**Action level** - An 8-hour time-weighted average of 85 decibels measured on the A-scale, slow response, or equivalently, a dose of fifty percent.

**Audiogram** - A chart, graph, or table resulting from an audiometric test showing an individual's hearing threshold levels as a function of frequency.

**Audiologist** - A professional, specializing in the study and rehabilitation of hearing, who is certified by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association or licensed by a state board of examiners.

**Baseline audiogram** - The audiogram against which future audiograms are compared.

**Criterion sound level** - A sound level of 90 decibels.

**Decibel (dB)** - Unit of measurement of sound level.

**Hertz (Hz)** - Unit of measurement of frequency, numerically equal to cycles per second.

**High Noise Level Area** – An area characterized by background noise levels exceeding 85 dBA.

**High Noise Level Operation** – An operation that generates noise levels exceeding 85 dBA.

**Medical pathology** - A disorder or disease. For purposes of this regulation, a condition or disease affecting the ear, which should be treated by a physician specialist.

**Noise dose** - The ratio, expressed as a percentage, of (1) the time integral, over a stated time or event, of the 0.6 power of the measured SLOW exponential time-averaged, squared A-weighted sound pressure and (2) the product of the criterion duration (8 hours) and the 0.6 power of the squared sound pressure corresponding to the criterion sound level (90 dB).

**Noise dosimeter** - An instrument that integrates a function of sound pressure over a period of time in such a manner that it directly indicates a noise dose.

**Otolaryngologist** - A physician specializing in diagnosis and treatment of disorders of the ear, nose and throat.

**Representative exposure** - Measurements of an employee's noise dose or 8-hour time-weighted average sound level that the employers deem to be representative of the exposures of other employees in the workplace.

**Sound level** - Ten times the common logarithm of the ratio of the square of the measured A-weighted sound pressure to the square of the standard reference pressure of 20 micropascals. Unit: decibels (dB). For use with this regulation, SLOW time response, in accordance with ANSI S1.4-1971 (R1976), is required.

**Sound level meter** - An instrument for the measurement of sound level.

**Time-weighted average sound level** - That sound level, which if constant over an 8-hour exposure, would result in the same noise dose as is measured.