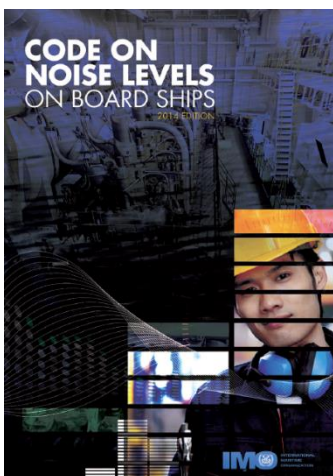




SUMMARY OF NEW IMO NOISE CODE



Since 1981, the IMO has established a guideline for shipboard airborne noise (IMO Resolution A468XII-1981); the old code. This guideline included information on sound measurement, acoustic insulation, hearing protection and maximum recommended sound pressure levels by ship compartment type.

The new Code is generally the same except that it has mandatory sections. The Code is only mandatory for ships that are 1,600 gross tons (GT) or larger and for which the building contract was placed on or after July 1, 2014. The new code will not be applicable to numerous types of vessels such as: dynamically supported craft, high-speed craft, fishing vessels, pipe-laying barges, crane barges, mobile offshore drilling units, pleasure yachts not engaged in trade, naval ships and troopships, ships not propelled by mechanical means, pile driving vessels and dredgers. An abbreviated list of the noise level limits is given in Table 1.

TABLE 1: Abbreviated list of noise level limits from IMO *Code On Noise Levels on Board Ships*.

Designation of rooms and spaces	Limit from A468 (any size)	Ship Size	
		1,600 to 10,000 GT	≥10,000 GT
Machinery spaces	110 ¹	110	110
Machinery control rooms	75	75	75
Workshops	85	85	85
Non-specified work spaces	90	85	85
Navigating bridge & chartrooms	65	65	65
Look out posts & bridge wings	70	70	70
Radio Rooms	60	60	60
Radar Rooms	65	65	65
Cabins & Hospitals	60	60	55
Mess-Rooms	65	65	60
Recreation Rooms	65	65	60
Open Recreation Areas	75	75	75
Offices	65	65	60
Galleys (without food processing equipment operating)	75	75	75
Serveries and pantries	75	75	75
Spaces not specified	90	90	90

(See IMO document for all details)

¹ Not continuously manned. Continuously manned machinery rooms were 90 dB(A) noise limit