Agg:Net

Environmental Management System

Toolbox Talk 11 - Noise Pollution

What is needed?

Any procedures or external complaints relating to excessive noise pollution

Estimated duration

10 minutes

The discussion

Noise in the workplace may have an adverse effect on both people at work and those in surrounding neighbourhoods. Noise at a lower level can be an irritant and cause an environmental nuisance as a form of pollution. The polluting effect of noise is a direct result of the location of a site and the working hours.

A general reduction in noise on site benefits operators in their working position and will also benefit the environment.

The following ways to reduce noise should always be taken into account on every site:

- → Position plant away from site boundaries, particularly on sites with neighbours within a close vicinity
- → Make use of site huts and stockpiles as noise shields
- → Limit shouting and the use of radios on site in sensitive areas
- → Arrange material transfer points away from sensitive buildings and people
- → Arrange delivery times on site to suit the area, eg daytime deliveries in residential areas, night time deliveries in inner city areas
- → Use all silencing equipment available and keep panels closed on all generators and compressors
- → Switch off noisy equipment when not needed
- → Arrange traffic routes for mobile plant so the amount of reversing required is minimised, reducing the use of reverse warning bleepers
- → Observe restrictions on working hours.

By following these guidelines the levels of noise produced on site should be minimised, if you believe there is a noise problem on site inform your supervisor immediately.

Discussion point

What activities, operations and equipment can cause excessive noise pollution?





Training register

Date	
Name of attendee	Signature

