

# Risk Assessment

## RA044– Noise at work General



ABI Equipment Ltd	Creation Date: 18/01/2021
Noise at Work General	

Main Hazards are:	
Permanent noise induced hearing loss caused from noise produced from workshop tools	Temporary noise induced hearing loss caused from noise produced from workshop tools
Tinnitus caused from noise produced from workshop tools	Extreme tiredness due to tinnitus induced sleep problems
Accidents caused when an employee cannot hear safety instructions due to excessive noise	Accidents as the employee is unable to hear moving equipment or fire alarms.
Accidents caused when noise is a constant distraction	
Persons / Property affected	
All Employees working outside the welding bay shutter door	Visitors to the building
All Employees moving around the workshop	Neighbours in adjoining buildings

Assessment of Risk:	Severity	4	X	Likelihood	5	= Risk	20
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Control Measures already in Place	PPE Required
1. Before use the user must determine noise dB(A) and vibration level (the Exposure Action value (EAV) and Exposure limit value (ELV) for the selected hand tool including the maximum time the tool should be used for.	Safety helmets <input type="checkbox"/>
2. Tools with a noise level of 85dB(A) or a ELV reading above 5.0m/s <sup>2</sup> should be used in the welding bay where possible. If the tool is used outside the welding bay, then screens and warning signed should be used to protect other staff from the noise	Hi-Vis Jackets <input type="checkbox"/>
3. Hand tools must be inspected before use for any signs of damage or wear and tear.	Safety footwear <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4. Hand tools to be stored away from dust, extreme weather, and possible damage	Eye protection <input type="checkbox"/>
5. Hand tools that are damaged should be quarantined and marked do not use. If they cannot be repaired, they should be disposed of as soon as possible.	Dust masks <input type="checkbox"/>
6. Employees to record their exposure to noise and vibration on a task-by-task basis in the books provided.	Ear plugs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7. All hearing protection PPE must be suitable to the task in hand and should be inspected for damage and wear before use. If damaged the hearing protection should be disposed if and replaced.	Earmuffs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
8. All new equipment should be assessed for noise and vibration before it is purchased. The information should come from the manufacturers directly, be appropriate to the purpose the equipment will be used for and where possible be a significant part of the decision to purchase the equipment	Gloves <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9. All equipment should be regularly serviced and maintained, and the maintenance should be planned in advance.	Protective overalls <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10. Cutting surfaces should be kept sharp	Gauntlets <input type="checkbox"/>
11. Gripping hard or applying force to the tool should be avoided	Harnesses <input type="checkbox"/>
12. When selecting hearing protection care should be taken to ensure it will provide the suitable level of protection and that it is compatible with other types of PPE such as hard hats and goggles.	Breathing apparatus <input type="checkbox"/>
	Face masks <input type="checkbox"/>

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Assessment of Risk:	Severity	4	X	Likelihood	3	= Risk	12
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Additional Controls required	PPE/Equipment
All hand tools must have an annual inspection for noise and vibration. Last performed by CML on 11/01/2022	
Employees must report any hearing issues to their line manager as soon as they occur. Health surveillance will be provided where appropriate	
Managers to review the noise & vibration exposure books on a regular basis.	
Managers to spread tasks with high noise levels and high vibration levels over a day/week to reduce individual exposures	
Noise and Vibration must be a regular tool box talk and be covered in the induction of all new employees. Training should be given as required.	
Employees to be trained how to recognise and reports symptoms of noise damage	
The employee must be adequately trained and competent to use the hand tools	
Newly trained staff should be supervised until a suitable level of competency has been achieved	

Assessment of Risk:	Severity	4	X	Likelihood	1	= Risk	4
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Approval and Review		
Prepared by:	Cathy Sheehan	18/01/2021
Updated by	Ash Soliman	04/10/2024
Review by:	Ash Soliman	04/10/2024

RISK RATING = L x S			Hazard Severity (S)				
			1	2	3	4	5
			Negligible	Slight	Moderate	High	Very High
Likelihood (L)	1	Very Unlikely	LOW	LOW	LOW	LOW	LOW
	2	Unlikely	LOW	LOW	LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM
	3	Possible	LOW	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	HIGH
	4	Likely	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH
	5	Very Likely	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	HIGH	HIGH

Likelihood	
1. Very Unlikely	A freak combination of factors would be required for an accident/incident to occur
2. Unlikely	A rare combination of factors would be required for an accident/incident to occur
3. Possible	Could happen when accidental factors are present but otherwise unlikely
4. Likely	Not certain to happen but an additional factor may result in an accident/incident
5. Very Likely	Almost inevitable that an accident/incident would occur
Hazard Severity	
1. Negligible	Negligible injury, no absence from work
2. Slight	Minor injury requiring first aid
3. Moderate	Injury leading to a lost time accident
4. High	Involving a single person with a serious injury / death
5. Very High	Multiple persons with serious injury / death
Outcomes	
LOW	Score (1-6) May be acceptable. Annual Review to see if risks can be reduced further
MEDIUM	Score (8-10) Identify controls must be identified or specific method statement required
HIGH	Score (12-25) Task <b>must not</b> proceed. Senior Management to consider if the risks can be reduced by purchase of additional training, additional equipment, additional staff, additional signage, safe system of work, permit to work or radical changes in method.

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