

HAND-ARM VIBRATION EXPOSURE LIMIT

When advising your client on the control of hand-arm vibration at work, it is important to stress out that the EU exposure limit value of 5.0 m/s² is not entirely protective.

The ISO 5349-1 standard presents a chart where the time before the onset of finger blanching (vibration white finger) can be compared with the weighted vibration level for different percentiles of a population.

It can be seen that for 10 years of continuous exposure at the current exposure limit value of 5.0 m/s², 30% of the exposed population will develop vibration white finger.

Therefore, it is essential to reduce the exposure to hand-arm vibration to at least below the exposure action value of 2.5 m/s² and preferably as low as reasonably practicable.

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