



Acoustics — Determination of sound power levels and sound energy levels of noise sources using sound pressure — Engineering methods for an essentially free field over a reflecting plane

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- Engineers Australia
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Preface

This Standard was prepared by the Australian members of the Joint Standards Australia/Standards New Zealand Committee EV-010, Acoustics Community Noise.

The objective of this Standard is to specify methods for determining the sound power level or sound energy level of a noise source from sound pressure levels measured on a surface enveloping the noise source (machinery or equipment) in an environment that approximates to an acoustic free field near one or more reflecting planes. The sound power level (or, in the case of noise bursts or transient noise emission, the sound energy level) produced by the noise source, in frequency bands or with frequency A-weighting applied, is calculated using those measurements.

This Standard is identical with, and has been reproduced from, ISO 3744:2010, *Acoustics — Determination of sound power levels and sound energy levels of noise sources using sound pressure — Engineering methods for an essentially free field over a reflecting plane*.

As this document has been reproduced from an International Standard, the following applies.

- (a) In the source text “this International Standard” should read “this Australian Standard”.
- (b) A full point substitutes for a comma when referring to a decimal marker.

Australian or Australian/New Zealand Standards that are identical adoptions of international normative references may be used interchangeably. Refer to the online catalogue for information on specific Standards.

The terms “normative” and “informative” are used in Standards to define the application of the appendices or annexes to which they apply. A “normative” appendix or annex is an integral part of a Standard, whereas an ‘informative’ appendix or annex is only for information and guidance.

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 3744 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 43, *Acoustics*, Subcommittee SC 1, *Noise*.

This third edition of ISO 3744 cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 3744:1994) and ISO 4872:1978, of which it constitutes a merger and a technical revision.

Introduction

This International Standard is one of the series ISO 3741[2] to ISO 3747[6], which specify various methods for determining the sound power levels and sound energy levels of noise sources including machinery, equipment and their sub-assemblies. General guidelines to assist in the selection are provided in ISO 3740[4]. The selection depends on the environment of the available test facility and on the precision of the sound power level or sound energy level values required. It may be necessary to establish a noise test code (see ISO 12001) for the individual noise source in order to select the appropriate sound measurement surface and microphone array from among those allowed in each member of the ISO 3741[2] to ISO 3747[6] series, and to give requirements on test unit mounting, loading and operating conditions under which the sound power levels or sound energy levels are to be obtained. The sound power emitted by a given source into the test environment is calculated from the mean square sound pressure that is measured over a hypothetical measurement surface enclosing the source, and the area of that surface. The sound energy for a single sound event is calculated from this sound power and the time over which it existed.

The methods specified in this International Standard permit the determination of the sound power level and the sound energy level in frequency bands optionally with frequency A-weighting applied.

For applications where greater accuracy is required, reference can be made to ISO 3745, ISO 3741[2] or ISO 9614[13]-[15]. If the relevant criteria for the measurement environment specified in this International Standard are not met, it might be possible to refer to another standard from this series, or to ISO 9614[13]-[15].

This International Standard describes methods of accuracy grade 2 (engineering grade) as defined in ISO 12001, when the measurements are performed in a space that approximates an acoustically free field over a reflecting plane. Such an environment can be found in a specially designed room, or within industrial buildings or outdoors. Ideally, the test source should be mounted on a sound-reflecting plane located in a large open space. For sources normally installed on the floor of machine rooms, corrections are defined to account for undesired reflections from nearby objects, walls and the ceiling, and for the residual background noises that occur there.

Australian Standard[®]

Acoustics — Determination of sound power levels and sound energy levels of noise sources using sound pressure — Engineering methods for an essentially free field over a reflecting plane

1 Scope

1.1 General

This International Standard specifies methods for determining the sound power level or sound energy level of a noise source from sound pressure levels measured on a surface enveloping the noise source (machinery or equipment) in an environment that approximates to an acoustic free field near one or more reflecting planes. The sound power level (or, in the case of noise bursts or transient noise emission, the sound energy level) produced by the noise source, in frequency bands or with A-weighting applied, is calculated using those measurements.

NOTE Differently shaped measurement surfaces can yield differing estimates of the sound power level of a given noise source and an appropriately drafted noise test code (see ISO 12001) gives detailed information on the selection of the surface.

1.2 Types of noise and noise sources

The methods specified in this International Standard are suitable for all types of noise (steady, non-steady, fluctuating, isolated bursts of sound energy, etc) defined in ISO 12001.

This International Standard is applicable to all types and sizes of noise source (e.g. stationary or slowly moving plant, installation, machine, component or sub-assembly), provided the conditions for the measurements can be met.

NOTE It is possible that the conditions for measurements given in this International Standard are impracticable for very tall or very long sources such as chimneys, ducts, conveyors and multi-source industrial plants. A noise test code for the determination of noise emission of specific sources can provide alternative methods in such cases.

1.3 Test environment

The test environments that are applicable for measurements made in accordance with this International Standard can be located indoors or outdoors, with one or more sound-reflecting planes present on or near which the noise source under test is mounted. The ideal environment is a completely open space with no bounding or reflecting surfaces other than the reflecting plane(s) (such as that provided by a qualified hemi-anechoic chamber), but procedures are given for applying corrections (within limits that are specified) in the case of environments that are less than ideal.

1.4 Measurement uncertainty

Information is given on the uncertainty of the sound power levels and sound energy levels determined in accordance with this International Standard, for measurements made in limited bands of frequency and with frequency A-weighting applied. The uncertainty conforms to ISO 12001:1996, accuracy grade 2 (engineering grade).

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.