ArtUSA
Noise Control Products Inc.

Noise Exposure Survey

Call us at 888-454-6975 **Internet: www.noisecontrolproducts.com**

ArtUSA Noise Control Products Inc.
We are noise pollution solution providers. By offering engineering, fabrication and installation of the absolute best noise reduction and noise control products available our company has set the bar in the soundproofing industry. Sound-proofing is our passion. We design, fabricate and install acoustical panels, acoustical insulation, sound barriers, acoustical wall panels, sound-barriers, noise barrier, sound enclosures, acoustic insulation, noise barriers, sound proofing and sound barriers.

NOISE EXPOSURE SURVEYS

Noise exposure surveys are conducted to:

1) Identify employees with exposures over a time-weighted average (TWA) of 85 dBA who must be included in a hearing conservation program,

2) Establish a representative noise dose for each job category,

3) Classify the risk of noise induced hearing impairment for each job category,

4) Select adequate hearing protection,

5) Identify areas which should be considered for administrative or engineering controls, and

6) Determine the work relatedness of significant shifts in hearing thresholds.

A professional with appropriate training should also do an exposure survey.

There are two methods used to conduct exposure surveys. The first is called **personal monitoring**. In this method, dosimeters are worn by employees to continuously sample the noise. Dosimeter readings must be performed with caution because disgruntled employees can sabotage measurements. In addition, you must ensure that sample durations are long enough and that the noise exposure is representative. Dosimeter readings are most useful when employees are mobile within a large plant (e.g., refinery, petrochemical or power plants).

The second method is called **area monitoring.** Here, sound level meters are used to sample noise at representative employee locations. Based on these levels and information on employee movement into different areas or jobs, the long-term noise dose for each job category is calculated.

When conducted by a noise specialist, the area method is preferred because: 1) calibration is more accurate. 2) Infrequently operated plant equipment can be activated for a short time so its effect can be included in the noise exposure analysis, and 3) the resultant noise exposure profile provides diagnostic value and permits "what if" analyses to assess the affect of administrative or engineering controls.

An extensive noise exposure profile shows the sound levels measured in the plant, the partial noise dose of various job tasks, and the total daily noise exposure for each job category, a hearing loss risk assessment, and a recommended minimum rating for hearing protectors.