HEARING CONSERVATION AMENDMENT

(1) Hearing conservation program. (i) The employer shall administer a continuing, effective hearing conservation program as described in paragraphs (g)(1) through (i) of this section whenever employee noise exposure equal or exceed an 8-hour time-weighted average sound level (TWA) of 85 decibels measured on the A scale in accordance with sections 4.1.2; 4.1.3; 4.1.4; 4.2; 4.4.1; 4.4.2; 4.4.3; and 4.5 of the American National Standard Specification for Audiometers, S3.6 – 1969, which is incorporated by reference as Appendix D to this section.

(ii) Where circumstances such as high worker mobility, significant variations in sound level, or a conservation program and to enable the proper selection of hearing protectors. The audiometric evaluation shall be performed by making audiometric testing available to all employees.

(iii) If subsequent audiometric testing of an employee whose exposure to noise is less than an 8-hour TWA of 85 decibels measured on the A scale reveals a standard threshold shift, the employer shall notify the employee of the need to avoid high levels of nonoccupational noise.

(iv) The employer shall notify employees of the need to avoid high levels of nonoccupational noise.

(2) Audiometric testing. (i) The employer shall retain all employee audiometric test records obtained in accordance with this section:

(A) Has not yet had a baseline audiogram established pursuant to paragraph (g)(5)(ii); or

(B) Has not yet had a baseline audiogram established pursuant to paragraph (g)(5)(ii).

(ii) Audiometric tests shall be conducted by an employee who is required by paragraph (b)(1) of this section to wear personal protective equipment.

(iii) Each employee shall be provided with a hearing protector that is consistent with the employee's individual hearing loss and that is compatible with the employee's work requirements and any personal protective equipment used.

(iv) The employer shall maintain all employee audiometric test records obtained pursuant to paragraph (g)(5)(ii) of this section.

(c) Access to records. All records required by this section shall be provided upon request to employees, former employees, representatives designated by the individual employees, and the Assistant Secretary. The provisions of 29 CFR 1952.20 (a) and (j) apply to access to records under this section.

(1) Transfer of records. If the employee ceases to be employed, the employer shall transfer the successor employer all records required to be maintained by the successor employer. The successor employer shall maintain all employee hearing conservation program records pursuant to paragraph (g)(3) of this section:

(A) Has not yet had a baseline audiogram established pursuant to paragraph (g)(5)(ii); or

(B) Has not yet had a baseline audiogram established pursuant to paragraph (g)(5)(ii).

(i) The employer shall establish and maintain an audiometric testing program as provided in this paragraph by maintaining an audiometric testing program in which all employees' noise exposure equals or exceed an 8-hour time-weighted average sound level (TWA) of 85 decibels.

(ii) Audiometers shall be used to obtain baseline audiograms.

(iii) Audiotics shall be tested to be a licensed or certified audiologist, otoscopy, or other comparable person.

(iv) The employer shall maintain all employee hearing conservation program records pursuant to paragraph (g)(3) of this section:

(A) Has not yet had a baseline audiogram established pursuant to paragraph (g)(5)(ii); or

(B) Has not yet had a baseline audiogram established pursuant to paragraph (g)(5)(ii).

(i) The employer shall establish and maintain a baseline audiogram program as provided in this paragraph by maintaining an audiometric testing program in which all employees' noise exposure equals or exceed an 8-hour time-weighted average sound level (TWA) of 85 decibels.

(ii) Audionics shall be tested to be a licensed or certified audiologist, otoscopy, or other comparable person.

(iii) Audiotics shall be tested to be a licensed or certified audiologist, otoscopy, or other comparable person.

(iv) The employer shall maintain all employee hearing conservation program records pursuant to paragraph (g)(3) of this section:

(A) Has not yet had a baseline audiogram established pursuant to paragraph (g)(5)(ii); or

(B) Has not yet had a baseline audiogram established pursuant to paragraph (g)(5)(ii).

(i) The employer shall establish and maintain a baseline audiogram program as provided in this paragraph by maintaining an audiometric testing program in which all employees' noise exposure equals or exceed an 8-hour time-weighted average sound level (TWA) of 85 decibels.

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(iv) The employer shall maintain all employee hearing conservation program records pursuant to paragraph (g)(3) of this section:

(A) Has not yet had a baseline audiogram established pursuant to paragraph (g)(5)(ii); or

(B) Has not yet had a baseline audiogram established pursuant to paragraph (g)(5)(ii).

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