

I. PURPOSE

- A. To prevent MTE employees from incurring significant permanent hearing loss from noise exposure which may occur on the job.

II. SCOPE

- A. This policy is applicable to all MTE employees operating equipment and/or when exposed to other excessive noise to 85 dBA or greater over an eight (8) hour time weighted average.

III. PROCEDURE

- A. General surveys will be conducted periodically by Management to determine which jobs and/or areas are exposed to noise levels higher than 85 dBA.
- B. Annual audiograms will be performed on all employees exposed to 85 dBA over an eight (8) hour weighted average.
- C. Hearing protection device (HPD) will be made available and must be worn by persons exposed to an eight (8) hour time weighted average of 85 dBA or greater. At least three types of HPD's will be made available to employees. Only HPDs that will reduce employee exposure below 85 dBA will be provided.
- D. Training and education will be provided annually to all employees covered under this policy.
- E. Noise control engineering will be constantly investigated and exposures reduced where economically feasible.

IV. HEARING PROTECTIVE AREAS

- A. The following areas have been determined to expose employees to 85 dBA or greater on an eight (8) hour time weighted average. Personal protective hearing protection is required while persons are in these areas:
 - 1. Sawmill
 - 2. Boiler Room
 - 3. Stacker/Unstacker Area
 - 4. Planing Mill

V. REFERENCES

29 CFR 1910.95: Occupational noise exposure