

ACOUSTICS2008/719 Measurement strategies according to the new ISO/DIS 9612

Jürgen Maue

BGIA - Institut for Occupational Safety and Health, Alte Heerstraße 111, D-53757 Sankt Augustin,
Germany

The European Directive 2003/10/EC on noise protection at the workplace has given the impact for the revision of the ISO 9612 describing the measurement and assessment of occupational noise. The ISO/TC 43 "Acoustics" decided that the revision should only contain requirements for the determination of the noise exposure for the purpose of assessing potential hearing damage.

Meanwhile a new Draft ISO/DIS 9612 has been presented, which gives a detailed description of three alternative measurement strategies for the determination of the noise exposure level. Moreover the standard provides a method for estimating the uncertainty of the results.

The measuring strategies, called "task based measurements", "job based measurements" and "full day measurements" are illustrated and compared to each other. The choice of the appropriate strategy is explained, depending on the complexity of the work situation and the movements of the worker doing his job. Based on practical experience some comments are given, which may help to reduce time and effort of measurements. The evaluation of measurement uncertainties is explained in a few words.