

AS 2436—1981

Australian Standard<sup>®</sup>

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**GUIDE TO NOISE CONTROL ON  
CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE  
AND DEMOLITION SITES**

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The following scientific, industrial and governmental organizations and departments were officially represented on the committee entrusted with the preparation of this standard:

Australian Acoustical Society  
Australian Compressed Air Institute  
Australian Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors  
Confederation of Australian Industry  
CSIRO, Division of Building Research  
Department of Environment, South Australia  
Environment Protection Authority, Victoria  
Institution of Engineers, Australia  
Master Builders Federation of Australia  
National Association of Australian State Road Authorities  
Society of Automotive Engineers—Australasia  
Sydney City Council

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This standard, prepared by Committee AK/9, Noise from Pneumatic Tools and Machines, was approved on behalf of the Council of the Standards Association of Australia on 12 January 1981, and was published on 1 April 1981.

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*This Standard was issued in draft form for comment as DR 79158.*

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First published . . . . . 1981
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PUBLISHED BY STANDARDS AUSTRALIA  
(STANDARDS ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA)  
1 THE CRESCENT, HOMEBUSH, NSW 2140

ISBN 0 7262 2177 5

## PREFACE

This standard was prepared by the Association's Committee on Noise from Pneumatic Tools and Machines. It is concerned with noise from construction, maintenance and demolition sites as it affects persons working on these sites and also those living and working in the neighbourhood. This standard provides guidance in noise control on such sites and includes guidance in investigation and identification of noise sources, measurements of sound and guidance in assessment with a view to planning measures for noise control and monitoring of their effectiveness. This standard may be useful for training courses for engineers, builders, architects and other persons who are likely to be involved in construction, maintenance or demolition work.

Construction, maintenance and demolition works pose different problems of noise control compared with most other types of industrial activity, since—

- (a) they are mainly carried on in the open;
- (b) they are often of temporary duration although they may cause considerable disturbance while they last;
- (c) the noise arises from many different activities and kinds of plant, and its intensity and character may vary greatly at different phases of the work; and
- (d) the sites cannot be divorced by planning control, as factories can, from areas which are sensitive to noise.

Much of the noise from construction, maintenance and demolition sites is caused by machinery. In some cases the noise levels generated may be unacceptable and reductions are necessary for the benefit of both the industry and the public.

Noise from construction, maintenance and demolition work may cause impairment of hearing to persons working on site and may be a cause of annoyance to people living and working in nearby premises, and to people outdoors in the vicinity.

In this standard, measures are listed which can be adopted by those concerned in the planning and implementation of construction, maintenance and demolition works to ensure that good practice is employed. Any such measures should always have due regard to safety. Many responsible sections of industry already make use of the measures included

in this standard for noise control in construction, maintenance and demolition sites.

Some information on responsible authorities, estimation of noise from sites, levels of neighbourhood noise, monitoring procedures, typical sound levels from plant, noise sources, remedies, screens and enclosures are given in appendices.

In the preparation of this standard, considerable assistance was derived from BS 5228, Code of Practice for Noise Control on Construction and Demolition Sites.

This standard makes reference to the following Australian and International publications:

AS 1055	Code of Practice for Noise Assessment in Residential Areas
AS 1259	Sound Level Meters Part 1—Type 1, General Purpose Part 2—Type 2, Precision
AS 1269	SAA Hearing Conservation Code
AS 1270	Hearing Protection Devices
AS 1633	Glossary of Acoustic Terms
AS 2012	Method for Measurement of Airborne Noise from Agricultural Tractors and Earthmoving Machinery
AS 2221	Methods for Measurements of Airborne Sound Emitted by Compressor Units Including Primemovers and by Pneumatic Tools and Machines Part 1—Engineering Method for Measurement of Airborne Sound Emitted by Compressor/Primemover Units Intended for Outdoor Use Part 2—Engineering Method for Measurement of Airborne Sound Emitted by Pneumatic Tools and Machines
SAA MP44	Guide for the Use of Sound Measuring Equipment Part 1—Portable Sound Level Meters
ISO/R 1996	Acoustics—Assessment of Noise with Respect to Community Response

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