppress harmful impact noises to 82 dBA inside the earcups, while amplifying low level noises and voices up to 18dB.

These headsets all require an in-line push-to-talk adaptor cable. Whether used in a HMMWW, STRYKER or in a portable radio field application, a mating adaptor cable is available.





Hardhat clip-in and neckband models are also available



SERVICE INTERCOM & ACCESSORIES

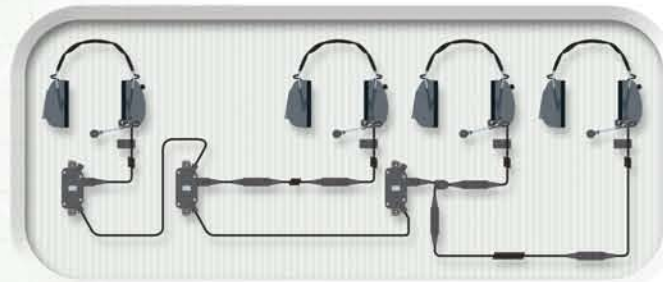
Peltor's Service Intercom is the simplest way to set up a portable or fixed intercom system for extreme noise environments.

In harsh noise conditions, wired intercom systems are often the only method of communication—particularly when the people communicating are relatively stationary and don't need to move around. Peltor Service Intercom is so versatile it can meet the needs of most applications, while offering several advantages over radio communication.

Service Intercom

- NRR 24 dB headband model
- Optional hardhat clip-in model (NRR 21 dB) and neckband model (NRR 23 dB)
- Up to 25 users can be connected at once
- Wire-bound system for fixed or mobile installation
- Simple and inexpensive to install
- Full duplex and adjustable vox control for varying levels of noisy environments
- Noise canceling boom microphone
- Coiled cord allows for unlimited head movement and placement
- 1 9-volt battery required
- The hardwired system set-up draws power from an external source, which also operates the headset electronics – no batteries required in this set-up

MT72H7A-40 Headband :: MT72H7B-40 Neckband :: MT72H7P3E-40 Clip-in hardhat mount



HARDWIRED SYSTEM

Intercom wiring runs through the Connector Box at designated work stations. One or more headsets may be used at each of these stations.



PORTABLE SYSTEM

Extension and split cables allow you to set up a portable system that meets your needs. From 2 to 25 users can be connected.

- TK51 Remote lapel PTT plugs into headset
- FL4D Splitter cable female-male-male
- FL6L Extension cable 0,1M straight, male-male
- FL3L Extension cable 4M curly, female-female
- FL3M Extension cable 10M straight, female-female
- FL3N Extension cable 25M straight, female-female
- FL3P Extension cable 50M straight, female-female
- FL3Q Extension cable 100M straight, female-female
- FL3R Extension cable 2M straight, male-female
- FB21 Connector Box female jack for hardwired system
- HY79 Replacement earcushions & foam
- FP9007-US Heavy duty headset carrying bag



Pumper panel headset station with radio PTT

EMERGENCY RESPONSE INTERCOM SYSTEM

Peltor's Y2000 Vehicle Intercom System is designed for emergency response personnel to clearly talk to each other while in transit to a situation.

The high background noise in the vehicle due to engines and sirens will no longer jeopardize communication and slow down response time upon arrival at the scene.

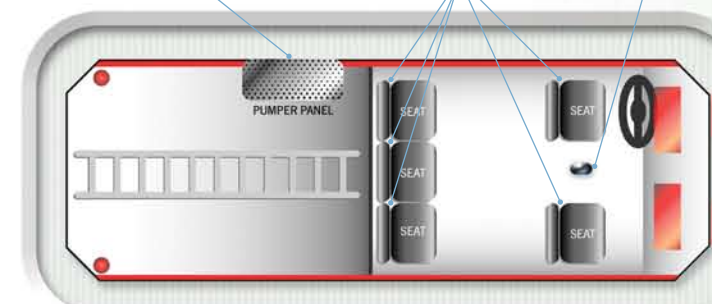
Peltor's advanced intercom electronics, combined with our excellent noise attenuating headsets, allow response time to be used for briefing crew members with crystal clear instructions. The Y2000 intercom has an easy layout design making it an exceptionally versatile and quick system to install. The durability and performance is guaranteed by using metal housings, military standard plugs & jacks, and EMI/RFI shielded cable assemblies.

Y2000

- Duplex intercom discussions
- Beveled cup design for optimum fit under fire helmets
- Available in neckband (shown above) and headband models
- All models also available with the radio PTT button installed on left earcup
- Easy installation – Connects to any vehicle radio system
- Sidetone capability for increased clarity when transmitting
- Master Station has 6 headset station inputs, radio/Power input jack with a 10' cable assembly included
- Headset stations available in three formats:
 - :: Intercom-only with volume control
 - :: Intercom with radio PTT button and volume control (radio PTT overrides intercom discussions)
 - :: Pumper panel with intercom/radio PTT, volume control, 15' curly extension cable"
- Noise canceling electret microphone

- MT51H31B-Y2 Neckband (yellow)
- MT51H31B1-Y2 Neckband (yellow), left ear slotted/open
- MT51H79A-Y2 Headband (black)
- MT1H7B-Y2 Electronic ambient listening headset - neckband (grey)
- HS-03 Intercom/Radio PTT headset station
- HS-04 Intercom only headset station
- HS-06 Pumper panel headset station
- MST Master station, includes 8 foot radio/power cable with flying leads

PUMPER PANEL Headset station INDIVIDUAL Headset stations master station



TYPICAL FIRETRUCK SYSTEM LAYOUT

The master station is positioned between the two front seats with individual headset stations positioned next to all remaining seats and side pumper panel area. The master station power/radio cable plugs into the back of the truck radio, the remaining individual headset and pumper panel headset stations run back and plug into the master station. For custom or alternate layouts, please contact customer service.





t h e s o u n d s o l u t i o n

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SouthBridge, MA 01550

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Federal Register

**Wednesday,
January 25, 2006**

Part III

Department of Labor

Mine Safety and Health Administration

30 CFR Part 49

**Underground Mine Rescue Equipment and
Technology; Proposed Rule**

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**Mine Safety and Health Administration****30 CFR Part 49**

RIN 1219-AB44

Underground Mine Rescue Equipment and Technology**AGENCY:** Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA), Labor.**ACTION:** Request for information.

SUMMARY: The Mine Safety and Health Administration is requesting data, comments, and other information on issues relevant to underground mine rescue equipment and technology. Over the last several years, improvements have been made to communication devices, sensors and other forms of technology in general industry. As such, continuous development and deployment of mine rescue equipment and technology are crucial to enhancing the effectiveness of mine rescue operations and improving miners' survivability in the event of a mine emergency. Responses to this request for information will assist the Agency in determining an appropriate course of action as necessary to improve mine rescue capabilities.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before March 27, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.

- E-mail: zzMSHA-Comments@dol.gov. Include the Regulatory Information Number (RIN) for this rulemaking (RIN 1219-AB44) in the subject line of the message.

- Fax: (202) 693-9441. Include RIN 1219-AB44 in the subject line of the fax.

- Mail/Hand Delivery/Courier: MSHA, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, 1100 Wilson Blvd., Room 2313, Arlington, Virginia 22209-3939. If hand-delivered in person or by courier, please stop by the 21st floor first to check in with the receptionist before continuing on to the 23rd floor.

- Instructions: All submissions must reference MSHA and RIN 1219-AB44.

Docket: To access comments electronically, go to <http://www.msha.gov> and click on "Comments" under "Rules and Regulations." All comments received will be posted without change at this Web address, including any personal information provided. Paper copies of

the comments may also be reviewed at the Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, 1100 Wilson Blvd., Room 2350, Arlington, Virginia.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Robert Stone, Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances, MSHA, 1100 Wilson Boulevard, Room 2350, Arlington, Virginia 22209-3939. Mr. Stone can be reached at Stone.Robert@dol.gov (Internet E-mail), (202) 693-9444 (voice), or (202) 693-9441 (facsimile). The documents also are available on the Internet at <http://www.msha.gov/currentcomments.asp>. MSHA maintains a listserve on MSHA's Web site that enables subscribers to receive e-mail notification when MSHA publishes rulemaking documents in the **Federal Register**. To subscribe to the listserve, visit the site at <http://www.msha.gov/subscriptions/subscribe.aspx>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Background**

When mine accidents occur, effective mine rescue operation can play a crucial role in ensuring the safe withdrawal of affected miners. Specialized rescue equipment and technology are important components of that effort. Section 501(a) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 directs the Secretary of Labor and the Secretary of Health and Human Services "as appropriate" to "conduct such studies, research, experiments, and demonstrations as may be appropriate—(2) to develop new or improved methods of recovering persons in coal or other mines after an accident; and (3) to develop new or improved means and methods of communication from the surface to the underground area of a coal or other mine." In addition, section 502(b) of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 (Mine Act) requires that the Secretary of Labor, to the greatest extent possible, provide technical assistance to mine operators in meeting the requirements of the Mine Act and in further improving the health and safety conditions and practices in the mines. The Mine Act also requires in Section 115(e) that the Secretary publish regulations for the availability of underground mine rescue teams.

We accordingly test, evaluate and approve certain technologies and equipment for use in mines (see, Title 30, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Subchapter B). We also promulgated requirements for underground mine rescue teams in part 49, 30 CFR, covering, among other things, team equipment, equipment maintenance, and training.

II. Current Status of Mine Rescue

The Sago Mine accident in West Virginia on January 2, 2006, that claimed the lives of 12 miners, has underscored the vital role that mine rescue operations play in response to catastrophic mine incidents. An MSHA investigation into the cause or causes of this accident, along with a detailed evaluation of the emergency response, is underway. Therefore, the role that the mine rescue played has yet to be determined and evaluated. We believe, however, that regardless of the outcome of the investigation, the role of equipment and technology in mine rescue efforts merits a separate review so that we can better assure that the best and most practically available equipment and technology are being deployed—and continuously upgraded—to maximize mine rescue responses and miner survivability in the wake of mine accidents.

III. Key Issues on Which Comment Is Requested

We are requesting comments, data, and other information on topics relevant to underground mine rescue equipment and technology. Public comment is invited in response to the specific questions posed below. Persons may comment on any other relevant aspects, issues, or questions relevant to mine rescue equipment or technology.

Commenters are encouraged to include any related cost and benefit (e.g., lives saved) data with their submission to this request for information. Any specific issues related to the impact on small or remote mines should also be identified.

When answering the questions below, please key your responses to the specific topic and number of the question, and explain the specific reasons supporting your views. Please identify and provide relevant information on which you rely, including, but not limited to, episodes of past experience, as well as data, studies and articles, and standard professional practices.

A. Rapid Deploy Systems

Rapid Deploy Systems are systems which are easily transportable for use in mine emergencies and which can be quickly set up to provide emergency service. An example would be a seismic sensing system for detecting movement underground, or an electromagnetic sensing system to detect signals transmitted by trapped miners. These systems may employ advanced technology and may be under development.

1. What kinds of rapidly deployable systems could be used to locate miners who are trapped by a mine emergency?

2. How would such a system work?

3. Is the system currently available? If not, what obstacles are there to the development and implementation of this type of system? How long would it take to develop the system?

B. Breathing Apparatus

A mine rescue breathing apparatus is a device which provides oxygen for a mine rescue team member to use in contaminated mine atmospheres.

1. U.S. mine rescue teams use devices by Draeger and Biomarine. What other types of breathing apparatuses are currently in use by foreign mine rescue teams?

2. Are these other types of breathing apparatuses the best available for quick response in mine emergencies?

3. Do these apparatuses incorporate the best available technology? Can they be readily obtained? Do they meet U.S. approval and certification standards?

4. How can they be improved? How long would it take and at what cost?

C. Self-Contained Self-Rescuers (SCSR)

SCSRs are devices that provide miners with an MSHA required one hour of useable oxygen to be used for a mine emergency escape. Currently, SCSRs rely on two different technologies. One type uses a chemical reaction to generate oxygen. The other type uses compressed oxygen.

1. Is there more effective technology to protect miners than the SCSR currently available? If so, please describe.

2. Should an SCSR be developed that provides more than one hour duration of oxygen? What duration is feasible considering that miners must carry the SCSR? Would it be desirable to require smaller and lighter SCSR with less oxygen capacity to be worn on miner's belts while at the same time requiring longer duration SCSR to be stored in caches?

3. MSHA standards require each mine operator to make available an approved SCSR device or devices to each miner. Should mines be required to maintain underground caches of SCSR for miners to use during an emergency, or should each miner have access to more than one SCSR?

4. SCSR are currently required to be inspected at designated intervals pursuant to 30 CFR 75.1714-3. Should SCSR be inspected more frequently than the current requirements?

5. SCSR service life is determined by MSHA, NIOSH and the device's manufacturer. The service life can range

from ten to fifteen years depending on the type of SCSR. Should the service life of SCSR be reduced to five years or a different time limit?

D. Rescue Chambers

A rescue chamber is an emergency shelter to which persons may go in case of a mine emergency for protection against hazards. A rescue chamber could provide, among other things, an adequate supply of air, first aid, and an independent communication system.

1. Should rescue chambers be required for coal mines?

2. What characteristics should they have? Should they be mobile? Should the rescue chamber be semi-permanent, or built into the mine?

3. How long should they support a breathable environment?

4. How many people should they support?

5. How many rescue chambers should be required—how far apart should they be located?

E. Communications

1. What types of communication systems can be utilized in an emergency to enhance mine rescue?

2. Current systems include permissible hand-held radios, hand-held radios using small diameter wires, pager systems, sound powered telephones, leaky feeder systems that "leak" radio signals out of and into special cables, and inductive coupled radios that use existing mine wires as a carrier for radio signals. Are there other systems?

3. Should a particular system be required over another? If so, which system and why?

4. What new communication devices or technology may be well suited for day-to-day operations and also assist miners in the event of an emergency?

5. How should information be securely, reliably, and quickly transmitted during emergencies from remote locations to the mine rescue Command Center, or from MSHA headquarters to District offices? What technology should be used to quickly and securely transmit information from the mine site to or from MSHA headquarters, to District offices, mining companies, and the media?

6. How can the number of relay points be minimized in a rescue situation so that communications do not get garbled or misunderstood?

7. How can communications be improved when a rescuer is wearing a breathing apparatus and talking through a speaking diaphragm in the mask?

8. PEDs are one-way communication devices that transmit text messages

through the earth to receivers which are carried by miners. PEDs are currently being used in nineteen mines throughout the U.S. Should PEDs be used even though they can only transmit signals to miners and are not bi-directional?

9. Can PEDs be developed into 2-way systems? If so, how long would it take and at what cost?

F. Robotics

A robot is a remote controlled device that can obtain and transmit information relative to the underground environment during mine emergencies. MSHA has pioneered the use of robots in mine emergency operations.

1. Besides providing video, gas readings and temperature readings, what other uses can be made of robotics in mine emergencies?

2. What could be the role of a robot in mine rescue operations?

3. What information could the robot supply to the Command Center?

4. What tasks could robots be built and programmed to perform?

5. Should individual mines use robots for emergency situations?

G. Thermal Imagers and Infra-Red Imagers

Thermal imagers are devices which provide video pictures of the heat emitted by objects underground. Infra-red imagers provide similar information through the use of the infra-red light spectrum.

1. What "thermal imagers" and "infra-red imagers" outside of those currently available in the U.S. are in use in other countries, and how can these be deployed in a mine rescue?

2. Permissible equipment is approved by MSHA to be safely used in gassy atmospheres. Should thermal and infra-red imagers be permissible equipment?

3. What are the costs associated with these devices?

4. Should all underground mining operations be required to have one of these devices available on-site?

H. Developing New Mine Rescue Equipment

1. What are the technological or economic problems in developing new equipment such as mine communications equipment or other mine rescue technology?

2. Do manufacturers of such equipment have problems with making the equipment permissible for use?

3. What are the specific problems?

4. Should the approval process for such equipment be streamlined or otherwise changed? Do current approval

standards allow the flexibility for developing new technology?

5. How can equipment manufacturers be encouraged to invest in new technologies for mine rescue equipment?

I. Mine Rescue Teams

Mine rescue teams are specially equipped and trained miners who enter mines during mine emergencies to rescue trapped miners and help recover mines. Teams are equipped with self-contained breathing apparatuses, gas detectors, mine rescue communication systems, and other specialized equipment.

1. What equipment should an effective team have?

2. Should the number of required breathing apparatuses per station be changed? How and why?

3. Each mine rescue station is required to have twelve permissible cap lamps and a charging rack. Each station is also required to have two gas detectors. Should the number of cap lamps and detectors per station be changed? How and why?

4. Where and how should that equipment be maintained?

5. MSHA requirements for mine rescue teams are found in 30 CFR part 49. These requirements cover such topics as type of equipment, equipment maintenance, team membership and training. What other equipment, technology, membership requirements and training would facilitate or would better facilitate team preparedness?

6. Should each team be familiar with the operation of the transportation equipment maintained at all the mines the team covers?

7. Some mine rescue teams are using breathing apparatus which, according to the equipment manufacturer, will soon become obsolete. How can existing mine rescue teams be encouraged to update the equipment and technology they use?

8. Should any new technology be used to assist mine rescue teams at mine emergencies?

J. Government Role

1. What equipment and technology should be promoted to improve mine rescue?

2. How should a mine's status (small, remote or operating under special circumstances) be taken into account in developing new or different equipment requirements?

2. How could our standards and implementation regarding mine equipment and technology be improved?

3. What training, instruction and procedures should be provided to miners to better enable them to survive an underground emergency?

4. What types of emergency supplies (timbering materials, ventilation materials, sealing materials, etc.) should be maintained at each mine site?

5. What non-regulatory initiatives should we explore?

6. What further steps should we take to improve the capability, availability and effective use of mine rescue equipment and technology?

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