## NOISE POLICY

[Organization Name] is devoted to long-term development and plays a key role in ensuring a healthy atmosphere in which the company, its employees, and everyone can thrive. The need to manage noise, for which [Organization Name] has overall responsibility as directed by the Canada Health and Safety Regulations, is one part of fulfilling these objectives.

PURPOSE

The goal of this policy is to provide clarity on noise management in a greater perspective, at the appropriate level, in a cost-effective and timely manner.

DEFINITIONS

The following are terms and descriptions based on Canadian Occupational Health and Safety Regulations, Part VII - IPG-074:

Decibel (abbreviated as dB)

* unit of measurement used in sounds.

Noise exposure level (abbreviated as Lex, 8)

* refers to an employee's exposure to sound. It's a measurement that combines an employee's A-weighted sound pressure level with the length of time they've been exposed to that sound level.
* A noise dosimeter is used to measure this, whereas a sound level metre is used to measure the A-weighted sound pressure level.

Threshold level

* The lowest sound level that must be considered when measuring (or calculating) an employee's noise exposure level.

The main points to be noted are:

1. When measuring or calculating the noise exposure level, all occupational sound exposure during a 24-hour period is taken into account., and
2. Regardless of the amount of hours spent in a 24-hour period, the exposure is averaged across 8 hours.

POLICY

[Organization Name] adheres to the Canadian Occupational Health and Safety Regulations when it comes to the safety of its employees. Thus, the following guidelines are to be followed:

**Measurement and Calculation of Exposure**

* [Organization name] will use a dosimeter capable of measuring, including the calculation of noise exposure level, sound levels below 74 dBA.
* The A-weighted sound pressure level must be measured instantly using a sound level metre's slow response mode, and during regular working conditions.

**Hazard Investigation**

* [Organization Name] for the purpose of assessing the exposures of employees to sound may carry out an investigation in the workplace under certain conditions.
* Where an employee may be exposed to A-weighted sound pressure levels of 84 dBA or above for a period of time that is likely to cause hearing damage, [Organization Name] shall begin an investigation to examine the exposure.
* [Organization Name] will have a qualified individual to commit an investigation and notify the work place committee on the degree of employee exposure to sound in the workplace.
* [Organization Name] shall display, and maintain posted, a copy of the report in the workplace where the investigation took place where employees are expected to be subjected to a noise exposure level (Lex, 8) of 84 dBA or above.
* [Organization Name] will provide written information to personnel who have been exposed to excessive sound levels, detailing the risks associated with such exposure.
* [Organization name] will keep the hazard investigation report for 10 years following the date of the report at the work site where the investigation was conducted.

**Limits of Exposure**

* An employee's noise exposure level (Lex, 8) must not exceed 87 dBA for 8 hours in any 24-hour period.
* [Organization Name] is to decrease the employee's exposure to sound, if reasonably practical, without the use of hearing protectors, using engineering or other physical controls, or administrative controls such as lowering exposure time.
* Regardless of whether or not the employee is on duty, the maximum period of exposure should be based on the time spent exposed to noise at the work site. For every 3 dBA increase in A-weighted sound pressure level, the exposure length is cut in half in the Schedule.

**Hearing Protection**

* [Organization Name] shall provide hearing protection to every employee whose exposure is expected to exceed the maximum permissible limits of 87 dBA. It's important to note that [Organization Name] will only provide hearing protection to those who have been allowed access.
* [Organization Name] will develop a training program for employees on how to properly fit, care for, and utilise hearing protectors.

**Warning Signs**

* [Organization Name] will place and maintain posted warning signs where personnel may be exposed to A-weighted sound pressure levels greater than 87 dBA.
* Warning signals should be easily visible and understandable. Symbols in the form of signs are permissible.