Self-inspection checklist

Noise: hearing conservation

☐ Are there areas in your workplace where continuous noise levels exceed 85 dBA?

☐ Are noise levels measured using a sound-level meter or an octave band analyzer, and are you keeping records of these levels?

☐ Have you tried isolating noisy machinery from the rest of your operation?

☐ Have engineering controls been used to reduce excessive noise?

☐ Where engineering controls are not feasible, are administrative controls used to minimize employee exposure to noise?

☐ Is there a preventive health program that educates employees about safe levels of noise and exposure, effects of noise on their health, and use of personal protection?

☐ Are employees who are exposed to continuous noise above 85 dBA retrained annually?

☐ Have you identified and posted work areas in which noise levels make voice communication difficult?

☐ Does every employee working in areas where noise levels exceed 90 dBA use approved hearing protection equipment (noise attenuating devices)?

☐ Are employees properly fitted and instructed in the proper use and care of hearing protection?

☐ Are employees who are exposed to continuous noise above 85 dBA given periodic audiometric testing to ensure that you have an effective hearing-protection system?