

Where do I go from here?...

Call us at dB Consultation Ltd to book us for a return visit, where we will use our expertise and experience to interpret the current Noise at Work laws and keep your company out of the headlines.



Noise at Work assessment at bottling plant



Noise at Work assessment at major car parts manufacturer



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**How much
could NOISE
cost your
company?**



WARNING
This is a designated
ear protection zone

**Initial Free
Noise At Work
Assessment**



The Next Step...

dB Consultation Ltd has many years of experience within all aspects of noise. A main area of expertise is that of Noise at Work Surveys. We have successfully completed Noise at Work surveys throughout several main industry sectors including food, chemical production and the automotive industries.

Now that you have had your free introductory session, our consultant will be able to point out the main areas that should be addressed. As with all things “noise” related, it is important to try to target the noise issues in the descending order of magnitude.



Monitoring at construction site

Important Notes

In order to comply with the NAW Regulations, you need to ensure that the Noise at Work Assessment is conducted by a person who is deemed to be “**competent to carry out the task.**” dB Consultation Ltd is a stand alone, non-preferential acoustic consultancy service provider. We hold full membership with the Institute of Acoustics (IOA), and each of our consultants are accredited accordingly. We have undertaken training in this specialist area of noise monitoring.

Process of the Survey

Your consultant will have decided on the most appropriate method of carrying out the assessment during this initial consultation session. An idea of timescales for the actual noise measurements will also have been concluded. Once the fees for the survey have been agreed, a schedule of events should be agreed upon by all parties. Once all aspects have been agreed upon, the assessment can begin.

What happens after the survey?

1. The results of the survey will be issued along with any recommendations that should be implemented, in order to satisfy the requirements of the “Control of Noise at Work Regulations 2005.”
2. Any immediate risks must be tackled as a priority. This may include providing hearing protectors as an **interim** procedure.
3. Agree on a Priority Action Plan (PAP) and implement as soon as possible.
4. It is not acceptable just to issue earplugs to employees. Employers need to “*ensure that the risk from exposure to his employees to noise is either eliminated at source or, where this is not reasonably practicable, reduced to as low a level as is reasonably practicable.*”
5. Once the action plans have been implemented, the improvements need to be checked in accordance with the law. These assessments should be carried out on an annual basis, OR when plant is replaced or new plant sourced.



Assessment at chemical plant

Did you know this about Noise?

- ◆ Noise induced hearing loss is the third biggest cause of industry based lawsuits.
- ◆ A persistently noisy workplace can **double** an employees risk of heart disease.
- ◆ 170,000 workers in the UK alone suffer from tinnitus, deafness or other related conditions as a direct result of exposure to excessive noise in their workplace.
- ◆ Approximately **3% of adults** will have a hospital visit and **8%** will visit their GP for tinnitus during their working life.
- ◆ Tinnitus occurs more frequently in persons who have some hearing loss at the higher frequencies (4, 6, 8kHz). Therefore, on the balance of probabilities tinnitus could be due to noise, therefore, probably compensatable.
- ◆ Coronary heart disease caused **101,000 deaths** in UK in 2006, of which **3,030** were caused by chronic noise exposure.
- ◆ On average there are **80,000** new reported sufferers of work related hearing problems every year, including tinnitus on an annual basis.

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