

# Crackdown needed on industry noise, expert claims

Business and industry should expect the U. S. Department of Labor to crack down on harmful noise affecting man in his work environment, an acoustic expert told college professors attending a unique teaching program at A&M.

Lee Wilson of TRACOR, Inc., an Austin-based sciences and systems group, said the 1970 federal Occupational Safety and Health Act regulations on noise exposure will be enforced, as well as all other health and safety areas of the act.

Speaking to 20 senior college teachers from throughout the nation attending the "Institute

for Occupational Safety and Health Instructors," Wilson reported Wednesday the Labor Department conducted over 4,000 OSHA noise-related inspections last year.

He predicted increased emphasis on reducing loud noise exposure in an effort to significantly cut employes hearing losses.

Wilson said OSHA investigators agree noise is not curable, but it is controllable. He also

reported management responsibility will not be limited to top executives, but will be a responsibility of middle and lower management too.

The college teachers are attending the course under a grant from the U. S. Public Health Service to TAMU. Dr. Ralph V. Vernon, institute coordinator here, said the main objective is for each participant to develop two courses in occupational safety and health

which will be taught at their individual colleges the coming school year.

Instructors are 15 TAMU faculty members from various colleges and 15 recognized experts from industry, business and the medical professions.

Wilson was assisted by Hogue Lewis, president of Audio-Medical Systems, Inc., Austin.

Lewis, a TAMU graduate, spoke on the technical aspects of

instruments used in sound and noise evaluations, and presented a workshop on actual use of the instruments.

Wilson noted noise means a particular sound with undesirable affects on people. It can be a personal annoyance or loud sounds, he said, but the key is the combined noise exposure levels daily.

He said noise from a jet airplane overhead approaches the

threshold of pain, with loudness measurements today conducted by a jury of listeners who respond to various noise levels.

Controls outlined by Wilson were engineering to reduce noise, administrative controls such as limiting employe contact with the noise, and personal protective equipment such as ear plugs and ear muffs.

He admitted while personal protective equipment are the re-

sponsibility of the employer, it is difficult to get employes to use them.

Wilson and Lewis outlined a variety of scientific and engineering approaches to the problems, gave the instructors a number of technical publications and demonstrated practical and scientific approaches to noise problem solving.

The institute continues through Aug. 18.

## TV Station

(Continued from page 1)

"At Bagley, programming was controlled from our truck parked next to the building. We will now be able to use the truck as a self-contained unit for remote broadcasts of athletic events, SCONA presentations or other events."

Other unique aspects of the ETV installation include studio lighting and arrangements in the large studio control room for TV production instruction. Physical placement of video switcher, monitors and window overlooking the studio were carefully planned to minimize eye-travel.

Seats behind the television director are equipped with student headsets to monitor control communications. A separate set of TV monitors will allow students to observe how a production is controlled.

Lighting has been modified for both studios to allow lights to be positioned and changed from the floor. Light changes in Bagley Hall account for most of the time ETV personnel put into programming, followed by set building and production.

The large studio has space for standing news, "Femine Touch" and interview-type program sets, with space left for special effects sets.

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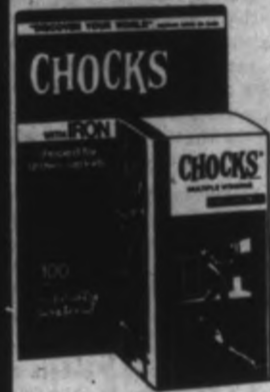
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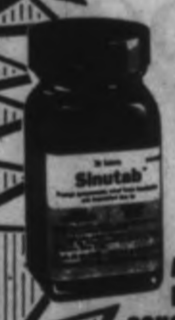


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