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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**1989 No. 1790**

**The Noise at Work Regulations 1989**

**Interpretation**

2.—(1) In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires—

“daily personal noise exposure” means the level of daily personal noise exposure of an employee ascertained in accordance with Part I of the Schedule to these Regulations, but taking no account of the effect of any personal ear protector used;

“exposed” means exposed whilst at work, and “exposure” shall be construed accordingly;

“the first action level” means a daily personal noise exposure of 85 dB(A);

“the peak action level” means a level of peak sound pressure of 200 pascals;

“the second action level” means a daily personal noise exposure of 90 dB(A).

(2) In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires, any reference to—

(a) an employer includes a reference to a self-employed person and any duty imposed by these Regulations on an employer in respect of his employees shall extend to a self-employed person in respect of himself;

(b) an employee includes a reference to a self-employed person;

and where any duty is placed by these Regulations on an employer in respect of his employees, that employer shall, so far as is reasonably practicable, be under a like duty in respect of any other person at work who may be affected by the work carried on by him.

(3) Duties under these Regulations imposed upon an employer shall also be imposed upon the manager of a mine or a quarry (within in either case the meaning of section 180 of the Mines and Quarries Act 1954<sup>(1)</sup>) in so far as those duties relate to the mine or quarry or part of the quarry of which he is the manager and to matters under his control.

(4) Unless the context otherwise requires, any reference in these Regulations to—

(a) a numbered regulation is a reference to the regulation in these Regulations so numbered;  
and

(b) a numbered paragraph is a reference to the paragraph so numbered in the regulation in which the reference appears.

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(1) 1954 c. 70; section 180 was modified by S.I.1974/2013, Schedule 2, Part I, paragraph 3.