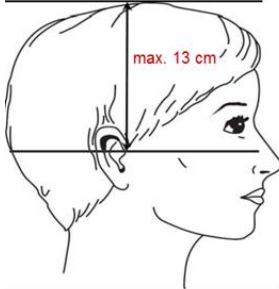




CO-ORDINATION OF NOTIFIED BODIES  
PPE Regulation 2016/425

PPE-R/04.053  
Version 03

RECOMMENDATION FOR USE

Number of pages: 1	Approval stage :	Approved on :	
Origin : VG4 Hearing Protection (submitted by PZT)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vertical Group	13/09/2017	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Horizontal Committee	31/07/2024	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EU PPE Working Group	31/01/2025	
Question related to	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PPE Regulation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EN/prEN: 352-1:2020	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Article:	Annex: II, 3.5	Clause: 6.2	
Key words: Earmuffs for children			
Question: Hearing protectors for babies, children and adolescents exist in a variety of shapes and sizes. The requirement standard EN 352-1:2020 aims at covering products for adults, but allows for three different head sizes (S, M and L). Under which conditions is it possible to test and certify earmuffs that are sold for children and adolescents according to EN 352-1:2020 and which additional requirements have to be fulfilled? Note: These products are of a size that complies with the requirements and testing procedures laid down in EN 352-1 and EN 13819-1 and -2.			
Solution: Earmuffs for children of five years and above can be certified against EN 352-1:2020. For younger children the sizes specified in this standard are not suitable. The earmuff has to fulfil the requirements for at least size S of EN 352-1. In the user information, two additional warnings shall be included in addition to the content specified in EN 352-1, 6: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- This earmuff shall only be worn by children of five years or above. At this age, the bone structure of children's heads will be fully formed, thus reducing the risk of any potential deformation. (Note 1: For children of a younger age size S is not suitable. Note 2: Personal communication with paediatricians showed that the fontanelles between the skull bones of children are mainly closed at the age of 18 months. Thus a minimum age of five years is on the safe side.)</li><li>- This earmuff is suitable for children with a head height up to xxx mm only. (Remark: Head height is the distance from the trignon to the level of the top of the head. The exact number has to be determined for each product separately. See figure below for an example with a head height of 130 mm.)</li></ul> 			
Moreover additional instructions and information for the parents shall be included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- A description how to fit the earmuff on the head of the child correctly.</li><li>- A warning to check and make sure that the earmuff is worn correctly and continuously by the child.</li><li>- A warning that the time a child stays in a noise area should be minimised.</li><li>- A warning that excessive usage time can have adverse long term effects, e.g. due to the pressure on the head; a recommendation for a usage time of approximately 90 min without break and approximately 3 h per day in total</li></ul>			