



Handbook of Environmental Acoustics

James P. Cowan

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Because environmental acoustics has a complex mathematical basis, it is often difficult to determine whether acoustical recommendations are valid. Handbook of Environmental Acoustics simplifies this decision-making process and provides easy-to-follow explanations of acoustic terminology, noise control design, and regulatory noise issues. The book clarifies key aspects of environmental noise in basic language, covering:

- * Common noise sources--including the risk of exposure to common daily environmental noise sources
- * Current noise regulations, guidelines, and standards--illustrating all key points
- * Acoustic terminology and environmental noise descriptors--providing a foundation for understanding noise issues
- * Effects of noise on people and animals--emphasizing the importance of restricting noise exposure
- * Relevant noise rating methods--clarifying the use of noise metrics
- * Construction and building code requirements--explaining current requirements and featuring tips on how to avoid privacy problems
- * Measurement considerations--demonstrating standard methods and offering practical advice on how to ensure proper measurement procedures
- * Noise control designs--detailing source-path-receiver systems and noise control fundamentals

In addition to traditional noise control methods, new areas, such as active noise control, sound intensity measurement, and diffusive designs, are explained. A sample municipal noise ordinance helps the user to draft an ordinance tailored to the needs of a particular community. Avoiding complex mathematics and analyses, Handbook of Environmental Acoustics is a user-friendly manual for urban planners, municipal officials, engineers, attorneys, industrial hygienists, architects, environmental professionals, and students in these fields.

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