What Annoys A Noise An Oyster?

Woods Hole Research Center Team C



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Why study acoustics?

Observations of building properties

- No "white / masking" noise
- Open plan / spatial volume
- Design intent
- Hard surfaces
- Acoustic abatement value engineered out

Hypothesis



Noise generated in the Commons area disturbs workers in adjacent offices.

Methodology

- Interviews
- Monitoring db levels over time in office space.
- Mapping of noise propagation in Commons area.



Interviewing

- Noise events?
- Overall impression?
- Positive / negative?
- Modifications?



Noise Production





Interviews: First floor

Overall Impression?

Modifications?





Interviews: Second floor

Overall Impression?

Modifications?





Interviews:

- open door policy
- questions answered w/o getting up
- absence of background noise
- commons good for meetings
- no echoes

Interviews:

- overhearing personal conversation
- general lack of privacy
- conflicts between needing to have door open and wanting to close door





Office Monitoring

- Identified case study office with specific noise problems
- Product invention: manufactured cable to attach sound meter to HOBO for measurement over time.

Jack Parchesky Rocks!

Office 222 Noise Infiltration



Noise Mapping

• Incidental noise

Walking Book drop Coughing

• Impromptu conversation

2-6 people talking

• Large gatherings

Meetings

Lunch

INCIDENTAL NOISE





Door SLAM Measurements







Book **DROP** Measurements







COUGH Measurements







WALKING Measurements







Conference Room **CONVERSATION** Measurements



100



Max and Min Levels







Evenus:	
12:08pm:	People arriving (Point A)
	Typing audible from room 123 (Point D)
12:13pm:	Soda can opened – 80 dB (Point B) –70 dB (Point A)
	Laughter – 75 dB (Point B)
12:15pm:	119 door closes (Point A)
	125 door closes (Point A)
	222 door closes (Point D)
12:18pm:	223 door closes (Point D)
12:22pm:	2 Bags pop –78dB, 80 dB
12:30pm:	Typing audible again (Point D)

Conclusions: PARTY ON WOODS HOLE!



- Does noise generated in the commons area disturb the work of the center?
- OSHA standards
- Noise Criteria Curves