

## S7 - Noise Pollution

To minimise noise pollution and its impact on local communities and our staff we undertake to assess the noise created by our vehicles and clients.

It is important to show consideration to others. We must ensure that we are protecting the wellbeing and enjoyment of our colleagues, neighbours, clients and general public and keep noise levels to a minimum.

The following points have been assessed as potential hazards and pollution:

- The noise sensitivity at our operating centre and customer locations.
- The noise levels of vehicles and operational equipment.
- Potential and predicted noise pollution and who could be affected.
- Noise pollution reduction measures such as vehicle specification, equipment and procedures.
- Code of practice to communicate appropriate driver behaviour.

Included in our policy are the following rules and procedures:

- Our policy is that engine idling is not allowed. Unless this is required by site rules and for the purpose of running ancillary equipment or hydraulics, our staff will turn their engine off.
- We will not run hydraulics and ancillary equipment unnecessarily as this creates noise that may disturb others.
- We will only use your vehicle horn in an emergency.
- No unnecessary activities to be carried out at the operating centre during anti-social hours.
- Where possible the company will minimise the movement of HGV's entering and leaving the operating centre.
- All audible warning systems to be turned off at the operating centre during the hours of 18.00hrs and 06.00hrs in the event of emergency delayed vehicle return.
- Weekend activity to be kept to a minimum. Wherever possible work can be carried out during a weekday.
- Radios to be silenced when entering or leaving the operating centre and site.
- Routes to and from site in accordance with site rules. You must follow the site rules and any traffic management plans that have been issued by the site, client of the company.

### The Noise Pollution Champion is Maggie Webb

Care is taken to ensure that the correct ear protection is selected and used by our driver when required. It is essential that whilst it offer protection it does not block out other surrounding noises including warnings issued by others. The vehicle type/machinery used does not create excessive noise that requires ear protection to be worn however this is required by site rules.

A risk assessment has been carried out for our vehicle and it considers the requirement of the regulations and to ensure that all risks are assessed eliminated or minimised to safe level.

Our deliveries and collections are to various sites and most sites have their own site rules as to when ear protections is required to be worn.

Each driver is issued with Ear-muffs / Defenders for when site rules necessitate or the driver through the training he has been given decides that there is a need to wear them.

## Factsheet

### The main types of hearing protection are:

Ear-plugs | **Ear-muffs** | Canal caps/semi-insert earplugs

#### Ear-muffs

Ear-muffs, also known as ear defenders, are hard plastic cups that fit over and surround the individual's ears and are sealed to the head by cushion seals. These are usually manufactured from plastic materials with a metal or plastic head band and foam or liquid ear cushion. Depending on the material used, the ear-muffs can irritate skin around the ears, particularly in warm weather.



#### ✓ Advantages

- more protection at higher frequencies than ear-plugs
- designed to fit most people
- less time and effort required to apply
- easy to supervise and monitor
- not easily misplaced or lost
- various noise reduction ratings available
- can be worn with minor ear infections
- re-useable, durable and longer lasting than ear-plugs.

#### ✗ Disadvantages

- rather less portable and relatively heavier than ear-plugs
- requires adequate storage facilities
- can be uncomfortable in hot and humid environments
- rather expensive to buy or to replace
- can be inconvenient to use with other personal protective equipment.

The company has assessed the noise impact from the operating centre and the drivers are not involved in any activity other than their driving responsibilities and the noise levels produced by the vehicles have assessed above.

Our deliveries and collections are to various sites and most sites have their own site rules as to when ear protections are required to be worn. All regular delivery and collection locations have been assessed within an ongoing program and as they all have their own site rules the drivers are trained to abide by the rules.

#### Noise Stats:

We carried our noise assessments 3 times through the day on a weekly basis. The average for this period is below.

07:00 – While the vehicles are still in the yard before they about to leave

12:00 – Once our vehicles have left and the only people left on site are office staff

16:00 – When our vehicles are coming back to site.

On Average over the past 4 weeks.

07:00 – 77.9 db

12:00 – 72.4 db

16:00 – 77.5 db

Date: 02.01.24

Signed: *G White*

Director on behalf of NMT Crane Hire Ltd.

Review Date: 02.01.25

NMT Plant Hire

Telegraph House, Windsor Road, Bedford, Beds, MK42 9TA

