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27 March 2014

John Holland Pty Ltd Level 3, 65 Pirrama Road Pyrmont NSW 2009

**Attention: Dominic Begley** 

Dear Dominic,

# ABERCROMBIE PRECINCT REDEVELOPMENT - CONSTRUCTION NOISE & VIBRATION MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR EXTENDED CONSTRUCTION HOURS

Construction associated with the Abercrombie Precinct redevelopment is currently underway. The Project Approval stipulates that construction must take place between 0700-1800hrs Monday to Friday and between 0800-1500hrs on Saturdays. John Holland Pty Ltd (John Holland) is seeking to extend the construction hours to 1800-0000hrs Monday to Friday and 1500-2200hrs Saturdays for considerably less noisy construction activities. Marshall Day Acoustics (MDA) have been engaged to prepare a noise and vibration management plan to address the out of hours construction activity.

This letter report is issued as an addendum to the construction noise and vibration management plan issued for the construction phase of the Abercrombie project (refer *Rp001 R00 2013244SY JH-B834-PLN-EMP-NVECP-012-A*) and should be read in conjunction with this report.

#### **OBJECTIVE**

In order to complete construction associated with this project on or by 31 January 2015 and meet project deadlines, John Holland propose to schedule less noisy construction activities outside of standard construction hours. The purpose of this plan is to provide strategies to minimise the disruption at the nearest affected receivers from the construction work that is proposed to take place outside of standard construction hours.

#### NOISE AFFECTED RECEIVERS

The nearest noise sensitive receivers have been identified in Table 1 of our report (*Rp001 R00 2013244SY JH-B834-PLN-EMP-NVECP-012-A*) and are reproduced here for reference.



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**Table 1: Representative receivers** 

Receiver	Location	Description
А	109 Darlington Road	Two storey residential dwelling
В	415 Abercrombie Street	Darlington Public School
С	405 Abercrombie Street	Boundary Lane Childcare Centre
D	391 Abercrombie Street	The Shepherd Centre
Е	385 Abercrombie Street	Mandelbaum House

Of these receivers, the Shepherd Centre and the Boundary Lane Child Care centre will both be demolished prior to the commencement of out of hours construction works. Therefore they have been excluded from this assessment. Furthermore, the Darlington Public School is not expected to operate during the proposed extended construction hours and therefore it has also been excluded from this assessment.

Figure 1 indicates the location of the nearest affected receivers in relation to the construction site.





Figure 1: Location of the subject construction site and representative receivers

#### **NOISE AND VIBRATION CRITERIA**

# **Construction noise criteria**

Construction noise criteria for this development have been derived based on the requirements of the *Interim Construction Noise Guideline* (CNG). Background noise levels identified in the Noise Impact Assessment report prepared by MDA (refer *Rp001 R06 201009de Noise Impact Assessment*) have been used to derive appropriate criteria applicable to construction activities proposed outside of approved construction hours. Table 2 below presents a summary of the criteria with a full derivation set out in Appendix B.



**Table 2: Construction noise management levels** 

Receiver	Туре	RBL, dB L <sub>A90</sub> <sup>1</sup>	Management level, dB L <sub>Aeq, 15mins</sub>
А	Residential	43	48
E	Residential	43	48

<sup>1:</sup> Based on the evening time period RBL

### **Construction vibration criteria**

The German Standard DIN 4150-3 *Structural vibration - Part 3: Effects of vibration on structures* (DIN 4150)provides vibration limits below which there is unlikely to be any cosmetic damage to buildings. The vibration limits for short-term vibration are detailed in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Guideline values for vibration velocity to evaluate the effects of short-term vibration on structures

Line	Type of structure	re Guideline values for velocity, in mm/s			
		Vibration at the foundation at a frequency of		Vibration at horizontal plane	
		1-10Hz	10-50Hz	50-100Hz*	of higher floor at all frequencies
1	Buildings used for commercial purposes, industrial buildings, and buildings of similar design	20	20 to 40	40 to 50	40
2	Dwellings and buildings of similar design and/or occupancy	5	5 to 15	15 to 20	15
3	Structures that, because of their particular sensitivity to vibration, cannot be classified under lines 1 and 2 and area of great intrinsic values (e.g. listed buildings under preservation order)	3	3 to 8	8 to 10	8

<sup>\*</sup>At frequencies above 100 Hz, the values given in this column may be used as minimum values.

Source: DIN 4150-3 Table 1



# CONSTRUCTION NOISE AND VIBRATION IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Construction activities taking place outside standard construction hours will be restricted to nonstructural works. The following trades are expected to be employed outside of standard construction hours:

- Floor lining and carpet laying
- Plastering
- Tiling
- Joinery installation
- Services fit out including electrical and communications wiring
- Painting

In general these activities are not expected to be excessively noisy and the tools used for these activities are mostly small and battery operated. Furthermore, it is proposed that all construction work taking place outside of standard construction hours will take place within the building envelope and work will not commence until the glass facade has been installed to the floor under consideration. This has been further detailed in the management plan.

We envisage that a combination of the following equipment/tools will be used during the out of hours construction works:

Table 4: Anticipated activities and equipment schedule

Activity	Equipment	
Floor lining including carpet laying	Hand-held tools (knife)	
Plastering	Electric mixer	
	Screw gun	
Tiling	Electric mixer	
Joinery Installation	Screw gun	
Services fit out including electrical	Screw gun	
and communications wiring	Oxy-acetylene	
Painting	Compressor motor for spray gun	
Ceiling fixing	Screw gun	
General construction	Electric lights in building	



#### **Construction noise**

Noise levels from proposed construction activities during the extended construction hours have been calculated at the nearest noise sensitive receivers.

For the purpose of our calculations we have calculated the noise level from each activity that is proposed to take place outside of standard construction hours. The calculations make the following worst-case assumptions:

- As a worst-case scenario each activity will take place simultaneously on up to four levels of the building once the facade has been made watertight
- A minimum 20dB attenuation via the facade of the constructed building once watertight (glazing and roof complete).

We have presented data below for "worst-case" situations where noise sources will be closest to the noise sensitive receivers and also for the "average" situation, with noise sources located towards the centre of the site. The latter is likely to be representative of the long-term noise emissions. The noise levels presented below are external noise levels calculated at the facade of the worst affected floor of the affected receiver.

Table 5: Calculated noise levels from proposed construction activities

Receiver	Management level, dB L <sub>Aeq,</sub>	Assessment scenario	Plastering	Services Fitout	Tiling	Ceiling Fixing	Joinery Installat ion	Painting
А	48	Worst case	52	52	40	51	51	53
		Average	48	48	36	48	48	49
Е	48	Worst case	60	60	46	60	60	60
		Average	51	52	39	51	51	52

Note: Carpet laying has not been considered in the above assessment as the tools associated with it are not expected to generate significant noise.

The calculated noise levels indicate that the average noise levels associated with some of the construction activities proposed outside of standard construction hours are expected to exceed the construction noise management levels. However, the exceedances are not considered to be significant and can be controlled and minimised with active on-site noise management.

The calculated noise levels indicate that out of hours construction activity has the potential to be significantly above the construction noise management levels when at their "worst-case" assessment scenario. Construction equipment associated with noisier activities should be chosen so as to minimise the noise impact on the nearest impacted receivers. Its use in the vicinity of impacted receivers should be scheduled earlier in the evening time period as far as practicable. Furthermore, tile cutting should be restricted to not take place during the extended construction hours.

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#### **Construction vibration**

No high vibration generating activities are proposed during the extended construction hours. Therefore, we do not expected the nearest receivers to experience vibration impacts.

# NOISE AND VIBRATION MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR CONSTRUCTION OUTSIDE STANDARD HOURS

In addition to the management practices and noise and vibration control techniques provided in the construction noise and vibration management plan for the project (refer *Rp001 R00 2013244SY*), the following controls will be employed to minimise the potential noise impacts from activities taking place outside of standard construction hours:

- Consultation with the community will need to be carried out as per the recommendations made in the construction noise and vibration management plan for the project
- Out of hours construction will only commence on each level of the building once the facade has been made watertight. This in itself will prove to be the most effective mitigation strategy as it endeavours to contain construction noise within the building
- Noisier construction activities taking place within the building will be scheduled to take place away from receivers during the later hours of the evening as far as practicable
- Tiling activity will be restricted to the installation of tiles and tile cutting will not take place during the extended construction hours
- Deliveries to the site will not occur outside of standard construction hours
- Scaffolding erection associated with painting activities will not take place outside of standard construction hours
- Workers working within the building will be encouraged to keep voice levels to a minimum
- All sub-contractors will be encouraged to car pool or use public transport
- Parking will be made available for all staff in the underground car park (once completed) to minimise impact on the surrounding streets and limit noise when staff leave the site at night
- In addition to implementing the complaint-handling procedure detailed in the construction noise management plant, if any tools/equipment related to out of hours construction work are found to give rise to complaints from affected receivers, then these activities will be rescheduled to only occur during the standard construction hours.



We trust this information is satisfactory. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully

MARSHALL DAY ACOUSTICS LTD

**Anjali Chandhok** 

Anjali Chandles

Consultant



# APPENDIX A ACOUSTIC TERMINOLOGY

**Ambient** The ambient noise level is the noise level measured in the absence of the

intrusive noise or the noise requiring control. Ambient noise levels are frequently measured to determine the situation prior to the addition of a

new noise source.

SPL or L<sub>P</sub> Sound Pressure Level

A logarithmic ratio of a sound pressure measured at distance, relative to the

threshold of hearing (20  $\mu$ Pa RMS) and expressed in decibels.

**SWL or L**<sub>w</sub> <u>Sound Power Level</u>

A logarithmic ratio of the acoustic power output of a source relative to 10<sup>-12</sup> watts and expressed in decibels. Sound power level is calculated from measured sound pressure levels and represents the level of total sound

power radiated by a sound source.

dB <u>Decibel</u>

The unit of sound level.

Expressed as a logarithmic ratio of sound pressure P relative to a reference

pressure of Pr=20  $\mu$ Pa i.e. dB = 20 x log(P/Pr)

dBA The unit of sound level which has its frequency characteristics modified by a

filter (A-weighted) so as to more closely approximate the frequency bias of

the human ear.

**A-weighting** The process by which noise levels are corrected to account for the non-linear

frequency response of the human ear.

**L**<sub>Aeq (t)</sub> The equivalent continuous (time-averaged) A-weighted sound level. This is

commonly referred to as the average noise level.

The suffix "t" represents the time period to which the noise level relates, e.g. (8 h) would represent a period of 8 hours, (15 min) would represent a period

of 15 minutes and (2200-0700) would represent a measurement time

between 10 pm and 7 am.

L<sub>A90</sub> The A-weighted noise level equalled or exceeded for 90% of the

measurement period. This is commonly referred to as the background noise

level.

L<sub>Amax</sub> The A-weighted maximum noise level. The highest noise level which occurs

during the measurement period.

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#### Vibration

When an object vibrates, it moves rapidly up and down or from side to side. The magnitude of the sensation when feeling a vibrating object is related to the vibration velocity.

Vibration can occur in any direction. When vibration velocities are described, it can be either the total vibration velocity, which includes all directions, or it can be separated into the vertical direction (up and down vibration), the horizontal transverse direction (side to side) and the horizontal longitudinal direction (front to back).

# PPV Peak Particle Velocity

For Peak Particle Velocity (PPV) is the measure of the vibration aptitude, zero to maximum. Used for building structural damage assessment.

# **VDV** Vibration Dose Value

Vibration Dose Value is based on British Standard BS 6472:1992 Guide to Evaluation of Human Exposure to Vibration in Buildings (1Hz to 80Hz) and provides guidelines for the evaluation of whole body exposure to intermittent vibration.

VDV can be used to take into account the weighted measured RMS vibration from many vibration sources including rail vehicles, construction equipment such as jackhammers and industry. VDV takes into account the duration of each event and the number of events per day, either at present or in the foreseeable future and calculates a single value index.



# APPENDIX B CONSTRUCTION NOISE CRITERIA

The NSW EPA Interim Construction Noise Guideline (CNG) provides guidance for assessing noise associated with construction activities. The CNG sets out management levels above which there may be community reaction to construction noise.

The noise management levels for residential receivers affected by construction noise are derived from the Rating Background Level detailed in the Environmental Assessment prepared by MDA (refer *Rp001 R06 2010009de Noise Impact Assessment*) and adding 5dB for construction outside of the recommended hours set out in the CNG.

The construction noise management level for residential receivers that will be impacted by the extended construction hours are provided in Table B1 below.

**Table B1: Construction noise management levels** 

Receiver	Туре	RBL, dB L <sub>A90</sub>	Management level, dB L <sub>Aeq, 15mins</sub>
Darlington Road Residential	Residential	43	48
Mandelbaum House Residential	Residential	43	48

In applying the management level, the CNG requires that all feasible and reasonable work practices are employed. Where the management level is exceeded, all potentially impacted receivers should be informed.



# APPENDIX C CONSTRUCTION NOISE SOURCES

A variety of construction plant will be used for this project. Table C1 provides a schedule of construction equipment that is anticipated to be used on this site and their noise levels as taken from:

- BS5228:1-2009 Code of practice for noise and vibration control on construction and open sites -Part 1: Noise
- AS 2436-2010: Guide to noise and vibration control on construction, demolition and maintenance sites.

Table C1: Construction noise source sound power levels (L<sub>WA</sub>), dB re 10<sup>-12</sup> W

Noise source	A-weighted sound power level, dB L <sub>WA</sub>	Source		
Nail gun	101 <sup>1</sup>	BS5228:1-2009		
Small mixer	90 <sup>1</sup>	BS5228:1-2009		
Hand-held gas cutter	93 <sup>1</sup>	BS5228:1-2009		
Compressor (silenced)	101	AS2436-2010		

Note 1: Sound power level calculated based on the sound pressure level provided in BS5228:1-2009