

 DEE CRAMER HEATING / COOLING / SHEET METAL <i>Dedicated People. Delivering Quality.</i>	Doc No:	NOISE
	Initial Issue Date:	1/1/2017
	Revision Date:	6/25/2026
NOISE/HEARING CONSERVATION	Revision No.	1.0
	Next Review Date:	6/25/2029
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Purpose

The purpose of this program is to provide a process to minimize employee-hearing loss caused by excessive occupational exposure to noise above 85 dBA.

Scope

This program is applicable to all employees who may be present or exposed in areas to noise more than 85 decibels. When work is performed on a non-owned or operated site, the client's program shall take precedence and shall be abided by. However, this document covers Dee Cramer, Inc. employees and contractors and shall be used on owned premises, or when a client's program doesn't exist or is less stringent. If Dee Cramer, Inc. has no control over the noise source at a client location we will abide by the client's signage and instruction.

Responsibilities

Supervisors/Managers

- Ensure requirements of this program are established and maintained.
- Ensure employees are trained and comply with the requirements of this program.
Employees
- Wear hearing protection when required, attend the training, and cooperate with testing and sampling.

Procedure

A noise survey and monitoring program is conducted when exposure limits exceed the established level. When information indicates that employee exposure may equal/exceed the jurisdictional levels, Dee Cramer, Inc. shall implement a monitoring program to identify employees to be included in the hearing conservation program.

For work performed at a client's location Dee Cramer, Inc. must ensure that employees observe posted noise signage and implement controls as needed. Any measurement of sound levels in the workplace that is done to determine what protective measures are appropriate shall be done without regard to any use of personal protective equipment.

A clearly visible warning sign shall be posted at every approach to an area in the workplace where the sound level regularly exceeds 85 dBA.

In every area where workers are required or permitted to work and the noise level may frequently exceed 85 dBA, Dee Cramer, Inc. shall ensure that the noise level is measured in accordance with the approved method. A competent person must evaluate the sources of the noise and recommend corrective actions. The measurements, evaluations and recommendations are to be documented.

To evaluate noise exposure in terms of possible hearing damage, it is necessary to know the overall sound level, the exposure time of the individual in hours per day and the length of time the individual has worked in the area being surveyed.

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This data shall be supplemented by the following:

- Name of area and location
- Date and time of survey
- Name of person conducting survey
- Description of instrument model and serial number
- Environmental conditions
- Description of people exposed

A plot of noise levels must be made for owned facilities. The plot must be filed or posted at the facility. Dee Cramer, Inc. shall evaluate hearing protector attenuation for the specific noise environments. The adequacy of hearing PPE shall be re-evaluated whenever noise exposures increase to the point that the PPE provided may no longer provide adequate protection. Dee Cramer, Inc. shall then provide more effective PPE where necessary.

All sound measuring equipment must be calibrated before and after each survey.

Records of sound measuring equipment calibration and noise level surveys conducted at the place of employment shall be kept at the place of employment if Dee Cramer, Inc. operates.

Sound Level Surveys

- All owned facilities that are suspected of having noise levels exceeding 85 dBA must be screened.

Exposure Surveys:

- A representative sample of employees shall be conducted to determine the exposure to noise over a period.
- Noise dosimeters must be capable of integrating all continuous, intermittent, and impulsive sound levels from 80 dBA to 130 dBA and must be calibrated so a dose of 50% corresponds to a time-weighted average of 85 dBA.

Conditions and Engineering Controls

When employees are required to work in areas in which noise levels exceed the exposure limit for permissible noise exposure Dee Cramer, Inc. shall first take appropriate measures to reduce the noise intensity to approved levels.

Engineering controls are used to reduce noise whenever practicable. Dee Cramer, Inc. shall take all measures reasonably necessary in the circumstances to protect workers from exposure to hazardous sound levels. Dee Cramer, Inc. shall protect workers from exposure to a sound level greater than the limit without requiring them to use and wear personal protective equipment.

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Dee Cramer, Inc. shall ensure that all new places of employment are designed and constructed so as to achieve the lowest reasonably practicable noise level, any alteration, renovation or repair to an existing place of employment is made so as to achieve the lowest reasonably practicable noise level, and all new equipment to be used at a place of employment is designed and constructed so as to achieve the lowest reasonably practicable noise level.

Hearing Protection Equipment

Hearing protectors are used where engineering controls are not practicable to ensure workers are not exposed to noise that exceeds 85 dBA over a consistent 8-hours. Workers shall wear and use personal protective equipment appropriate in the circumstances to protect them from exposure to a sound level greater than the limit.

This applies if engineering controls:

- are not in existence or are not obtainable,
- are not reasonable or not practical to adopt, install, or provide because of the duration or frequency of the exposures or because of the nature of the process, operation, or work.
- are rendered ineffective because of a temporary breakdown of such controls; or
- are ineffective to prevent, control, or limit exposure because of an emergency.

Earmuffs and earplugs shall be made available to the employee in sizes and configurations that will be comfortable for the employee. These hearing protection devices shall be made available to all employees exposed to an 8-hour time-weighted average of 85 dBA at no cost to employees.

Training

A toolbox talk shall be established for all employees who are exposed to action level noise and to inform employees, on an annual basis, of the effect of noise on hearing; the purpose of hearing protectors, including the advantages, disadvantages, and alternatives of various types, including instructions on selection, fitting, maintenance, use and care in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications and the purpose of audiometric testing and an explanation of test procedures.

If occupational noise is between 80-85 dBA Dee Cramer, Inc. shall train the employee in the selection, use and maintenance of hearing protection and the requirement to wear it.

Training shall be updated to be consistent with changes in the work process and PPE requirements.

All staff shall have a copy of this program and it shall be posted at the worksite and a copy made available to all employees, their representatives, and regulatory agencies.

 DEE CRAMER HEATING / COOLING / SHEET METAL <i>Dedicated People. Delivering Quality.</i>	Dee Cramer, Inc. Safety Management System	Doc No:	NOISE
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Management of Change		
Date	Description of Change	Name
6/25/2026	General process flow updates.	Madelyn Nichols