

# SAFE WORK

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SPOT THE HAZARD  
ASSESS THE RISK  
FIND A SAFER WAY  
EVERYDAY

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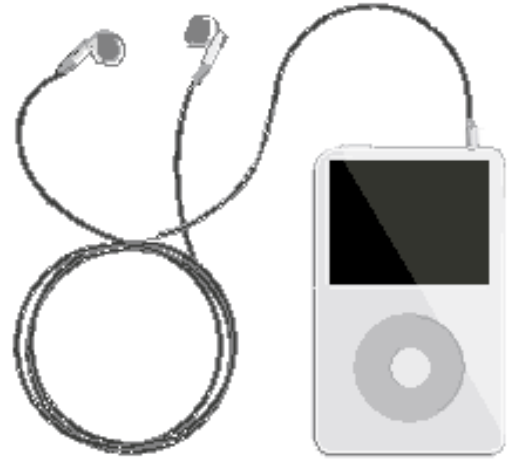
## Use of Portable Audio / Entertainment Units with Ear/Headphones

### Potential hazard:

It can be very hazardous for workers to use portable entertainment units with earphones or headset devices in or around the workplace as these devices impair a worker's ability to hear surrounding sounds. This is especially true if the user is working around moving equipment or in circumstances where a worker must be able to hear warning sounds. Furthermore, because these devices compromise the user's general alertness and concentration, they may be considered a hazard at any workplace.

Some examples of cautionary circumstances include:

- **the need to be alerted** to surrounding sounds or activity,
- **receiving verbal direction** and signals from other workers at the workplace,
- **any other circumstance** where the wearing of such a device impairs the ability of a worker to hear necessary sounds that ensure the worker's own safety and health, as well as that of co-workers.



**TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF ALL  
OUR EMPLOYEES ERWIN  
ELECTRIC STRICTLY PROHIBITS  
THE USE OF HEADPHONES  
AND EARBUDS WHILE WORKING.**

Additional workplace safety and health information available at: [www.safemanitoba.com](http://www.safemanitoba.com)

### Workplace Safety and Health Division Contact Information:

Winnipeg: (204) 945-3446  
Toll-Free: 1-866-888-8186 (Manitoba only)  
24-Hour Emergency Line: (204) 945-0581

Publications/resources available at: [www.safemanitoba.com](http://www.safemanitoba.com)

