



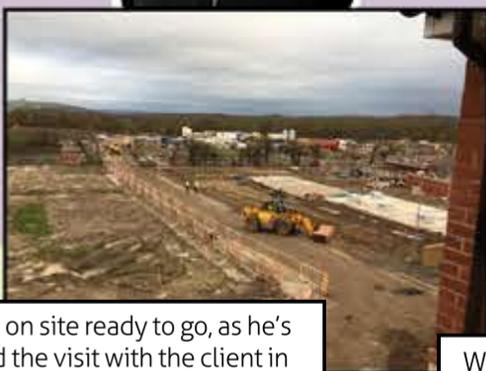
Meet the SOUND TESTERS..



Stephen



Stephen arrives on site ready to go, as he's already planned the visit with the client in advance and confirmed that the plots are all ready to be tested.



With the health and safety boxes checked, he assesses the day's work with the site team and takes the opportunity to plan future visits.

Now for the main event. The testing begins...



It's important that the surrounding area is clear of all other personnel, for their safety but also so that it doesn't affect the test results.



The equipment we use enables us to test in a quick and efficient way - up to **114dB** (equivalent to a jet engine).



Setup is generally the same, whatever the building... Stephen connects the amplifier to the speakers, making sure they're at the required distance apart.



Among the notes we have to take, the **volume** of the room is more important than you'd think. Here comes the science bit...

Spaces smaller than $25m^3$ can skew the test results, as sound waves may cancel each other out or combine together, causing an inaccurate reading.



airborne

Sound testing can take two forms - **airborne** and **impact**. Here, the airborne sound level in the source room is measured with the speaker switched on at 114dB.

Stephen also measures the sound on the other side of the partition (and/or floor) to make sure the building complies with sound insulation regulations (Part E).

tap... tap... tap! The second type of test is only for flats. This is a tapping machine, which uses five 500g hammers to create a standardised noise to represent footfall on the floor above, while the noise is recorded in the room below.



impact



We time our visits carefully... to ensure the site is ready - but not too ready. The buildings we test need to be complete - but it's important that flats haven't yet had the carpets fitted.

Where it's helpful, we are happy to take the opportunity to walk around the site with our client to reassure them on the **acoustic detailing** of any unfinished plots.



Stephen heads back to the office to download the data and put together the report.

We've developed our own software tools that enable us to produce high-quality reports quickly - we aim for **next day reporting**, although in some circumstances we can provide reports on the same day.

Give us a call on **01273 696887** and ask for one of the team to talk through your sound testing needs.

