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**Re-evaluating Noise Criterion in Digital Audio Recording**  
**Environments**

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The absence of audible noise in recording studios is highly desirable. For this reason, the acoustic design of recording facilities usually involves an accurate assessment of the audibility of background noise. However, noise criterion that sets levels for inaudible noise do not take in account the sensitivity of today's digital recording equipment and post production processing. Noise-level criterion and measurement techniques exist in order to created an atmosphere where noise is rated at a level of audibility with respect to the type of space being measured. In this paper these criterion will be analyzed in terms of critical recording spaces. The criterion will be considered in terms of current building practices and digital audio recording equipment used. A set of questions were sent to working sound engineers in order to received first hand opinions regarding noise issues in recording studios. It is not the intention of this report to suggest a new noise criterion but rather to better understand existing problems which could then help in the creation of a more relevant noise criterion to be developed in the future.