

14. NOISE

- 14.1 The problem of noise on vessels has gained recognition as a hazard as great as other hazards associated with offshore work. Owners should have in place, as part of the safety management system, procedures to reduce or eliminate the effect of noise on the health of crew members.
- 14.2 Where possible, the hazard of noise must be addressed at source by reducing the emitted noise. Where this is not possible, other action must be taken to minimize the hazard.
- 14.3 Personnel required to work in areas where the noise levels are high, as a matter of general policy must be required to use hearing protection in the form of ear-muffs or ear-plugs that meet the required standards for noise reduction.
- 14.4 For areas where noise levels are high, suitable warning signs must be displayed at the accesses, with the requirement that anyone entering the space must only do so while wearing the approved hearing protection.
- 14.5 The noise hazard should be regularly addressed at safety meetings and at inductions to ensure that awareness of the problem is maintained.