


Safety Info Sheet:	Simple. Sensible. Safety.	
Noise Survey Information Sheet	SITK Ltd t/a Safety is the Key Health & Safety Consultants www.safetyisthekey.co.uk	

The Control of Noise at Work Regulations 2005 require employers to carry out a noise risk assessment where any employee is likely to be exposed to noise 'at or above the lower exposure action' level.



As a rough guide, there are likely to be noise risks that need managing wherever you have to raise your voice or have difficulty being heard clearly by someone about two metres (six feet) away.

As far as peak noise levels are concerned, the lower exposure action value is likely to be exceeded wherever there are noises due to impacts (such as hammering, drop forging, etc.) or explosive sources (such as cartridge-operated tools).

Every employer must decide what action (if any) they need to take to protect workers from noise at work. Common examples of action taken include:

- Establish ear protection zones (i.e. erect safety signs)
- Ensure employees wear ear protection (issued free of charge)
- Renew (or maintain) the noisy equipment
- Enclose machinery or plant so the noise is reduced

A simple noise survey will often determine if there is a real noise issue at work.

The requirement is to eliminate noise at source or, where this is not reasonably practicable, reduce it to as low a level as is reasonably practicable.



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	Telephone: 020 8406 5039 Email: info@safetyisthekey.co.uk	  
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