

Environmental Management System- Procedure

Noise Control

July 2019.v1

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2 Sisters Food Group





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1.0 Introduction

Site D is situated on an industrial site, neighbouring a residential estate. Due to the nature of site activities, and the characteristics of the surrounding land, noise has been identified as a risk that must be managed and monitored.

Informed by noise assessments executed at site, noise sources and receptors have been identified, and control measures are in place. Noise surveys are stored in the 'Records' section of the EMS (Environmental Management System).

2.0 Scope

All activity on site.

3.0 Responsibility

The site Engineering Manager & Site SHE Manager are responsible for this procedure and are committed to maintaining the integrity of all methods to minimise noise pollution.

3.1 SHE Manager

The SHE Manager along with the Environmental Assistant is responsible for ensuring that the procedure is updated and implemented when any major changes occur on site that may have an impact on the noise volumes emitted. They are responsible for ensuring that all systems are in place, complaints are dealt with properly (investigations and corrective actions), monitoring the effectiveness of mitigation measures, and building and maintaining a rapport with local residents.

3.2 Engineering Manager

The engineering manager is responsible for the engineering team and contractors, ensuring that they adhere to correct operating times, and procedures in place to mitigate noise pollution. This includes briefing any contractors that come to work on site.

The engineering manager is responsible for ensuring that the SHE manager and Environmental Assistant are aware of any project, maintenance or repair works to allow notification to stakeholders who may be impacted by any noise emitted.

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4.0 Procedure

This procedure identifies the potential noise sources on site, normal and abnormal, the risk ratings, how we mitigate them, and how we deal with complaints.

3.3 Noise and Vibration Sources

Noise and vibration sources have been identified by external noise impact assessments, as well as internally executed noise impact assessments. These will be risk assessed further on in the procedure.

4.0.1 Normal Conditions

The following sources have been identified to potentially emit noise and vibration pollution. These sources are a part of normal working conditions:

- Factory and equipment use,
- Refrigeration units and compressors,
- Vehicle reversing alarms (Lorries and forklift trucks),
- Engine idling,
- Handheld transceivers,
- Employees shouting,
- Alarm testing,
- Vehicles accessing and egressing site,
- Vehicles loading and unloading on site,
- Forklift movement,
- Cars and staff arriving to / leaving site.

4.0.2 Abnormal Conditions

There may be some circumstances that cause noise and vibration which our outside of our usual activities. These abnormal conditions could relate to weather, breakdowns, or upgrades.

4.0.3 Weather

In the summer months, between April and October, external compressors are used to support the internal refrigeration systems, the placement of these are shown in Map 1. They can be a source of both noise and vibration, and whilst determined as undisruptive, they are within a close proximity to receptors, and are on at a time where neighbouring properties windows may be open.

4.0.4 Breakdowns

Due to the nature of the site, its products, and its customers, production is a priority. If it is interrupted due to broken equipment, repairs will be considered urgent and will be executed as soon as possible. This could occur during unsociable hours if not managed properly, increasing the risk of noise pollution.

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4.0.5 Upgrades

Upgrades and engineering work could occur at any time. Upgrading is necessary to ensure that we keep up with BAT (Best Available Techniques), stay efficient, and provide the best possible product. Due to our lengthy operating hours, we have small window to complete any upgrades, which poses a risk if normal operating hours are not followed. In some cases, upgrades may increase the occurrence of noise sources that are typical to normal operations, i.e., increased use of forklift trucks, vehicles accessing site, and more footfall in the rear yard.

4.1 Impacts

Noise and vibration can have several impacts:

- Structural damage from vibration,
- Interrupted sleep,
- Annoyance and nuisance,
- Interfering with people's enjoyment of their property.

Should any development occur that increases the risks of noise pollution they will be reviewed prior to implementation and any required control measures will be implemented.

4.2 Risk and Mitigation

To mitigate the impact of our activities, we have measures in place for each risk identified. The table below addresses each source, potential receptors, risk rating, and chosen methods of mitigation, referencing locations displayed on Map 1 and Map 2 (see pages 9 and 10). The noise sources and risk ratings have been determined using two noise assessments. The first was held in 2020, and second in 2023 following the installation of external compressors. Internal knowledge of the site and previous incidents have also been considered in the below table.

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| Source | Description | Location | Risk Rating/ Impact | Mitigation |
|---------------------------|--|--|---|---|
| Factory and equipment use | Noise and potential vibration from machinery running | Source: Internal within the factory Receptor: Northern boundary of site. | Low: Factory machines and equipment are contained within the building. There are doors on the northern wall of the building which lead to the factory. Noise could be heard if left open. | No production outside of permitted working hours. Doors leading into the factory are kept shut at all times. |
| Vehicles | Accessing and egressing site. Sirens to indicate turning and reversing. | Source: Dial Lane and Richmond Street, intake area of the yard (see Map 1) Receptor: Residents on Dial Lane, Brickhouse Lane, and Ebenezer Street | Medium: The noise may be heard by neighbours on the western, northern, and north-western boundaries of site. Due to frequency and quantity of lorries. This occurs between 5:00AM- 12:00PM. | We have a noise control log which records what time lorries arrive to and leave site to ensure they are not working beyond permitted hours. |
| | Loading and Unloading: could include the use of a manual / electric pump truck, or an electric man rider. | Source: see Map 1, area labelled intake. Receptor: North-western boundary of site residential homes. | High: Sound could travel to residents on northern boundary of site during times where ambient noise is low. 5:00AM- 23:00PM | Forklift truck use is restricted past 23:00 |
| | Idling whilst parked up to keep refrigeration running, either whilst waiting to enter the yard, or whilst loading/ unloading | Source: Yard (see map 1), Richmond Street, south boundary of site. Receptor: Residents residing on Brickhouse Road and Dial Lane. | High: High number of lorries to cope with the rate of production means that lorries tend idle off site daily to keep refrigerated trailers running | Log is kept recording timings of lorries arriving to and leaving site. No parking zone along Dial Lane and Richmond Street. |
| Refrigeration plant | External: Compressor units. Potential to cause both noise and vibration | Source: Six locations around the perimeter of the building (See Map 1). Receptor: Residents on the northern / north-western boundary of site. | Medium: Used in summer months when residents are likely to have windows open. Only activated when refrigeration system needs support in extreme hot weather. | Limited to operate when temperature drops too low within the factory to minimise the noise / vibration emitted. |
| | Internal refrigeration system | Source: Internal refrigeration system Receptor: Residents on Dial Lane. | Medium: The use of this system is constant and in use in the part of the building that is opposite a residential estate. | All doors to the factory in the rear yard are kept closed to prevent noise escaping the factory. |



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| Forklift movement | Forklift reversing alarm | Source: Exclusively used in the yard, can be used in the rear yard in abnormal circumstances, i.e., during project work Receptor: Residents on Dial Lane, Ebenezer Street. | Low: Can only be used between 6:00 am- 23:00 pm. If use is required in rear yard, use is contained to 07:00 – 19:00 Monday – Friday, 8:00 and 13:00 on Saturdays per council allowance. | Prohibited use in the yard between 23:00 and 06:00 am Signs around site to reduce noise |
|----------------------|---|---|--|--|
| Site employees | Staff vehicles: Reverse alarms, Music played from cars, beeping whilst entering and exiting car back due to congestion, engines idling. | Source: Along Dial Lane, Ebenezer Street, and the carpark. Receptor: Residents on Dial Lane, Ebenezer Street. | Medium: All the potential causes of the noise may only occur for a brief period of the day if at all. However, the first shift starts at 5:45am and the latest ends at 10:30, which are sensitive times for the nature of the potential noise. | Staggard start and end of shifts to minimise congestion for staff exiting the site. Regular comms about being good neighbours to remind staff of their moral responsibility (no loud music, no beeping or idling). |
| | People talking or shouting at each other during break times and after work. | Source: Around site external perimeter, predominantly dial lane. Within site boundary. Further afield in the surrounding parks: Ratcliffs park and the green space on Brickhouse Lane. Receptors: Local residents on Dial Lane, Brickhouse Lane, Ebenezer Street. | Low: Unlikely for noise source to reach volumes outside of acceptable levels. | Designated areas both within the building and externally for people to eat lunch, including green space and benches. Designated smoking area in the car park which is far from receptors. |

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4.3 Measuring and Monitoring

To ensure compliance with mitigation measures, the Environmental Assistant executes weekly walks, which includes carrying out a mini noise survey at locations demonstrated on Map 1 (pg.9). If any unusual noise is noted, it is raised to the appropriate management and corrective action is taken. Other checks include ensuring lorries are not parked on residential roads and that all external doors are closed.

In bi-weekly environmental committee meetings, the engineering manager is responsible for raising any plans (and subsequent controls) to execute engineering work that may cause noise pollution so that the stakeholders can be informed ahead of time where necessary, and control measures can be monitored in line with this procedure.

4.4 Complaints

Noise and vibration emissions are controlled by legislation and can be classed as Statutory Nuisance. Both the Environment Agency, and the local authority may stop work on site or impose change of practise requirements. In extreme circumstances the local authority may take enforcement action that could lead to prosecution and/or fines.

It should be noted that the level of noise considered to be a nuisance is significantly lower than the level required for personal hearing protection for health and safety. The noise level which is considered to cause a nuisance is also subjective.

Complaints can be received directly to site (via email, telephone or verbally), through an authority (Environment Agency or Local Councill), or via mail. In the event of a complaint, please refer to 'Emergency Preparedness, Response, & Contacts' in the EMS. Each complaint will be recorded on an incident tracker (stored in the EMS), and a full investigation is undertaken with corrective actions implemented.

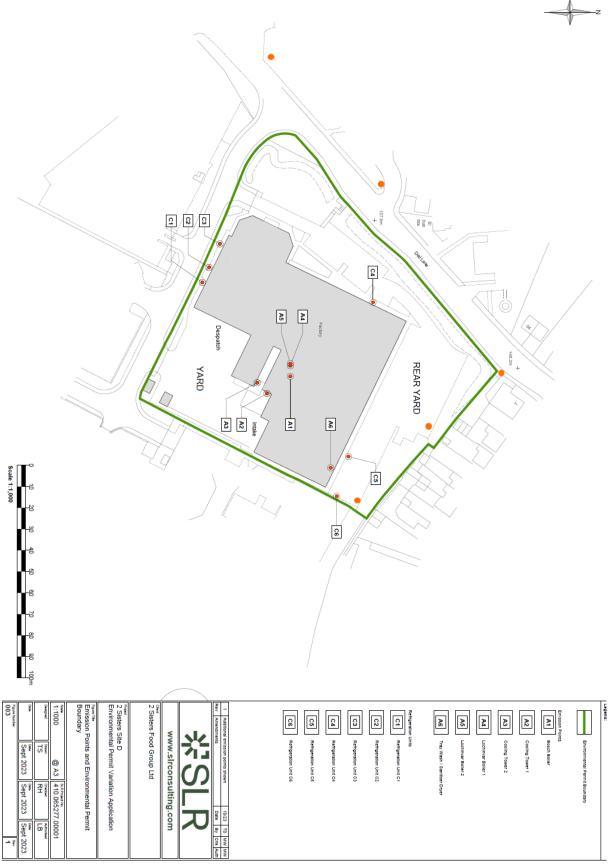
4.5 Change Management

Any changes to site that could have an impact on noise or vibration emissions will be assessed prior to and during all stages of its execution, including during the installation period (building & contractors on site).

Contractual work is restricted to 07:00 to 19:00 Monday – Friday, and 08:00 – 13:00 Saturdays. No work will occur on Sundays or Bank Holiday Mondays.



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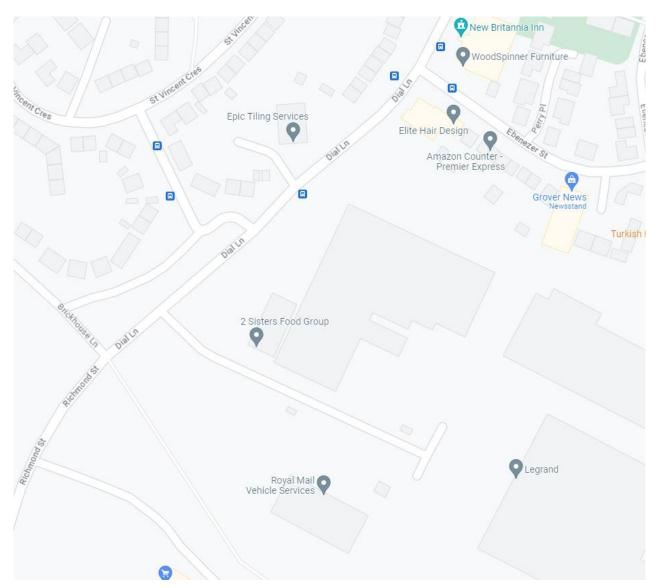


Map 1

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Map 2: 2SFG Map View

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