

# 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.