

Pursuant to Article 13, Paragraph 3 of the Law on Safety and Health at Work* ("Official Gazette of Montenegro," No. 34/14), the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare issued the following

RULEBOOK ON MEASURES OF SAFETY AND HEALTH AT WORK REGARDING RISKS ARISING FROM EXPOSURE TO NOISE*

Article 1

This Rulebook regulates the measures to protect health and safety at work that the employer needs to provide in order to eliminate or decrease the risk of occupational injuries, occupational diseases and diseases related to work arising from exposure to noise.

Article 2

The noise level is defined by the equation $L = 20 \cdot \lg(p/p_0) = 10 \cdot \lg(W/W_0)$, where:

- p - Sound pressure waves in place with the level L ;
- $p_0 = 20 \mu\text{Pa}$;
- W - intensity of sound waves in place with the level L ; and
- $W_0 = 10\text{-}12 \text{ W/m}^2$.

Noise level referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be expressed in the unit dB (decibel), or during the test using the frequency weighting A, unit dB(A) (A decibel).

Article 3

The exposure in terms of this Rulebook shall mean the time during which the sound affects a worker in the course of a working day or a working week.

Article 4

The physical parameters used as risk predictors due to exposure to noise are:

- Peak sound pressure (p_{peak}): maximum value of the C - frequency weighted instantaneous noise pressure;
- Daily noise exposure level ($L_{EX,8h}$) (dB(A) with respect to a reference pressure of $20 \mu\text{Pa}$): time-weighted average of noise exposure levels during an eight-hour working day, as defined in Note 2 point 3.6. of ISO standard 1999 and covers all noises present at work, including impulsive noise;
- week noise exposure level ($L_{EX,8h}$): time-weighted average of the daily noise exposure levels during an eight-hour working time in a five-day working week, as defined in Note 2 point 3.6. of ISO 1999 and ISO 9612 standards: Acoustics - Guidelines for the measurement and assessment of exposure to noise in a working environment.

Article 5

Exposure limit values and exposure action values during the eight-hour working day and peak sound pressure are:

- Exposure limit value: separately for $L_{EX,8h} = 87 \text{ dB(A)}$ and $p_{peak} = 200 \text{ Pa}$ (140 dB(C) relative to the reference pressure of $20 \mu\text{Pa}$);
- Upper exposure action values: separately for $L_{EX,8h} = 85 \text{ dB(A)}$ and $p_{peak} = 140 \text{ Pa}$ (137 dB (C) relative to the reference pressure of $20 \mu\text{Pa}$);
- The lower exposure action value: separately for $L_{EX,8h} = 80 \text{ dB (A)}$ and $p_{peak} = 112 \text{ Pa}$ (135 dB (C) relative to the reference pressure of $20 \mu\text{Pa}$).

Article 6

When applying the exposure limit values, the determination of the worker's effective exposure shall take account of the attenuation provided by the individual hearing protectors and personal protective equipment worn by the worker.

Article 7

For activities where daily noise exposure varies markedly from one working day to the next, the weekly noise exposure level shall not exceed the value of 87 dB(A), while appropriate measures of health and safety at work shall be taken in accordance with activities performed.

Article 8

The work is hindered by noise if activities characteristic for a position exceed equivalent maximum acceptable equivalent noise levels for uninterrupted operation with certain types of jobs, which form an integral part of this Rulebook (Annex 1).

Requirements for uninterrupted operation should be kept in mind while planning the operating and manufacturing process, so that the allowed time of exposure to noise compared to the noise levels does not exceed the noise levels which form an integral part of this Rulebook (Annex 2).

Article 9

The employer should, while taking account of technical progress and possible measures to eliminate the risk, and taking into account the general principles of the provision of measures of safety and health at work, eliminate at source or reduce to the lowest possible level the risks from exposure to noise.

When one of the two or both exposure action values laid down in Article 5 points 2 and 3 of this Rulebook are exceeded, the employer shall immediately establish and implement a program of technical and/or organizational measures intended to reduce exposure to noise.

Article 10

Upon the entry into force of this Rulebook, the Rulebook on the measures and norms of protection at work against the noise in a working environment ("Official Gazette of SFRY", No. 21/92) shall cease to be valid.

Article 11

This Rulebook shall enter into force on the eighth day following its publication in the "Official Gazette of Montenegro".

* This Rulebook transposes the Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council 2003/10/EC of 6 February 2003 on the minimum health and safety requirements regarding the exposure of workers to the risks arising from physical agents (noise).

No: 170-15/16-6
Podgorica, 26 May 2016

MINISTER
Boris Maric

**MAXIMUM ACCEPTABLE EQUIVALENT NOISE LEVEL
FOR UNINTERRUPTED OPERATION WITH CERTAIN TYPES OF JOBS**

Or.No.	Job description	MAXIMUM ACCEPTABLE EQUIVALENT NOISE LEVELS $L_{A, eq}$ in dB(A)	
		(a)*	(b)*
1	The most demanding mental tasks, very big focus, work related to the great responsibility, the most complex tasks of governance and management	45	40
2	Mostly mental tasks that require concentration, creative thinking, long-term decisions, research, design, communication with a group of people	50	40
3	Demanding office jobs, doctors' offices, conference rooms, school classes, direct voice and/or telephone communication	55	45
4	Less demanding office jobs, mostly routine mental work that requires focus and direct voice and/or telephone communication, telephone exchanges	60	50
5	Less demanding and mostly mechanized office works, sales, very demanding management systems, physical work that requires great attention and focus, demanding assembly tasks	65	55
6	Predominantly mechanized office tasks, demanding system management, control booths, physical work that requires constant focus, the work that requires oversight by hearing, the work carried out on the basis of sound signals	70	60
7	Less physically demanding tasks that require concentration and caution, less demanding system management	75	65
8	Mostly routine physical work that requires monitoring of the environment by listening	80	65
9	Physical work without the requirement for mental stress and monitoring of the environment by listening	85	70

(a)* the level of noise in the workplace, which is derived from production sources close to workplace

(b)* the level of noise in the workplace, which is derived from non-production sources (ventilation, air conditioning, traffic noise, etc.).

PERMITTED TIME OF EXPOSURE TO NOISE COMPARED TO NOISE LEVELS

Daily exposure in hours	The noise level in dB
8	87
6	85
4	90
3	92
2	95
1.5	97
1	100
0.5	105
0.25	110
0.125	115