



INTRODUCTION

This procedure defines the system to be adopted at any company workplace or site, for the control of exposure to Hand Arm Vibration (HAV)

REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

Whilst the directors and senior management have an overall responsibility for overseeing Health and Safety within the company, the site manager shall ensure that:

- All risks of exposure to hand arm vibration are assessed, minimised and otherwise controlled so far as is reasonably practicable on their site

Construction workers, exposed to vibration as a result of operating hand-held power tools and machinery may be at risk from injuries known as Hand Arm Vibration Syndrome (HAVS). The most common HAVS injury is Vibration White Finger (VWF). Since no cure for VWF currently exists, preventative measures are the only means of protecting Company employees and others who might be exposed to vibration

The Health and Safety at Work, etc Act 1974, and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999, oblige all employers to do everything that is reasonably practicable to prevent an individual from being injured by the hazards at work, including vibration.

European legislation regarding vibration exposure reduction was passed in 2002 when the European Parliament authorised the implementation of a directive specifically written for reducing vibration exposure. This is known as the Physical Agents (Vibration) Directive (2002/44/EC). In the UK this directive has now been enacted through the Control of Vibration at Work Regulations 2005 (the Vibration Regulations) which came into force on 6 July 2005 and aim to protect workers from risks to health from vibration.

These regulations require employers to:-

- Reduce vibration exposure to a minimum
- Provide information and training to exposed employees
- Assess vibration exposure levels
- Ensure that when vibration exposure reaches the exposure action value of $2.5 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ A(8)}$ 100 points, a programme of measures to reduce exposure is carried out and health surveillance provided
- Keep vibration exposure below the exposure limit value of $5.0 \text{ m/s}^2 \text{ A(8)}$ 400 points.



IMPLEMENTING THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE CONTROL OF VIBRATION AT WORK REGULATIONS

RESPONSIBILITIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Langwith Construction has proactively implemented a series of measures, designed to manage and control Hand Arm Vibration exposure associated with its operations and meets the requirements of the legislation.

These measures will enable Langwith Construction to ensure that the levels of HAVS hazards and risks are systematically and progressively reduced by doing the following;

- Prior to commencement of employment with Langwith Construction, all new starters will complete the employees induction form including [LB12-17](#) HAVs initial screening questionnaire.
- Every employee will annually or sooner if the needs arises, complete form [LB12-16](#) Health Surveillance Questionnaire. Any areas of concern that are highlighted will require the employee to be referred to a nurse or doctor.
- Ensure that all method statements and risk assessments adequately consider vibration and the processes required to reduce or eliminate exposure.
- Operatives will ascertain tasks to be undertaken on a daily basis including plant/equipment to be used. This information will be entered on [LB12-15](#) along with vibration magnitude and estimated actual 'trigger time'.
- Using the ready reckoner on [LB-IS 02](#), actual daily exposure expressed as points can be calculated and signed off on a weekly basis as a permanent record.
- Exposure Action Value (EAV) = 100 points per day - exceeding this level requires health surveillance to be implemented.
- Exposure Limit Value (ELV) = 400 points per day - after which work must stop and actions taken to reduce exposure immediately and/or advice sought from.

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[For further guidance refer to Section B14 of your GE700 manual or contact Nigel Stokes](#)