



## BREEAM 2011 ACOUSTIC CREDITS

From 1 July 2011, BREEAM 2011 replaced BREEAM 2008 as the current assessment & certification scheme for new buildings. This bulletin aims to highlight the key changes to acoustic related credits.

### Hea 05 Acoustic Performance

Hea 05 (previously Hea 13 or 21) typically covers topics such as internal noise levels, sound insulation, reverberation, rain noise etc. The key 2008 > 2011 changes are below:

- **A new prerequisite for all project types**  
The acoustician shall be employed at briefing stage to provide early design advice on external noise levels, site layout, acoustic treatment for facades and, in schools, SEN rooms.
- **Some relaxations for schools & further education colleges**  
The requirements have become slightly less onerous, including a 5dB relaxation for sound insulation of school music rooms ('noisy' room adjacencies are designed out through space planning). The previous BS 8233 speech privacy requirement in colleges was often tricky to achieve in naturally ventilated buildings - this requirement has now been omitted.
- **More credits available for office, industrial, retail, prisons, courts**  
There are now 2 credits available for all of the above development types where previously there may have only been 1.

#### Our Hea 05 Services...

- ✓ [Environmental noise survey](#)
- ✓ [BREEAM / Planning support](#)
- ✓ [Architectural acoustic design](#)
- ✓ [Building services noise control](#)
- ✓ [Sound testing](#)

### Pol 05 Noise Attenuation

Pol 05 (formerly Pol 08) relates to plant noise emissions. The key 2008 > 2011 change is below:

- **Relaxed plant noise limits**  
Previously, plant noise needed to be controlled to a level equal to or lower than the prevailing background noise level at the nearest noise sensitive receptors. The new requirements are equivalent to this for night plant operations but relaxed for daytime operations and are worded to clarify the findings of commissioning tests.

**NB** It is common for Local Authorities to impose more stringent plant noise criteria at planning, thus making Pol 05 a relatively simple credit to target.

#### Our Pol 05 Services...

- ✓ [Environmental noise survey](#)
- ✓ [Noise Impact Assessment](#)
- ✓ [Acoustic testing](#)

**Hann Tucker Associates** is a leading UK based independent acoustic consultancy & hold all qualifications required to satisfy the BREEAM requirement for a "[suitably qualified acoustician](#)". We are able to offer our services on any building scheme, whether [acoustic BREEAM credits](#) are targeted or not.

UK South (T) 01483 770595    UK North (T) 0161 832 7041    (E) [enquiries@hanntucker.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@hanntucker.co.uk)    (W) [www.hanntucker.co.uk](http://www.hanntucker.co.uk)