



EEF/HSE Noise and Vibration Roadshow 2006

“hope you enjoy your day with us”



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Introduction - Vibration

Overview

The Physical Agents directives

- Original proposal 1993
 - Noise
 - Vibration
 - Electromagnetic Fields
 - Optical Radiation



Vibration: the facts

- around five million workers are exposed to HAV in the workplace
- about 1.7 million people are exposed to levels of vibration where there are clear risks of developing disease
- each year, accounts for approx. 3,000 new claims for Industrial Injury Disability Benefit (vwf and vibration related carpal tunnel syndrome)

Control of Vibration

- Hand Arm Vibration
 - real health issues
 - clear dose-response relationship
 - useful health surveillance
 - practical control measures
 - assessment and control need not be expensive

Control of vibration

In contrast...

■ Whole Body Vibration

- is only associated with Low Back Pain in extreme conditions
- there is no dose-response relationship
- ergonomic factors most significant
- health surveillance is not relevant
- measurement is not normally expected

Control of Vibration

Exposure action and limit values

- Hand-Arm Vibration
 - Action Value, $2.5 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ A8}$
 - Limit Value, $5 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ A8}$
- Whole Body Vibration
 - Action Value, $0.5 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ A8}$
 - Limit Value, $1.15 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ A8}$



Control of vibration

work is good for you...

- *Employment is more than a mere source of personal income or even wealth. **Work also adds meaning and value to a person's life.** In this respect, one could argue that every newly created job means an active contribution to the improvement of Public Health!*
- *David Byrne, European Commissioner for Health and Consumer Protection to the fourth European Conference on Promoting Workplace Health, Dublin 2004.*

Control of Vibration

Health and Safety Management

- Policy – *Employee involvement*
- Organising
- Planning and Implementing
- Measuring performance
- Review - *Audit*

- *PDCA – Plan-Do-Check-Act*

Thank you

**EEF- the manufacturers'
organisation**

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