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| **Workplace Safety and Health Committee Recommendation Form**(adapt to suit your needs) |
| **Meeting Date:**December 1, 1999 | **Chairperson:**Jack Mack | **Recommendation Number:** 1-5 | **Date Submitted:**December 1, 1999 |
| **Description of Item/Concern:**Staff are worried about loud noise from boilers and burners in the mechanical room. Many report ringing in their ears and decreased hearing after their shifts. Noise monitoring taken last week showed sound levels of from 91-97 dBA during peak working hours. Our workplace safety and health committee believes workers could suffer permanent hearing loss if this condition persists. |
| **We Recommend:**1. All workers be issued with high quality hearing protectors to protect their hearing.
	1. Timeline: within two weeks
	2. Estimated cost per year: $500
	3. Follow-up: Peter Smith, the workers’ manager, will follow-up on January 05, 2000
2. Workers be trained about the hazards of noise and how to use the hearing protectors properly.
	1. Timeline: within two weeks
	2. Estimated cost per year: none—Joe’s Safety Supplies will provide training free of charge if we buy hearing protectors from them.
	3. Follow-up: Jack Mack will follow-up on this by February 01, 2000
3. Measured noise levels be posted in the workplace to inform workers of the hazards present.
	1. Timeline: within two weeks
	2. Estimated cost per year: $30
	3. Follow-up: Local area supervisors will follow-up on January 05, 2000
4. All exposed workers to have their hearing tested.
	1. Timeline: Employer must arrange with a qualified audiologist to have all exposed workers tested. Appointments will have to be arranged by each worker.
	2. Estimated cost per year: As arranged with testing company.
	3. Follow-up: Joe Smoe, the human resources manager, will follow-up with workers every two weeks for the next two months to ensure they are aware of the need for hearing tests and are making appointments.
5. Relocate all controls to a central area and build a sound-proofed, separately ventilated room around them. Put several windows in the control room to allow workers to monitor operations.
	1. Timeline: during the next fiscal year (suggest completion by May 01, 2000)
	2. Estimated cost: $4,000
	3. Follow-up: Harry Secum and Jack Mack will follow-up with the employer on May 05, 2000.
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| **Reasons for Recommendation:***Short term* 1. All workers be issued with high quality hearing protectors to protect their hearing. Joe’s Safety Supplies informs us they have disposable units that will reduce noise reaching the ear to no more than 80 dBA. These units will not interfere with the ability of staff to communicate. The estimated yearly cost of purchasing a yearly supply of these units for all employees is $500. Joe’s Safety Supplies is willing to train our workers about the hazards of noise and how to use the protectors for free.
2. Noise levels be posted in the workplace to warn workers of the noise hazard present. Four signs will be required. Joe’s will sell them to us for $30 in total.

Workers be encouraged to have their hearing tested. The employer to arrange hearing tests during work time. Time at the tests will count as work time.Tests will help our workers determine if their hearing is being damaged and make appropriate life choices. It will also bench mark their hearing for future reference. *Long term* 1. We relocate all controls to a central place and build a sound insulated control room around it. The room will be separately ventilated and have several windows to allow operators to monitor conditions in the shop. Profit Corporation says they can do the work for us for about $4,000. However, they are busy with other work and will not be able to service us for at least two months.
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| **Signed***Jack Mack Harry Secum* |
| Employer Co-chairperson |  Worker Co-chairperson |
| Copy posted for the information of workers? Yes X No  |

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| **Description of item/concern**: |
| **We recommend**: |
| **Reasons for Recommendation**: |
| **Signed** **Employer Co-chairperson Worker Co-chairperson** |