

Noise and vibration control on construction and open sites

Part 2. Guide to noise and vibration control legislation for construction and demolition including road construction and maintenance

ICS 17.140.20; 17.160; 91.200

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Committees responsible for this British Standard

The preparation of this British Standard was entrusted by Technical Committee B/209, General building codes, to Subcommittee B/209/17, Noise control on open sites, upon which the following bodies were represented:

- Association of Consulting Engineers
- British Aggregate Construction Materials Industries
- British Coal Corporation
- British Compressed Air Society
- Building Employers' Confederation
- Chartered Institute of Environmental Health
- Concrete Society
- Construction Health and Safety Group
- Construction Plant-Hire Association
- Department of the Environment (Building Research Establishment)
- Department of the Environment (Pollution Control and Waste Directorate)
- Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors
- Federation of Dredging Contractors
- Federation of Piling Specialists
- Institution of Civil Engineers
- Sand and Gravel Association Limited

This British Standard, having been prepared under the direction of the Sector Board for Building and Civil Engineering, was published under the authority of the Standards Board and comes into effect on 15 May 1997

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First published as BS 5228
May 1975
First published as BS 5228 : Part 2
May 1984
Second edition May 1997

The following BSI references relate to the work on this standard:
Committee reference B/209/17
Draft for comment 96/101065 DC

ISBN 0 580 26866 7

Amendments issued since publication

Amd. No.	Date	Text affected

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Foreword

This Part of BS 5228 has been prepared by Subcommittee B/209/17 and covers the control of noise and vibration from construction and demolition sites. It supersedes BS 5228 : Part 2 : 1984, which is withdrawn.

BS 5228 refers to the need for the protection of persons living and working in the vicinity of such sites and those working on the sites, from noise and vibration. It recommends procedures for noise and vibration control in respect of construction and demolition operations and aims to assist architects, contractors and site operatives, designers, developers, engineers and local authority environmental health officers and planners, regarding the control of noise and vibration.

Noise and vibration can cause disturbance to processes and activities in neighbouring buildings, and in certain extreme circumstances, vibration can cause or contribute to building damage.

Noise and vibration can be the cause of serious disturbance and inconvenience to anyone exposed to it and in certain circumstances noise and vibration can be a hazard to health. The Environmental Protection Act 1990 [1] in England and Wales (and Scotland by virtue of the Environment Act 1995 [2]) contains provisions for the abatement of nuisances caused by noise and vibration. The provisions of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 are extended to vehicles, machinery and equipment in streets by the Noise and Statutory Nuisance Act 1993 [3], the Control of Pollution Act 1974 [4] in England, Wales and Scotland, and the Pollution Control and Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 1978 [5] in Northern Ireland. The 1974 and 1990 Acts (sections 73(1) and 79(7), respectively) and the 1978 Order (Article 53(1)) define 'noise' as including 'vibration'.

It should be noted that BS 6472 covers the human response to vibration in structures and BS 7385 : Part 1 covers the measurement and evaluation of structural vibration. BS 7385 : Part 2 contains guidance on damage levels from groundborne vibration.

NOTE. An item dealing with the vibratory loading of structures is being processed within ISO/TC 98/SC/2, Safety of structures. This is being monitored by BSI.

BS 5228 consists of the following Parts:

- Part 1 *Code of practice for basic information and procedures for noise and vibration control*
- Part 2 *Guide to noise and vibration control legislation for construction and demolition, including road construction and maintenance*
- Part 3 *Code of practice applicable to surface coal extraction by opencast methods*
- Part 4 *Code of practice for noise and vibration control applicable to piling operations*
- Part 5 *Code of practice applicable to surface mineral extraction excluding coal¹⁾*

BS 5228 : Part 1 is common to all the types of work covered by this and the other Parts of BS 5228, which should be read in conjunction with Part 1.

Other Parts will be published in due course as and when required by industry.

¹⁾In preparation.

Attention is drawn to the Control of Pollution Act 1974 [4] (Part III(Noise)), the Environmental Protection Act 1990 [1](Part III (Statutory Nuisances and Clean Air)), the Noise and Statutory Nuisance Act 1993 [3], the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 [6] (in Northern Ireland, the Pollution Control and Local Government (Northern Ireland) Order 1978 [5] and the Health and Safety at Work (Northern Ireland) Order 1978 [7]), and to the Noise at Work Regulations, 1989 SI 1790 [8] and the Noise at Work Regulations (Northern Ireland), 1990 Statutory Rules 147 [9].

Compliance with a British Standard does not of itself confer immunity from legal obligations.

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