

NOISE AT WORK

Work description: Noise at Work

Scope: Work activities that result in exposure to noise for employees

References:

- U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Occupational Safety and Health Standards for General Industry contained in Title 29 of the Code of Federal Regulations Part 1910 (29 CFR 1910) (§1910.95)
- State of Hawaii - Development Occupational Safety and Health Section (HIOSH) - Hawaii Administrative Rules Title 12, Department of Labor and Industrial Relations Subtitle 8, Hawaii Occupational Safety and Health Division Part 2, General Industry Standards Chapter 60 (§12-60-2(b) Safety and health programs.)

PPE and precautions

As per Noise Assessment

Competencies or qualifications

As per Task Risk Assessment

Licenses or permits required

N/A

Tools and equipment required

As per Noise Assessment


Note

Equipment operation (e.g., heavy equipment and power tools) often generates noise levels considered to be hazardous to site personnel. Personnel should not be exposed to noise levels in excess of 85 decibels, A-scale (dBA), without being provided with hearing protection (i.e., ear plugs or muffs). A good rule of thumb to determine if noise levels exceed 85 dBA is when a person must raise his/her voice to be understood when standing approximately 3 feet away from other individuals.

Noise at Work

All

Personnel exposed to noise levels in excess of 85 dBA based on an 8-hour time weighted average (TWA) shall be included in the HRH Hearing Conservation Program that includes annual audiometric testing and employee training. HRH subcontractors shall be responsible for maintaining an appropriate hearing conservation program in accordance with applicable regulations.

Activities commonly performed by employees that results in noise levels exceeding 85 dBA include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Operation of electric power tools such as circular saws, reciprocating saws, grinders, vacuums, etc.
- Operation of gasoline or diesel powered equipment such as generators, plate compactors, trash pumps, chain saws, chop saws, etc.
- Operation of heavy equipment without an enclosed cab or when working within 25 feet of heavy equipment
- Operation of drilling equipment
- Operation of pneumatic equipment such as jackhammers, compaction tools, air knives, impact wrenches, air chisels, double diaphragm pumps, etc.

During project activities, several steps can be taken by site personnel to reduce the levels of noise present in the work areas. These actions include the following:

- Procure "low-noise" equipment whenever possible.
- Properly maintain equipment.
- Increase the distance between equipment and personnel.
- Position equipment so that the exhaust is directed away from personnel.

Approved By:
☐ Director, Operations and Maintenance

☐ Department Manager

☐ Manager, HSE (Operations and Maintenance)

Signature:
Date:

Document Code YYY.YYY. Noise at Work.0

File Name HNL-09645-00.01-Noise at Work

Effective Date:

Rev No. 0

Page 1 of 1