



GROUND-BASED NOISE MANAGEMENT



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WHY IS MANAGING GROUND-BASED NOISE AT SYDNEY AIRPORT IMPORTANT?

Sydney Airport is located only 8km from the CBD and is close to densely populated areas, which means managing ground-based noise at the airport is very important. Sydney Airport, all airport tenants and operators are responsible for managing ground-based noise generated at the airport, and minimising its impact within the airport boundary and in areas outside the airport.

Ground-based noise can be generated from a number of activities and is not solely limited to aircraft operations.

These activities include:

- Operation of aircraft auxiliary power units (APUs);
- Aircraft engine ground running;
- Road traffic;
- Operation of audible alarm warning systems;
- Construction and development activities; and
- Operation of plant and equipment.

GROUND-BASED NOISE MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

Sydney Airport has adopted key objectives for ground-based noise management. These are in

the Sydney Airport Environment Strategy 2013-2018, which was approved by the Australian Government in February 2014.

These objectives are to:

- Minimise noise associated with ground operations; and
- Comply with relevant State and Commonwealth noise standards.

Sydney Airport's strategy to manage ground-based noise includes:

- Implementation of Aircraft Engine Operating Procedures (including Ground Running Rules), as while engine ground running is essential to ensure effective and safe aircraft operations and maintenance, noise impacts must also be considered;
- Assessment of potential noise impacts from development or construction works and implementation of measures to mitigate those impacts;
- Noise monitoring of projects and/or activities where necessary;
- Installation of fixed electrical ground power units and pre-conditioned air infrastructure at all new aerobridge gates and progressively at existing gates to minimise the use of noisier aircraft auxiliary power units; and



- Procedures to investigate ground-based noise complaints and determination of appropriate corrective actions where necessary.

LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

The Airports (Environment Protection) Regulations 1997 establish requirements for acceptable ground-based noise management at Sydney Airport.

These include:

- Schedule 4 Excessive Noise lists the acceptable limits for noise from various ground-based sources;
- Reg. 4.06 states that operators at the airport must take all reasonable and practicable measures to prevent or minimise the generation of offensive noise; and
- Reg. 2.04 defines what is excessive noise and offensive noise.

Note the above is a summary only and airport tenants should refer to these Regulations and the Sydney Airport Environment Strategy 2013-2018 in full to establish how their operations may be affected.

IN-FLIGHT AIRCRAFT NOISE

The Airports (Environment Protection) Regulations 1997 do not apply to noise generated by an aircraft in flight or when landing, taking off or taxiing at Sydney Airport. These noise impacts are dealt with separately to ground-based noise at Sydney Airport. Complaints regarding in-flight

noise are directed to Airservices Australia's Noise Complaints and Information Service.

ACTIONS YOU CAN TAKE TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT

Any activity or operation that has the potential to generate excessive or offensive ground-based noise must be appropriately managed and undertaken in a responsible manner.

You can minimise the risk associated with such activities and operations by:

- Ensuring all aircraft engine ground running is carried out in accordance with the Aircraft Engine Operating Procedures and Ground Running Rules;
- Using fixed electrical ground power units and pre-conditioned air infrastructure instead of aircraft auxiliary power units where possible;
- Ensuring all operations carried out at the airport are done so in appropriate locations and at an appropriate time of day;
- Ensuring all noise sources are identified and then appropriate mitigating controls are correctly implemented during construction and development; and
- Contacting Sydney Airport's Environment department if you are unsure about the noise impacts associated with your operations or undertakings.

Further information

For more information please contact Sydney Airport's Environment department on (02) 9667 9111, email environment@syd.com.au or visit our website www.sydneyairport.com.au.

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www.sydneyairport.com.au