Green Building Practice Summary 03/17/2011

Sector: Commercial

Category/Practice: IEQ / Acoustical Control

Proposed GB Practice

Description
This green building practice sets maximum sound levels for exterior and interior sound transmission as well as background sound.

Applicability

New Construction: Applies

Existing Buildings/Additions: Applies to addition

Existing Buildings/Alterations: Does not apply

Intent
The intent of this measure is to improve indoor environmental quality for occupants by controlling noise pollution.

Benefits and Costs

Triple Bottom Line Benefits

People: Improved working environment resulting in increased productivity.

Economic: Increased worker productivity can improve bottom line for organizations.

Environment: Improved indoor environmental quality.

Costs Passed to Owner
Determined by building thermal envelope.

Lost Opportunity
It would be difficult and potentially costly to improve acoustics post-construction.

Implementation

Availability of Products and/or Services
Widely available.

Practicality
No significant issues.
Certification Issues
Verified by qualified commissioning technician.

Enforcement Procedures

Permit application/plan review: Design details submitted with construction documents.

Field inspection: Third party verification during building commissioning process.

Certificate of Occupancy: Nothing additional.

Support Materials Needs
Educational information about effects of noise pollution and appropriate acoustical control measures.

Training Needs – Industry
Part of commissioning education.

Training Needs – Staff
Part of commissioning education.

Background

Current Practice
None.

Related Green Building Practices
Commissioning.

Known Objections
- Added costs to construction.