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Treating Hearing Loss Pays Dividends on the Job

Treating hearing loss really does pay dividends.

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Poised for success: Treating hearing loss pays dividends on the job

The willingness to take action is the single most important ingredient for success. This is true in any career, in any business venture, and at any time in a person's life.

Addressing hearing loss on the job allows you to stay ahead of the game and helps you achieve success. In fact, the sooner you take action to address hearing loss, the sooner you'll see that treating hearing loss pays dividends on the job.

If you suspect that you may have hearing loss, you're not alone. Of the nearly 40 million people in the United States with hearing loss, the majority are still in the workforce. And more than 10 percent of full-time employees have a diagnosed hearing problem, according to EPIC Hearing Healthcare's, "Listen Hear!" survey. Another 30 percent suspect they have a problem but have not yet sought treatment. And still another study revealed that hearing loss is actually common among forty-something's - people who are in the prime of their careers.

The vast majority of people with hearing loss can benefit from hearing aids. And today's high-tech, sleek, and virtually invisible hearing aids are better than ever. They make it easier to hear sounds and people from all directions and filter out noise. Many of today's hearing aids sit discreetly and comfortably inside the ear canal and out of sight; and many are wireless, so they can interface easily with other high-tech devices like smartphones, conference-room speaker phones and hearing loops. Some are even waterproof, and others are rechargeable.

Achieving success really does take action. And addressing hearing loss is no exception. In fact, addressing hearing loss is a great way to put your best foot forward - and it pays off.

Consider these five ways that getting a hearing test and using professionally fitted

hearing aids, if recommended by a hearing care professional, could pay dividends on the job for you:

Let the boss know you're a go-getter. Addressing hearing loss sends the message that you want to succeed and that you're willing to do what it takes to make that happen. It also shows self-assurance and a willingness to deal with issues head-on.

Improve your on-the-job communications skills. A national study by the Better Hearing Institute (BHI) found that nearly seven out of 10 participants with hearing loss reported improvements in their ability to communicate effectively in most situations because they used hearing aids. They saw improvement in their ability to hear in business meetings, while talking on the telephone, in small gatherings, in quiet conversation and at restaurants.

Strengthen your work relationships. Good listening skills are important to understanding the needs of clients, customers and co-workers as well as to positive workplace interactions. So why allow treatable hearing loss to pose a barrier when a hearing test and hearing aids might help? Instead, take action to hear your best. Research shows people with hearing loss saw improvements in their work relationships when they used hearing aids.

Amp up your confidence. Enhanced self-efficacy is an important benefit of using hearing aids. Research shows that when people with hearing loss use hearing aids, they often feel less self-critical and more in control of their lives. One BHI study found that the majority of people with mild and severe hearing loss felt better about themselves and life overall as a result of using hearing aids.

Unleash your earning potential. Hearing your best at work helps you do your best. Using hearing aids reduced the risk of income loss by 90-100 percent for those with milder hearing loss, and from 65-77 percent for those with severe to moderate hearing loss, according to a BHI study. And people with hearing loss who use hearing aids are more likely to be employed than their peers who don't.

So go ahead. See how treating hearing loss can pay dividends on the job for you.

Take action now with a free, quick, and confidential online hearing check to determine if you need a comprehensive hearing test by a hearing health care professional. Go to the Better Hearing Institute's website at www.BetterHearing.org to find out more.