

ACOUSTICS2008/2082 Implementation of the noise directive in music and entertainment sector in Finland

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In the noise directive (2003/10/EC) the member countries were obliged to develop codes of conduct for the music and entertainment sector. In Finland the code of conduct was adopted into use in February 2007. According to this code of conduct the workers in the music and entertainment sector consist of performers (musicians, singers, conductors and actors), staff exposed to music (waiters,...) and teacher who teach music in schools. Guidelines were designed based on the worker group and the type of employment. In this approach the performers, who actually produce the "noise", must be able to monitor the sound levels in real time. Restaurants and music halls design the protective actions for other staff based on the assumption that predefined sound level is not exceeded the premises. The same principle is applied to schools. For temporary staff there must be hearing protectors available. Also the need for damping and use of quieter instruments is recognised.

The code of conduct give the principles for the hearing conservation, but for the music and entertainment sector direct application of the principles is too complicated. Implementation examples are needed for all exposure patterns. This work is going on now in Finland.