

Workplace Noise and Vibration



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Workplace Vibration Assessments

The Control of Vibration at Work Regulations 2005 implements the Physical Agents (Vibration) Directive (2002/44/EC). The aim of the Regulations is to ensure that the health of employees is suitably protected from vibration exposure received at work. The Regulations require employers to:

- assess the risks to employees from exposure to vibration at work
- take action to eliminate the vibration risk at source or reduce the risk to as low a level as is reasonably practicable
- provide health surveillance for employees whose health is identified as at risk from vibration exposure
- provide information, instruction and training to employees whose health is identified as at risk from vibration exposure.

Environmental Compliance's occupational exposure specialists can undertake workplace vibration assessments. A typical assessment to comply with the Regulations would consist of:

- acceleration measurements (A_{rms} , A_{min} , A_{max} , A_{eq} , A_{mp} , peak, CF_{mp} , CF and vibration dose value) for hand arm vibration or whole body vibration
- ascertain usage time and the effects of combined tool use
- discussions with relevant employees.



Workplace Noise Assessments

The Control of Noise at Work Regulations 2005 implements the Physical Agents (Noise) Directive (2003/10/EC). The aim of the 2005 Regulations is to ensure that the hearing of employees is suitably protected from noise exposure received at work. The Regulations require employers to:

- assess the risks to employees (and others) from exposure to noise at work
- take action to eliminate the noise risk at source or reduce the risk to as low a level as is reasonably practicable
- provide suitable hearing protection where the exposure action values are exceeded and ensure that such equipment is maintained in good working order
- provide health surveillance for employees whose health is identified as at risk from noise exposure
- provide information, instruction and training to employees exposed to noise at or above the lower exposure action value.

Environmental Compliance's occupational exposure specialists can undertake workplace noise assessments. A typical assessment to comply with the Regulations would consist of:

- sound pressure level measurements (L_{Aeq} , L_{Amax} , L_{Cpeak} and calculated $L_{EP,D}$) for designating hearing protection areas and advising on suitable control measures
- octave band analysis to determine the effectiveness and appropriateness of hearing protection
- personal exposure monitoring using dosimeters for comparison with the exposure action values defined in the Regulations.

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