



UPDATE

The Newsletter of the
Council for Accreditation in Occupational Hearing Conservation

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CAOHC Reviews OHC Certification Process

CAOHC organized a special Focus Group on Occupational Hearing Conservation (OHC) certification on April 17th in Salt Lake City, Utah. The purpose of the meeting was to determine how to better respond to needs among OHCs and their professional supervisors in occupational hearing conservation programs.

CAOHC's Council is interested to learn what causes the variations in the certification process. For example, many OHCs apply for certification directly after a CAOHC-accredited training program. Others delay the certification process or never certify at all.

CAOHC is selecting methods to improve the certification process and to determine the strengths and shortcomings related to CAOHC certification.

In the past, OHCs have expressed concern that the certification process is not clearly explained in the training programs. Many OHCs leave the OHC training courses with the impression that mere attendance at the course grants CAOHC certification. This is not the case—there is an application process to complete once the course is finished.

Over the past few years, CAOHC has equipped Course Directors with more information and more materials to educate the OHC on the certification process. Some Course Directors—in order to expedite the certification process—even include the price of certification with the course fee.

Government and private authorities look on CAOHC as the major recognized authority on the training and certification of occupational hearing

conservationists in the U.S. CAOHC certification gives the individual OHC more credibility and offers training recognized by the highest standards.

The April 17th Focus Group was hosted by CAOHC's Immediate Past Chair Barbara Panhorst, its current Secretary-Treasurer Richard Danielson, and CAOHC's Executive Director Janet Haynes. The Council invited five participants active in the field of occupational hearing conservation and training: Andrew P. Stewart, MA, CCC-A, Timothy Swisher, MA, CCC-A, Melette Meloy, MS, Robert W. Edris, and Linda Dolby, RN.

The Council has selected this to be an important part of CAOHC's ongoing Long-Range Strategic Plan and is interested in input from *Update* readers. If you have any comments regarding the certification process, please let the CAOHC office know.

Applications Being Accepted for Fall Course Director Workshop

The October 1996 Course Director Workshop will be held Monday, October 7 at the Sheraton New Orleans in New Orleans, Louisiana.

You should attend this workshop if you are planning to recertify by the workshop method and are a CD who certified/recertified within the last five years. If you plan to attend the workshop for initial certification, you must complete an application, pay a \$100 non-refundable certification fee, and be approved by CAOHC's Screening Committee prior to the Workshop. Applications are currently being accepted and reviewed by CAOHC's Screening Committee. The

Screening Process takes a number of days to complete, so don't delay getting the application submitted. Applications will be accepted until September 6, 1996.

Registration for the workshop is \$225 and includes a CAOHC manual. (After September 6, a late fee of \$25 is added.) Recertification is an additional \$25.

This is an ASHA-approved program offered for .7 CEUs of continuing education credit. A brochure on the workshop is now available.

For more information on the CD application, refer to page 6, "The CD Application: Some Guidelines."

What's Inside?

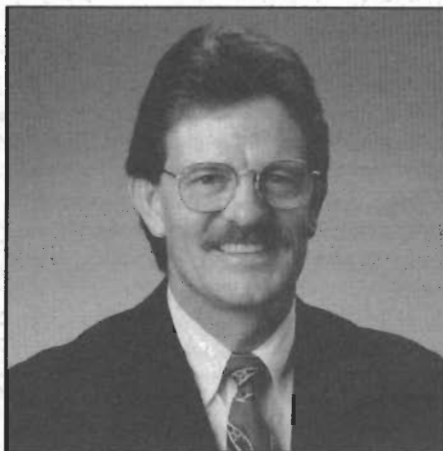
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Chairperson's Message

by Jeffrey C. Morrill, MS ~ Chair

The issue of OSHA recordability is more than an emotional one for managers and OHCs working in industry. It is a fact that company's safety records are often reviewed by outside contractors, insurance companies, potential employees and of course, OSHA. This is not a matter to be taken lightly, as a high incidence of recordable events can create costs to the employer in the form of higher contractor bids, insurance premiums and potential loss of corporate image.

The amount of *hearing shift* required to trigger a recordable event is currently 25 dB (average at 2, 3, and 4KHz) at the



Jeffrey C. Morrill, MS ~ Chair

federal level. State-OSHA requirements may vary (see "Noise in Washington over Hearing Loss Recordability", Susan Megerson, *Update*, Vol. 6.1, April 1995). As the article on page 4 of this issue outlines, OSHA is now recommending an average shift of 15 dB for the recordable event. Needless to say, that has raised a great deal of response from both industry and professional associations, and is under consideration by the Agency.

As the debate intensifies over recordability, all parties should not lose sight of the other important issues surrounding this action. OSHA has also recommended as part of their proposal that all shifts are to be recorded within a 7-day period and can only be lined out if a retest is conducted within 30 days of the test. This means that if a retest is conducted after the 30-day period and there is not a persistent shift in hearing (thus, a TTS at the annual), the employer could not exercise the line out procedure. Often companies do not receive the actual results of the annual test for several weeks following the test setting. In addition, scheduling the optional retest may exceed the 30-day period due to work schedules, clinic backlogs or employee absences and vacations. This would undoubtedly mean that many shifts in hearing would be recorded that are not persistent.

The other issue of importance in this recommendation is OSHA's presumption of work relatedness. We know that Temporary Threshold Shift (TTS) is

frequently an unexplainable event and frankly, often is not related to noise exposure on the job. Every OHC deals with employees that demonstrate fatigue, persistent tinnitus, complacency, anger, uncooperative behavior or may have personal ear disorders. These are very tough situations to obtain reliable audiograms and are difficult to detect in the routine test setting. The outcome is frequently STS that may not represent a valid test and certainly is not work related.

It appears that through these recommendations OSHA would like to encourage the rapid return of reports to the company by those professionals reviewing tests and simultaneously emphasize the importance of retesting in a prompt manner to effectively identify persistent shifts that are work related. If that is the case, I think we all can live with those axioms of good hearing conservation practice. In the course of setting the new criteria, the Agency should also consider the overall importance of the OSHA log on the employer's bottom line and listen to the professionals that have the ultimate responsibility for the hearing conservation program. The article in this issue of the *Update* references the overwhelming support of those organizations.

Let your voice be heard. There are over 16,000 CAOHC certified OHCs, most of whom are working in industry and many who have the OSHA 200 log responsibility. You will have to live with whatever the Agency considers to be appropriate.



UPDATE

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The *Update* is published three times a year. Articles should be submitted, with a black and white photograph of the author, by the first day of December, May, and September. The *Update* is available to individuals not certified by CAOHC at an annual subscription rate of \$15. Payment must accompany request:

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Opinions expressed in the *Update* are those of the authors, and do not necessarily reflect official CAOHC policy.

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New Service to OHCs

You can find CAOHC on the Internet! Look for our web site at:

<http://www.globaldialog.com/~caoh>

Or you can E-Mail our office at:
caohc@globaldialog.com

Seeking Employment

The *Update* publishes job opportunities in the field of hearing conservation, from both employers and employees. If you are an employer and would like to advertise an available position, please send your classified ad in writing, with a \$15 payment (check or money order) to CAOHC at 611 E. Wells Street, Milwaukee, WI 53202.

If you are an OHC looking for employment, please send a cover letter and your most recent resume. There is no charge to certified CAOHC OHCs for this service.

The *Update* received the following resume from an OHC who is currently seeking employment. If you would like additional information on any applicant, please contact the CAOHC office.

Patricia Moisan-Kithas is seeking a full- or part-time position in the Pittsburgh, PA area starting in June 1996.

She would like to assist corporations, businesses, and educational departments in meeting their needs in the area of clinical audiology, rehabilitation, hearing aid management, and hearing conservation.

She has experience with the Army's hearing conservation program.

Ms. Moisan-Kithas can be reached at 888 So. Dexter #304, Denver, CO 80222. Phone: 303/757-1548.

Please call Barbara Lechner at the CAOHC office for more information on publishing job opportunities.

Events

AOHC Conference ~San Antonio, Texas~

CAOHC recently exhibited at the American Occupational Health Conference (AOHC) at the San Antonio Convention Center in San Antonio, Texas. The conference (April 30 - May 2) is the annual spring meeting of both the American Association of Occupational Health Nurses and the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine.

The exhibits are aimed at updating participants on the latest technology, products, and services relating to pharmaceuticals, equipment, drug testing, ergonomics, software, environmental products and services.

CAOHC's presence at the conference helps AOHC attendees who are also CAOHC certified to verify their certification status; to review the Course Director Listing for upcoming CAOHC courses in their areas; to purchase the *Hearing Conservation Manual*; to review the *CAOHC Update*; or to find out how to become CAOHC certified.

CAOHC CD Workshop ~San Francisco, California~

CAOHC held its Spring Council Meeting and Course Director Workshop on February 20 and 21, respectively. The meetings were held at the Grand Hyatt on Union Square in San Francisco.

The workshop was designed to both certify new CDs and recertify current CDs whose certification period was ending. Workshop attendees gave the program very positive evaluations. CAOHC was an affiliate of the National Hearing Conservation Association Conference, and sponsored a Wine & Cheese reception for both NHCA and CAOHC attendees. Congratulations to all newly certified and recertifying Course Directors.

Dr. Maurice H. Miller Receives Award

The American Academy of Audiology awarded its *Career Award in Hearing* to Maurice H. Miller, Ph.D. at its Annual Convention in Salt Lake City on April 18, 1996. The award is presented to Dr. Miller "in recognition of his distinguished career in Audiology spanning forty years in teaching, research, and clinical service."

Dr. Miller was the first audiologist to be elected Chair of CAOHC's Council. He was also commissioned by the Council to write the first two editions of the *Hearing Conservation Manual* which is used to train occupational hearing conservationists.

Dr. Miller, a resident of Lawrence, N.Y., is a Professor of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology at New York University. He was formerly Chair of the NYU program. He has held academic

positions at the SUNY Health Science Center in Brooklyn, Columbia University and the College of Physicians and Surgeons and at NYU since 1963. For over 40 years, he directed clinical programs in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology at Kings County Hospital Center, Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center, Lenox Hill Hospital, Bellevue Medical Center and University Hospital of NYU Medical Center.

Dr. Miller is the Chief Audiological Consultant to the NYC Department of Health, a position he has held for over 35 years. He is also the Chair of the Health Departments's Advisory Committee on Communicative Disorders. He has published over 125 articles in peer reviewed journals, five books, and numerous monographs and chapters in major texts.

Dennis Driscoll Appointed President of NHCA

Dennis Driscoll, MS, PE, CAOHC's representative of the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA), has been named President of the National Hearing Conservation Association (NHCA).

Driscoll is currently the President and Principal Consultant of Associates in Acoustics, Inc. in Evergreen, Colorado. His term with NHCA began in February and will end February 1997.

Development of an AIHA Statement on a Recommended Criterion for Recording Occupational Hearing Loss on OSHA Form 300

By Elliott Berger, MS; Chair, AIHA Noise Committee

On February 2, 1996, OSHA published a notice of proposed rule making (NPR) in the Federal Register regarding Occupational Injury and Illness Recording and Reporting Requirements. Among other items, it addressed the issue of recordability of noise-induced hearing loss. In brief, OSHA recommended:

Employers would record any work-related case resulting in an average shift of 15 dB or more at 2000, 3000, and 4000 Hz in one or both ears as measured from employee's original baseline established under 29 CFR 1910.95. The hearing test may be adjusted for aging and the recorded case may be removed if a retest performed within 30 days does not confirm the original shift. A presumption of work-relatedness is used for hearing loss occurring to employees covered by the Noise Exposure standard, i.e. those who are exposed to noise levels in excess of an 85 dB 8-hour TWA.

OSHA also included questions in their proposal about whether 10, 20, or 25 dB would be more suitable, and if age corrections should be included. Public comments were welcomed at a meeting held from March 26 - 28 at the Department of Labor in Washington, and also in writing with a due date of May 2, 1996.

The American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) Noise Committee previously took a leadership role in this debate with the publication in the AIHA Journal of a position paper by Driscoll and Morrill [(1987) "A position paper on a recommended criterion for recording occupational hearing loss on the OSHA Form 200," Vol. 48(11), pgs. A714-A716].* Essentially the paper recommended a confirmed work-related STS (with age correction) as a recordable hearing loss. With this in mind, a coalition of professional and consumer organizations requested AIHA to review and if needed, update, the 1987 position paper.

The following position statement was developed by the AIHA's current Noise Committee. The position affirms the AIHA's 1987 position statement, with clarification regarding the actual recording of STSs on Form 300 (the replacement for Form 200), discussion of new material on recommendations for lining out STSs after the fact, and the addition of answers to various questions that OSHA included in their notice of proposed rule making.

This AIHA document formed the basis for a statement submitted to OSHA by the coalition of organizations referenced above. The coalition consisted of: •Acoustical Society of America (ASA) •American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) •American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) •Institute of Noise Control Engineering (NCE) •National Hearing Conservation Association (NHCA) •Council for Accreditation in Occupational Hearing Conservation (CAOHC) •Self Help for Hard of Hearing People, Inc. (SHHH). The Position Statement is as follows below:

The Position Statement

This position statement was prepared by the Noise Committee of the AIHA in response to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA's) request in the Federal Register, dated February 2, 1996, for comment concerning the issue of appropriate criteria for recording occupational hearing loss on OSHA Form 300 (previously designated Form 200). The Committee reaffirms the 1987 AIHA position, which was at that time also approved by the Board of Directors of the AIHA [Driscoll, DP and Morrill, JC 1987), "A position paper on a recommended criterion for recording occupational hearing loss on the OSHA Form 200," AIHAJ48(11), A-714-A-716].

In addition, from the research study commissioned by OSHA and conducted by Drs. L.H. Royster and J.D. Royster, OSHA also states (Federal Register, Volume 48, Number 36, March 8, 1983, page 9762):

"The Royster study found that an STS of 10 dB or greater average at 2000, 3000, and 4000 Hz produced the lowest annual percentage of unnecessary identifications (false positives) of the various definitions evaluated. Because of its concentration on the frequencies that are the earliest or the most severely affected by noise, the resulting high degree of appropriate identifications for follow-up and the simplicity of the definition, OSHA believes that the definition of STS which it is adopting today will contribute more to the effectiveness of hearing conservation programs than any other definition considered."

Recommended criteria for recording hearing shifts on Form 300

AIHA's recommendation is to record confirmed (i.e. persistent) work-related OSHA Standard Threshold Shifts (STSs) on Form 300. An STS is defined as a

change from the baseline audiogram of 10 dB or more in the average of thresholds at 2000, 3000, and 4000 Hz in either ear, after adjustments for age correction. The mere fact of exposure to TWAs of 85 dB or greater is not sufficient to confirm that an STS is work-related; rather, the complete procedure outlined on page A-715 of the 1987 position statement should be implemented. Also on page A-715 is discussion of the importance of recording confirmed 10 dB work-related shifts even though they may not represent compensable hearing loss.

Specific details regarding recordability of hearing shifts

In the 1987 AIHA position, statements were made concerning the requirement for a 30-day retest, and presumption of a persistent STS in the absence of such a retest. Those statements were based upon the OSHA requirements in the Hearing Conservation Amendment pertaining to a retest, potential notification of the

employee concerning any hearing changes, and subsequent follow-up [29 CFR 1910.95 (g)(7)(ii)]. However, in the current OSHA proposal it would appear that all shifts meeting the OSHA recordability-criterion, confirmed or otherwise, are to be recorded on Form 300, and then later lined out if found not to be persistent. This urgency in recording shifts, regardless of confirmation, does not appear justified, and creates additional burdens for the employer. A more efficient, and yet suitably protective and accurate approach is recommended as follows:

- Only confirmed (i.e. persistent) work-related STSs are to be recorded on Form 300, unless a follow-up audiogram is not administered as described in the following bulleted item. The steps involving confirmation of STS and work-relatedness include an optional follow-up audiogram and the procedures summarized in the following section of this document, which are described in greater detail on page A-715 of the 1987 position statement.

- If a follow-up audiogram is not administered within 30 days of the initial determination of the STS, or if the follow-up audiogram confirms the STS, then the shift is considered persistent, and if determined to be work related, must be recorded on Form 300.

- If a follow-up audiogram is given within 30 days of the initial determination of the STS that does not confirm the STS, nothing is to be recorded on Form 300.

Clarification regarding current OSHA proposal on work relatedness

The current OSHA notice of proposed rule making appears to make the presumption of work relatedness whenever an STS is detected, whether or not it is confirmed, as long as the employee is exposed to TWAs "in excess of 85 dB." The AIHA position does not support this recommendation, but rather requires confirmation of the persistence of the STS, as well as consideration of the employee's prior occupational and non-occupational exposure, evaluation of calibration records and the audiometric environment, investigation of related activities and personal medical conditions

that could influence thresholds, and age corrections, before a hearing loss is presumed to be work related. See page A-714 of the 1987 position statement for a discussion of possible causes of a measured change in hearing, and page A-715 for suggested steps to follow in the determination of work relatedness.

Procedure for lining out STSs from the Form 300

It is widely recognized that many occurrences of STS will be temporary in nature. Therefore, it is valuable to identify shifts in hearing while they are still temporary so that follow-up action can be taken before they become permanent. However, it is inappropriate to record such temporary shifts as indicative of the occurrence of occupational illness. Furthermore, companies are usually hesitant to record any incidents on Form 200 (proposed to be Form 300), even if lining out the event at a later date is an option. Therefore, the procedures in the preceding sections are intended to avoid needless recording and line outs. Despite these efforts, line outs may be necessary and should be permitted with the following stipulation:

- At the discretion of the reviewing professional, within 15 months of the initial identification of the STS, any STSs which are not confirmed by subsequent retesting or otherwise found to be not work related may be lined out on Form 300. Documentation justifying line outs must be provided and should be retained with the employees' records.

The 15-month time frame was selected since employers are only required to test hearing on an annual basis, and thus the recommended time frame should provide sufficient opportunity and leeway to apply the results of a succeeding annual test to the final determination of persistence and work relatedness.

Response to OSHA queries

Implicit in the AIHA position are answers to other of OSHA's questions.

- The recommended recording criterion is 10 dB for reasons described in the 1987 position paper and in attachment #2. In brief, AIHA disagrees with OSHA's assertion that an extra 5-dB allowance is needed to account for audiometric variability. The AIHA guidelines for evaluating work relatedness take audiometric calibration shifts into account; such audiometric errors occur infrequently and should be avoided. Random measurement variability can be reduced through retesting, and AIHA's recommendation that only persistent confirmed shifts be recorded minimizes this problem. It is unfair to allow additional true hearing loss among employees in hearing conservation programs with stable data in order to account for data deficiencies in poorer programs.

- Baselines for Form 300 should either be the original audiogram or the revised baseline [as defined in 1910.95(g)(9)]. Although the OSHA criteria for revising baseline audiograms are general in nature allowing a wide latitude of professional judgment, the results of a five-year effort of an ad hoc committee of the National Hearing Conservation Association (NHCA, March 1996) have recently resulted in specific consensus professional guidelines for baseline revision, that merit consideration.

- Presbycusis corrections should be permitted as described in the 1987 AIHA paper.

Supporting technical information

Dr. Julia Royster has applied the calculation procedures of ANSI S3.44-1996 to compute expected hearing loss resulting for typical occupational noise exposures, and she along with Mr. Andrew Stewart have also analyzed a number of industrial audiometric data bases. Their observations and conclusions, (supporting document #2 and #3), substantiate the recommendations described above.

The supporting documents referred to in the position statement are available from AIHA.

The CAOHC Course Director Application: Some Guidelines

By William H. Monk
CAOHC Screening Committee Chair

As the new Chairperson for the Screening Committee, I thought it might be useful to provide some guidance and helpful hints for completing the application for certification or recertification as a CAOHC Course Director (CD). It is important to understand that there are differences in the requirements for certification and recertification.

Certification Requirements

- 1) Certified by one of CAOHC's Component - Professional Organizations: American Academy of Otolaryngology - Head & Neck Surgery, American Association of Occupational Health Nurses, American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, American Industrial Hygiene Association, American-Speech-Language-Hearing Association, Military Audiology Association, and the National Safety Council.
- 2) Current licensure by state or territory of the United States for practice of medicine, nursing, or audiology; or certificate of clinical competence in audiology by American Speech Language-Hearing Association; or board certification by American Board of Industrial Hygiene; or current membership in the American Society of Safety Engineers.
- 3) The experience requirement can be met in one of two ways:

- a) documentation of a minimum of one year experience and 1000 hours directly working in hearing conservation during the past five years. It is important to be specific when describing your work experience, or
- b) participation as a faculty member in four CAOHC-approved workshops and 1000 hours directly working in hearing conservation during the past five years.

The 1000-hour experience must be met under both circumstances and **must** include letters/endorsements from your supervisor or professional colleague.

Applications are due in the CAOHC office at least 30 days prior to the upcoming workshop. Applications received after this 30-day cutoff are assessed a \$25 late fee.

New CDs must attend a CAOHC-approved 8-hour CD Workshop as well.

Recertification Requirements

- 1) Current certification as a CAOHC Course Director.
- 2) Current certification and/or licensure as indicated on the application.
- 3) The experience requirement can be met by:
 - a) attendance at a CAOHC or CAOHC-approved CD Workshop, or
 - b) served as a CD for five 20-hour OHC courses with no more than two courses in the same year, or

- c) obtain at least 75 hours of continuing professional education with a minimum of 50 hours directly in occupational hearing conservation, or
- d) combination of options b and c above, with each OHC course counting as 15 Continuing Professional Education (CPE) hours and a maximum of two courses in any one year.

CPE Option

When using the CPE option, you must provide documentation of the hours and the specific breakout of hours to indicate the 50-hour requirement in occupational hearing conservation. For example, a Course Director might attend the National Hearing Conservation Association Conference and then submit an NHCA program agenda with the application. Keep in mind it is important to keep accurate records of all your Continuing Professional Education experiences.

Certification Reminders

Any of the CAOHC Component Professional Organizations can request approval of a CD workshop. If you attend one of these workshops (for example, the Military Audiology Association sponsors a CD Workshop every five years for their own Course Directors), you must still submit to CAOHC the application and the required \$25 recertification fee to be recertified.

If you have questions, please contact the CAOHC office for clarification.

OHC Tips: Procedures for Checking Attenuation

To date there is no *standard* method for checking the attenuation of hearing protectors in the field, but there are procedures that OHCs can use that will give some very good information on how much help a protector is providing. These procedures can also be useful educational tools.

One procedure is to give a group of workers an audiometric test before the

beginning of the work shift and then again at the end of the shift. If the hearing threshold levels in certain workers show a deterioration in the second test, then the hearing protectors may not be providing sufficient attenuation (or they are not being worn). Counseling, refitting and retraining should improve the situation, and the tests can be repeated at a later date.

Another procedure that assesses attenuation more directly applies only to ear plugs. The OHC approaches a worker during the work shift and hands the worker a sign that says "Please don't touch your earplugs" and "Follow me." The OHC takes the worker to the audiometric test room and proceeds to test his or her hearing with the plugs in (Continued on pg. 7, See "Attenuation")

Upcoming OHC Certification and Recertification Courses*

Approved March 31, 1996

| Date | City | Course Director | Phone Number | Date | City | Course Director | Phone Number |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------|--|-----------------|-------------------|--------------|
| June 1996 | | | | June 1996 (continued) | | | |
| 6/3 | Ft. Sam Houston | Dale Ostler | 210/221-0773 | 6/12 | San Antonio, TX | John Elmore | 800/357-5759 |
| 6/3 | Iowa City, IA | Niel Ver Hoef | 515/282-8337 | 6/12 | Toledo, OH | Herbert Greenberg | 419/885-3848 |
| 6/3 | Pittsburgh, PA | Roger Angelelli | 412/831-0430 | 6/13 | Columbia, SC | Jane Prince | 713/869-6664 |
| 6/3 | Seattle, WA | Steven Hewkin | 360/476-3286 | 6/17 | Boulder, CO | Jane Prince | 713/869-6664 |
| 6/3 | Seattle, WA | Jane Prince | 713/869-6664 | 6/17 | Ft. Hood, TX | Lorraine Babeu | 817/286-7204 |
| 6/4 | Waterville, ME | Bruce Olsen | 207/872-4383 | 6/17 | Waterville, ME | Bruce Olsen | 207/872-4383 |
| 6/5 | Bellevue, WA | Mary McDaniel | 206/706-7352 | 6/18 | Greensboro, NC | Kirsten McCall | 910/665-1818 |
| 6/5 | Brooks AFB | Robert Edris | 210/536-2844 | 6/18 | Oakbrook, IL | Robert Connelly | 708/382-3095 |
| 6/5 | Indianapolis, IN | Allan Gross | 317/841-1065 | 6/19 | Baltimore, MD | John Elmore | 800/357-5759 |
| 6/5 | Miami, FL | John Elmore | 800/357-5759 | 6/19 | Chapel Hill, NC | Andrew Stewart | 919/967-2228 |
| 6/5 | Portland, OR | Rodney Atack | 503/228-6479 | 6/19 | Denver, CO | Dean Harris | 970/586-0702 |
| 6/5 | Tampa, FL | Melette Meloy | 205/980-0180 | 6/24 | New Orleans, LA | Jane Prince | 713/869-6664 |
| 6/6 | Austin, TX | Lloyd Lamb | 512/292-3553 | 6/25 | Brooks AFB | Robert Edris | 210/563-2844 |
| 6/8 | Honolulu, HI | Dennis Sekine | 808/487-9443 | 6/26 | Ft. Hood, TX | Thomas Helfer | 817/286-7204 |
| 6/11 | Long Beach, CA | Cindy Bloyer | 816/471-3900 | July 1996 | | | |
| 6/12 | Cleveland, OH | William Wolfe | 770/475-2055 | 7/10 | Atlanta, GA | William Wolfe | 770/475-2055 |
| 6/12 | Deadwood, SD | Marty Ann Apa | 605/578-2364 | 7/10 | Brookfield, WI | Edward Korabic | 414/547-2227 |
| 6/12 | Harrisburg, PA | Timothy Swisher | 412/367-8690 | 7/10 | Mobile, AL | Melette Meloy | 205/980-0180 |
| 6/12 | Indianapolis, IN | Melissa Lyon | 317/662-1702 | 7/10 | Newark, NJ | John Elmore | 800/357-5759 |
| 6/12 | Long Beach, CA | Cindy Bloyer | 816/471-3900 | * The listed dates indicate day one of the scheduled classes; certification courses are 20 hours in length; recertification classes are 8 hours. | | | |
| 6/12 | Portland, OR | Thomas Dolan | 503/725-3264 | | | | |
| 6/12 | Lafayette, LA | Jim Guillory | 318/233-3955 | | | | |

Attenuation

(Continued from page 6)
place. After that the OHC instructs the worker to remove the plugs and conducts another audiometric test. The difference between the two audiograms represents the amount of attenuation that the worker is receiving at each test frequency. Although the procedure may not be as exact as the laboratory tests, it gives both the OHC and the worker a very good idea of how the worker is doing with the ear plugs.

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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

I am a member of the U.S. military and am wondering if CAOHC offers a reduced certification fee to federal/military personnel?

Response:

CAOHC's Council recently voted to offer a special OHC certification fee of \$25 to

military and federal employees; the manual is available for \$10 to all government employees who have attended occupational hearing conservation courses taught by federal employees. There is an additional \$10 shipping and handling charge. This move was made in an effort to increase certification applications from such individuals.

The Council has been made aware of the fact that military/federal personnel are often reluctant to certify while working under the umbrella of the federal government. Enlisted soldiers consider the \$50 fee and the \$50 manual too expensive in the absence of government support.

Dear Editor:

What is your policy regarding duplicating materials from either of your publications: the CAOHC Update or the Hearing Conservation Manual, 3rd Edition?

Response:

A person interested in copying and distributing material from either the Update or the manual must contact the office each and every time material is wanted for duplication. If the CAOHC

office grants permission, the individual agrees to include the following statement on the reprint copy: "Reprinted with permission from CAOHC, 611 E. Wells Street, Milwaukee, WI 53202."

In addition, the individual agrees to send the CAOHC office three copies of the material to demonstrate the way the reprinted information was used.

Dear Editor:

I have noticed that many people in the field of hearing conservation use "CAOHC" behind their name. Is this appropriate?

Response:

CAOHC's name can be identified with a person by using the acronym COHC (Certified Occupational Hearing Conservationist) behind their name if and only if they attended and completed a 20-hour occupational hearing conservation program and applied for certification with a \$50 fee.

Hearing Conservation Manual, 3rd Edition
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Council Members & Their Represented Organizations

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