



Maritime and Coastguard Agency

MARINE GUIDANCE NOTE

MGN 377 (M+F)

Sound Advice - Noise at Work from Music and Entertainment

Notice to all Ship and Fishing Vessel Owners, Operators and Managers and other employers of seafarers; Masters, Officers and Ratings of Merchant Ships; and Skippers and Crew of Fishing Vessels, Small Commercially Operated Vessels and Yachts with Crew.

This notice should be read with in conjunction with the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Control of Noise at Work) Regulations 2007, the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Health and Safety at Work) Regulations 1997 and Marine Guidance Notes MGN 20 (M+F) and MGN 352 (M+F).

PLEASE NOTE:-

Where this document provides guidance on the law it should not be regarded as definitive. The way the law applies to any particular case can vary according to circumstances - for example, from vessel to vessel and you should consider seeking independent legal advice if you are unsure of your own legal position.

Summary

This MGN provides advice on how to access practical guidelines on the control of noise at work arising from music and entertainment.

1. Introduction

- 1.1. The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Control of Noise at Work) Regulations 2007 (SI 2007/3075) (the "Noise Regulations") which implemented EC Directive 2003/10/EC on the introduction of requirements for the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to noise at work generally came into force on 23 February 2008 (see Marine Guidance Note MGN 352 (M+F) for more information).
- 1.2. As indicated in MGN 352 (M+F), implementation of the Noise Regulations was deferred until 6 April 2008, in relation to noise arising from the provision of music and entertainment on ships, to allow time for practical guidelines to be drawn up to help workers and employers in the music and entertainment sectors meet the requirements of these Regulations. This guidance has now been produced and further details, including how to obtain it, are set out below.

2. “Sound Advice” - Control of noise at work in music and entertainment

- 2.1 Representatives of the music and entertainment industries together with Environmental Health Officers and the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) worked together to produce the new guidance entitled “Sound Advice” which contains practical guidelines on the control of noise at work arising from music and entertainment. Given the comprehensive nature of this guidance, and that similar problems will occur both on land and at sea, it is not proposed that separate guidance be produced for the maritime sector. Where noise from music and entertainment does occur at sea reference should therefore be made to “Sound Advice”. It should be noted however that the relevant legislation for the maritime sector will be the Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Control of Noise at Work) Regulations 2007 and not the Control of Noise at Work Regulations 2005.
- 2.2. Sound Advice can be accessed electronically via the Sound Advice website at <http://soundadvice.info> or can be purchased in hard copy (ISBN 9780717663071) from HSE Books price £14.50 either via their website at <http://www.hsebooks.com/Books/> or from:-

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