



Imagine Workshop 29th August 2005

The Environmental Noise Directive (END)

WG-AEN and IMAGINE

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Directive 2002/49/EC – The END

Strategic Noise Mapping for the END

The END requires that Member States to undertake strategic noise mapping for the purposes of:

1. Determining exposure to environmental noise,
2. Informing the public on environmental noise and its effects,
3. Developing action plans to reduce noise where necessary and to preserve environmental noise quality where it is good, and,
4. Providing a basis for developing Community measures to reduce noise emitted by major sources.



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News from the Commission

Guidance to Member States on 2005 data reporting and the associated electronic questionnaire.

The END requires that Member States report the following data to the Commission in 2005:

1. Competent authorities responsible for implementing the END – **18/07/05.**
2. Relevant limit values – **18/07/05.**
3. Information on major roads, railways, airports and agglomerations for the first round of noise maps and action plans – **30/06/05.**

Guidance and questionnaire were made available to Noise Steering Group members on 30/05/05.



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News from the Commission

- WG-Health and Socio-Economic Aspects has recently been disbanded. Position Papers have been delivered on dose-effect relationships and noise valuation and a working paper has been delivered on the effectiveness of noise reduction actions.
- WG-Railway noise has been disbanded. A Position Paper on railway noise reduction has been delivered.
- WG-Airport Noise could continue to work until 2009 to support the Commission in its reviews of D 2002/30 (EC to report in 2007) and 2002/49 (EC to report in 2009).
- WG-Road Traffic has had its tasks redefined to focus on urban transport.



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News from WG-AEN

WG-AEN currently has terms of reference until 2006.

These are summarised below:

WG-AEN shall:

- Task 1. Produce Version 2 of the GPG during 2005 (to assist Member States and their competent authorities implement strategic noise mapping).
- Task 2. Actively engage in the development and progress of the EEA funded project to produce a reporting mechanism under the END (i.e. the study on reporting modalities).
- Task 3. Evaluate the final deliverables of the HARMONOISE Project, particularly in respect of the engineering model, and prepare a Position Paper for the EEA/DG-Env.



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News from WG-AEN

WG-AEN terms of reference (continued):

Task 4. Continue active engagement in the development and progress of the IMAGINE Project and provide feedback to the Project management team. The purpose of this feedback shall be to represent the views of the likely end-users of the products of this project.



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News from WG-AEN

Progress on terms of reference for 2005:

1. Version 2 of the GPG to be finalised by the end of October.
2. WG-AEN has provided input on the reporting mechanism study Version 3 report (dated 01/07/2005).
3. Work on the Position Paper on the HARMONOISE Project has been started.
4. Close cooperation with the IMAGINE Project has been established in order to provide end-user input to this project, and to provide help and guidance on the use of the HARMONOISE/IMAGINE products.



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News from WG-AEN

Research Project: WG-AEN's Good Practice Guide (GPG) and the Implications for Acoustic Accuracy

This research project has been let by Defra (UK) in support of WG-AEN to inform Task 1 of the Group's Terms of Reference for 2006.

- To provide six new Toolkits for GPG Version 2.
- To quantify the accuracy symbols in GPG Version1 Toolkits and the six new Toolkits.
- To provide practical guidance on the acoustical accuracy implications of using the Toolkits.
- To provide practical assistance with data management and procurement for the END.



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News from WG-AEN

Noise Mapping and the Production of Associated Data on Noise Exposure – Sources of Error/Uncertainty

1. Deficiencies in the input data – source and geographical related.
2. Limitations of the calculation method.
3. Translation of the calculation method into software.
4. Software variables (switches, shortcuts etc.).
5. Assignment of noise levels to dwellings.
6. Assignment of people to dwellings (demographic data).

The Acoustic Accuracy Study starts to address uncertainty in relation to items 1, 5 & 6. The Harmonoise and Imagine Projects should provide information on uncertainty in relation to items 2, 3 and 4 (but not for the first round of noise mapping).



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Error/Uncertainty in Strategic Noise Mapping for the END

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4. Providing a basis for developing Community measures to reduce noise emitted by major sources.

Questions:

How accurate do the results of first round strategic mapping have to be to be fit for these purposes? Will they be this accurate?



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Problems with the Use of Road Traffic Modelling Data in Strategic Noise Mapping

What is needed for Strategic Noise Mapping that is not necessarily provided from road traffic modelling?

- A geographically accurate road network model attributed with accurate yearly average speeds, flows and composition for the day, evening and night time periods (in electronic format).
- For inside agglomerations, ideally this should to be available for all roads.
- For outside agglomerations, for major roads as defined in the END.



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Thank you