



24.0 Noise At Work



**This is an
ear protection
zone**

The company shall ensure that the risk of hearing damage is reduced to the lowest level reasonably practicable, e.g. by specifying and purchasing low noise equipment.

24.1 Noise Assessments

Noise assessments should be carried out where any employees are likely to be exposed to noise at or above the lower exposure action values or peak sound pressure set in national legislation. The noise assessment should:

- Identify where there may be a risk from noise and who is likely to be affected.
- Contain a reliable estimate of employees exposure to noise.
- Compare the exposure with the exposure action values and limit values.
- Identify what control measures are required to comply with the law.
- Personal hearing protectors to be made available to employees where necessary.
- Identify any employees who need to be provided with health surveillance.

The following levels have been set for European Union member states;

Lower exposure action values:

- Daily or weekly exposure of 80 dB(A).
- Peak sound pressure of 135 dB(C).

Upper exposure action values:

- Daily or weekly exposure of 85 dB(A).
- Peak sound pressure of 137 dB(C).



Exposure limit values must not be exceeded

- Daily or weekly personal noise limit of 87 dB(A).
- Peak sound pressure of 140 dB(C).

The exposure limit values shall take account of any reduction in exposure provided by hearing protection.

24.2 Environmental Noise

The company shall ensure that environmental or nuisance noise is kept to the lowest level reasonably practicable. Any complaints from neighbouring properties will be dealt with by the Senior team and records shall be kept.