OSHA REGIONAL NOTICE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR — Occupational Safety and Health Administration

DIRECTIVE NUMBER: CPL 17/05 (CPL 04)	EFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2016
SUBJECT: Regional Emphasis Programs for Noise Hazards	
REGIONAL IDENTIFIER: Atlanta Regional Notice	

ABSTRACT

Purpose: This notice renews an emphasis program for inspections of health hazards related to high noise levels and other industry recognized hazards in Sawmills, Planing Mills, Wood Pallets and Skids Manufacturers, Concrete Products Manufacturers (except block and brick), Plastic Products Industry, Fabricated Metal Products, and Poultry Slaughtering. NAICSs include 311615, 321xxx, 3261xx, 3273xx (except 327331), 332xxx, 336360, 336612, 337215, and 339113.

Scope: This Notice applies to all Region IV Area Offices, except State Plan Offices.

References: OSHA Notice CPL 02-00-160, Field Operations Manual

OSHA Instruction CPL 04-00-001, Procedures for Approval of Local Emphasis Programs (LEPs), and Appendix A, Program Evaluation Items for Local Emphasis Programs

OSHA Instruction CPL 02-00-025, Scheduling System for Programmed Inspections

Cancellations: Atlanta Regional Instruction CPL 16/05, this Instruction replaces and updates an earlier version.

State Impact: None

Action Offices: Enforcement Offices, except for State Plan Offices.

Originating Office: Atlanta Regional Office

Contact: Billie Kizer, Assistant Regional Administrator for Enforcement Programs, 678-237-0400

By and Under the Authority of

KURT A. PETERMEYER
Regional Administrator

Executive Summary

This instruction renews a Regional Emphasis Program to reduce occupational noise health hazards in Sawmills, Planing Mills, Wood Pallets and Skids Manufacturers, Concrete Products Manufacturers (except block and brick), Plastic Products Industry, Fabricated Metal Products, and Poultry Slaughtering. NAICSs include 311615, 321xxx, 3261xx, 3273xx (except 327331), 332xxx, 336360, 336612, 337215, and 339113. The REP ensures effective targeting, enforcement and outreach for hazardous working conditions in these industries.

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I. SUBJECT: Regional Emphasis Program for high noise exposures and other industry recognized health hazards.

II. PURPOSE: This instruction continues a Regional Emphasis Program to reduce occupational noise health hazards in Sawmills, Planing Mills, Wood Pallets and Skids Manufacturers, Concrete Products Manufacturers (except block and brick), Plastic Products Industry, Fabricated Metal Products, and Poultry Slaughtering. NAICSs include 311615, 321xxx, 3261xx, 3273xx (except 327331), 332xxx, 336360, 336612, 337215, and 339113. The REP ensures effective targeting, enforcement and outreach for hazardous working conditions in these industries.

III. REFERENCE: OSHA Notice CPL 02-00-160, Field Operations Manual
OSHA Instruction CPL 04-00-001, Procedures for Approval of Local Emphasis Program
OSHA Instruction CPL 02-00-025, Scheduling System for Programmed Inspections
SFPA, SHLMA, AND WWPA - Sawmill Noise Control Engineering Guide
NIOSH – Industrial Noise Control Manual
NIOSH - Topic Page "Noise and Hearing Loss Prevention"
OSHA - Noise Control: A guide for workers and employers (http://www.nonoise.org/hearing/noisecon/noisecon.htm)

IV. SIGNIFICANT CHANGES: None

V. EXPIRATION: This instruction will expire one year from effective date, unless extended.

VI. ACTION: OSHA compliance personnel shall ensure that the procedures contained in this notice are followed in conducting the Emphasis Program for noise.

VII. BACKGROUND:

Approximately 30 million workers are exposed to hazardous noise exposures on the job and over 9 million are at risk for hearing loss from occupational exposure to noise, which remains a persistent cause of employee illness in the workplace. Exposure to excessive levels of noise, coupled with inadequate personal protective equipment and the lack of an effective hearing conservation program continue to put workers at significant risk of permanent impairment. Noise-induced hearing loss is one of the most common occupational diseases and is the second most self-reported occupational illness or injury. In addition to hearing loss, other health hazards in these industries may include exposures to dust, silica, hexavalent chromium and organic solvents.

In FY 15, the area offices in the Federal States conducted a total of 256 inspections under the REP. Of those that were not incompliance, 71.8% resulted in serious violations. One hundred, fifteen noise violations were identified during those inspections and addressed. Two fatality investigations were conducted in facilities covered by the program.

VIII. INSPECTION GOALS:

The area offices shall conduct at a minimum 10 inspections under this program per fiscal year.

IX. SCHEDULING:

1. The area office will develop a list of establishments following the protocol provided in CPL 02-00-025, paragraph B.1.a.(2)c which states that when no establishment list is provided by the national office, the area director shall compile a complete list considering all establishments within the coverage of the office and using the best available information (e.g., commerce directories, commercial telephone listings, local permits, local knowledge, internet).
2. Adjustments to the list for additions and deletions will follow guidelines in CPL 02-00-025, paragraph B.1.b.(1)(b)(6).
3. After the establishment list for the area office has been adjusted as necessary, establishments on the list shall be numbered consecutively beginning with the number one, skipping deletions. Using a random number method and following the guidelines in OSHA CPL 02-00-025, Appendix C, a regional emphasis program inspection register shall be developed in the area office. Establishments will be selected in the order prescribed by the random numbers until the total of establishments selected equals the number of projected inspections for the year. The resulting list shall constitute the program inspection register.
4. Establishments may be selected from the inspection register for inspection in an order that makes efficient use of available resources. If any establishment on the inspection register is documented to be unavailable for inspection, the next originally unscheduled establishment according to the application of the random number table shall replace it on the inspection register.
5. Since employees are subject to multiple hazards at industries covered by the REP, at all inspections performed under this REP, the injury and illness records for the past five years shall be reviewed for trends that may identify a common hazard at the workplace. Where injury and illness trends are identified to have occurred and the industrial hygienist (IH) has the expertise (such as equipment familiarity and training) to address the hazards, the inspection shall be expanded to address these hazards. When the IH is not qualified to evaluate the specific hazards (such as safety hazards), a referral shall be made to safety for investigating the hazards.
6. Establishments with 10 or fewer employees are to be included in this program.

X. INSPECTION PROCEDURES:

1. All inspections will be comprehensive health inspections.
2. Noise measurements and hearing conservation evaluations will be conducted in accordance with Section III: Chapter 5 of the OSHA Technical Manual TED 01-00-015 [TED 1-0.15A]. The case file(s) will contain documentation of noise surveys, screenings, and sampling results.
3. Engineering controls will be evaluated for all high noise sources.
4. If other industry recognized hazards exist, they shall be evaluated.
5. Inspections under this REP will also identify and include procedures from

other applicable emphasis programs (NEP, REP, or LEP) for the covered NAICSs. Example: CPL 03-00-003, National Emphasis Program on Amputations conducted under this REP will address amputation hazards in accordance with Paragraph IX (C) of CPL 03-00-003.

XI. RECORDING IN OIS:

The Inspection Forms for all inspections conducted in establishments that are covered by this program shall be coded as regional emphasis program inspections and marked **"HINOISE."** If other emphasis programs are addressed during the inspection, those applicable OIS codes will also be included in the case file documentation. Example: amputation hazards, the Strategic Plan Activity on the Inspection Form shall be coded as "amputations."

XII. EVALUATION:

By October 31, of each year an evaluation report will be completed that shall include the following elements:

- The goal of the program
- The area director's opinion of how effective the program was in meeting its goal.
- Data and information to support the conclusions stated in the goal, including enforcement statistics; number of times engineering controls cited; number of violations cited related to hearing conservation; and the number of violations related to amputation hazards.
- Statement of whether the program should be continued, accompanied by a brief rationale.
- Description of any legal issues that arose which would necessitate a review by the Solicitor before renewal of the program could be approved.
- Any other comments or recommendations, including findings which might have an impact on how OSHA or the industry does business.

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