



UCL

**Leonard Wolfson Experimental
Neurology Centre**

Noise Survey and Assessment

R01a-jh

Issue | 15 January 2013



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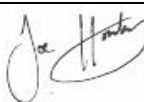
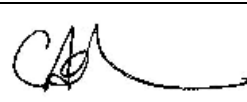
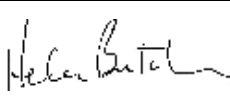
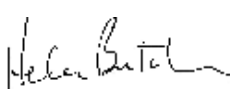
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1 Introduction

New mechanical services plant is proposed on the roof of the University College London (UCL) lecture theatre building. Arup has been commissioned to assess noise emissions from the proposed development with regard to planning.

This report details the noise survey work that has been carried out to measure existing background noise levels and the assessment of noise emissions from proposed new plant. The second survey was requested by London Borough of Camden Environmental Health department to measure existing background noise levels when the roofplant already operating and in situ on UCL lecture theatre roof is not in operation. The location and protocol for the survey was agreed on site with the EHO, prior to the second survey taking place. It should be noted however that there was other plant in operation permanently on the adjacent rooftop of Great Ormond Street Hospital, which was not in our control, but formed part of the measured background for both surveys. The assessment is carried out in accordance with London Borough of Camden's (LBC) noise emissions policy.

2 Survey

A baseline noise survey consisting of both attended and unattended measurements has been carried out to measure the background noise levels at sensitive receivers nearest to the proposed development.

Measurements were made between 1300 on 5 November and 1300 on 6 November 2012.

A further attended survey was carried out at the same location on 7 February 2013 as prescribed by the LBC EHO. This survey was carried out to ascertain the contribution, if any, of local existing mechanical services on the UCL building rooftop.

Measurements were made between 0230hrs and 0300hrs on the 7th February 2013.

The surveys were conducted by Arup Acoustics' engineers Joe Hornby and Joseph Mendis. Weather conditions were dry and calm throughout. At any time conditions were within the acceptable limits with wind speeds under 5ms⁻¹.

2.1 Method

2.1.1 Measurement Procedure

An unmanned noise logger was used to measure noise levels over a 24 hour period in the form of consecutive 10 minute measurements. An additional attended measurement was carried out logging at 5 minute intervals.

The measurement location is shown in Figure 1. The sound level meters for both surveys were mounted on a tripod on the roof of the single storey UCL lecture theatre, which is the proposed location for the new plant. This location is enclosed by the taller surrounding UCLH hospital buildings on two sides, and Great

Ormond Street Hospital buildings on the other two sides. A windshield was fitted to the microphone at all times to minimise the effects of wind induced noise across the microphone diaphragm.

2.2 Observations

The four existing condenser units were running when the measurement period started for the un-attended measurements, and it is our understanding that this is normally the case. It was noted that for the attended measurements the condenser units remained inactive apart from the occasional running of one condenser unit for not more than 20 seconds. The dominant noise source was the plant operating on Great Ormond Street hospital roof, immediately adjacent to our site.

The measurement position was exposed to direct and reflected sound, although the relative contribution of these two components could not be established. It is estimated from experience that direct sound from the existing UCL roof plant would be of the order of 2dB lower than the overall level measured.

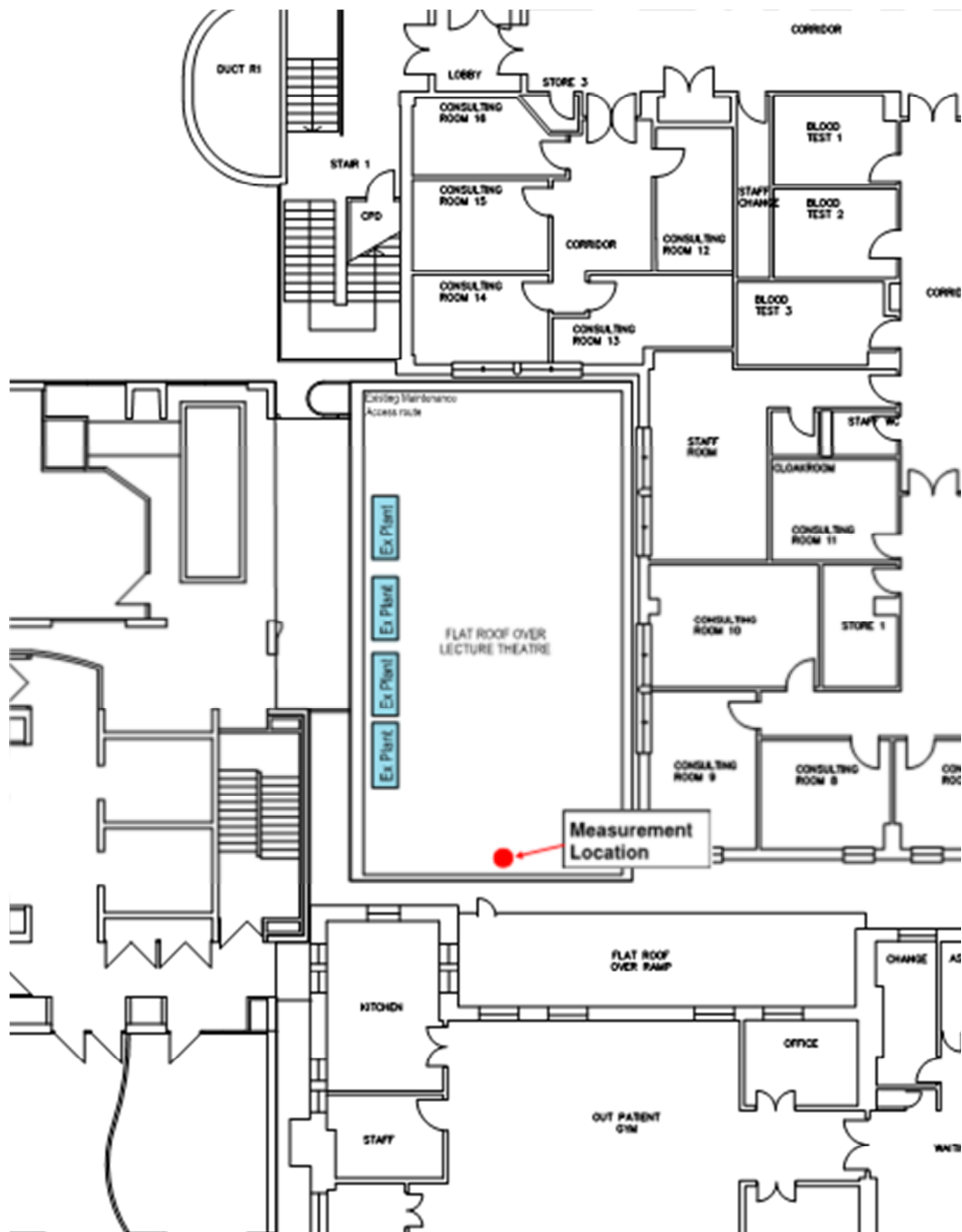


Figure 1 Measurement location

2.2.1 Instrumentation

The instrumentation used to carry out the noise survey was as follows:

- Rion NL-52 sound level meter with environmental logging kit-(unattended survey)
- Rion NC-74 sound pressure level calibrator (unattended survey)
- B&K 2260 sound level meter (attended survey)

Immediately before and after each series of measurements was carried out, the SLM's calibration was checked using the calibrator.

All noise measuring instrumentation owned and used by Arup Acoustics is checked for correct calibration to traceable national and international standards on an annual basis. Routine 'in-house' spot checks are also conducted as part of Arup Acoustics' QA policy.

2.3 Measurement results

Results for the unattended survey are given graphically in Figure 2 and numerically in Appendix A. For the unattended survey the lowest measured background noise level was 60 dBL_{A90,10mins}. The overall ambient noise level for daytime (0700-1900) was measured as 62dBL_{Aeq,12hrs} and for evening (1900-2300) was measured as 63dBL_{Aeq,4hrs}.

The background noise level recorded during the attended survey was 55dBL_{A90} averaged over 30 minutes. The overall ambient noise level for the period was 56dBL_{Aeq,30mins}. Results are presented numerically in Appendix A.

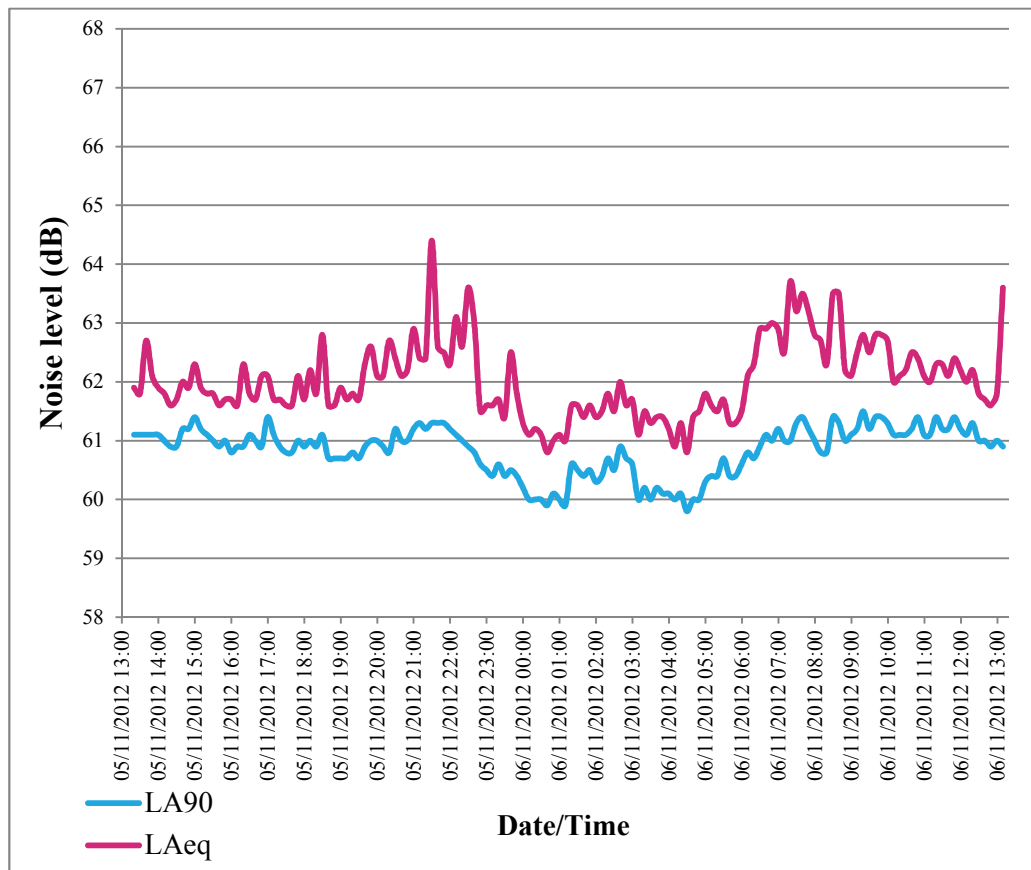


Figure 2 Unattended measurement results

Figure 2 reveals that little change in background noise occurred during the 24 hour period, indicating that existing plant emissions (as well as the contribution from other sources) remain relatively constant.

3 Planning and noise emissions

3.1 Noise sensitive premises

The nearest noise sensitive receivers to the proposed plant on the flat roof are the surrounding UCLH and Great Ormond Street hospital buildings.

3.2 Noise emissions limit

Camden London Borough Council's Local Development Framework policy document DP28 - *Noise and vibration* sets out noise emissions limits for proposed plant and machinery.

The maximum noise emissions level ($L_{Aeq,10mins}$) is defined as 5dB below the lowest measured background level ($L_{A90,10mins}$) at 1m from sensitive facades. Where the emitted noise is tonal, impulsive or intermittent, the maximum noise emissions level is defined as 10dB below the lowest measured background noise level at 1m from sensitive facades. These limits apply for background noise levels of 60dB L_{A90} or less.

Where the existing background noise level exceeds $60\text{dB}_{\text{LA90}}$, the maximum noise emission level must not exceed $55\text{dB}_{\text{LAeq}}$ 1m from sensitive facades.

Considering the attended survey results recorded during the early hours and the lower background noise levels, it is proposed that these results be used to set the noise emissions levels. It is envisaged that this would reflect the quietest period and hence the expected lower noise levels.

The lowest background noise measured at the nearest noise sensitive premises was $55\text{dB}_{\text{LA90,10mins}}$. Therefore the noise emissions limit is $50\text{dB}_{\text{LAeq}}$ for continuous, non-tonal noise and $45\text{dB}_{\text{LAeq}}$ for tonal or intermittent noise at the surrounding UCLH buildings.

For new plant, reflected sound will cause the resulting sound level at 1m from nearby facades to be approximately 2-3dB higher than the direct component alone. This means that for the direct component, the applicable limits are $47\text{dB}_{\text{LAeq}}$ for continuous, non-tonal noise and $42\text{dB}_{\text{LAeq}}$ for tonal or intermittent noise, 1m from the surrounding UCLH buildings.

3.3 Plant noise emissions

The proposed new plant comprises two air handling units with sound power levels as detailed in Appendix C and a condenser with a sound power level of 65dB(A) . All new plant would be located on the roof of the UCL lecture theatre, at least 3m away from the surrounding hospital buildings.

A full equipment list and noise level data for each item of plant have been provided by the services engineer. On the basis of these data we have calculated direct noise levels 1m from the nearby facades, with the following conclusions.

1. Casing break-out noise from the AHUs is insignificant (less than 30dBA at the facades).
2. The ducted AHU supply and return connections into the building will not produce significant noise.
3. Open fresh air inlets to the AHUs would cause noise levels which would marginally exceed the limits at the nearest facades. Therefore these inlets should be provided with a duct connection and attenuator, with the minimum insertion losses shown in Table 1. The resulting direct noise level would then be approximately 45dB(A)
4. Noise from the ducted exhaust air connections is likely to be just compatible with the required limits, but we consider it prudent to allow for a similar level of attenuation as the intakes. . The resulting direct noise level would then be approximately 42dB(A)
5. The noise level from the condenser unit 1m from the nearest facade will be of the order of 49dB(A) , and therefore compatible provided it is not tonal.

Octave Band Frequency	63	125	250	500	1kHz	2kHz	4kHz	8kHz
Insertion Loss	0.0	0.0	-7.0	-11.0	-9.0	-5.0	-2.0	0.0

Table 1 Required attenuator insertion losses.

In total the resulting noise level will be below 52dB(A).

4 Conclusion

Noise emissions from proposed new plant at UCL have been assessed. A noise survey has been carried out to establish existing background noise levels.

In accordance with Camden London Borough Council noise emission policy, a noise emissions limit of 55dB_{L_{Aeq}} for continuous, non-tonal noise and 50dB_{L_{Aeq}} for tonal or intermittent noise has been set 1m from the surrounding UCLH buildings.

With attenuation measures to the proposed AHUs as set out above, the new plant should be compatible with these limits.

Appendix A

Measurement results

Unattended Survey		
Date & Time	Measured $L_{Aeq,10mins}(dB)$	Measured $L_{A90,10mins}(dB)$
05/11/2012 13:00	64	62
05/11/2012 13:10	64	62
05/11/2012 13:20	62	61
05/11/2012 13:30	62	61
05/11/2012 13:40	63	61
05/11/2012 13:50	62	61
05/11/2012 14:00	62	61
05/11/2012 14:10	62	61
05/11/2012 14:20	62	61
05/11/2012 14:30	62	61
05/11/2012 14:40	62	61
05/11/2012 14:50	62	61
05/11/2012 15:00	62	61
05/11/2012 15:10	62	61
05/11/2012 15:20	62	61
05/11/2012 15:30	62	61
05/11/2012 15:40	62	61
05/11/2012 15:50	62	61
05/11/2012 16:00	62	61
05/11/2012 16:10	62	61
05/11/2012 16:20	62	61
05/11/2012 16:30	62	61
05/11/2012 16:40	62	61
05/11/2012 16:50	62	61
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05/11/2012 17:10	62	61
05/11/2012 17:20	62	61
05/11/2012 17:30	62	61
05/11/2012 17:40	62	61
05/11/2012 17:50	62	61
05/11/2012 18:00	62	61
05/11/2012 18:10	62	61
05/11/2012 18:20	62	61
05/11/2012 18:30	63	61
05/11/2012 18:40	62	61
05/11/2012 18:50	62	61
05/11/2012 19:00	62	61

05/11/2012 19:10	62	61
05/11/2012 19:20	62	61
05/11/2012 19:30	62	61
05/11/2012 19:40	62	61
05/11/2012 19:50	63	61
05/11/2012 20:00	62	61
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05/11/2012 20:20	63	61
05/11/2012 20:30	62	61
05/11/2012 20:40	62	61
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06/11/2012 07:40	64	61
06/11/2012 07:50	63	61
06/11/2012 08:00	63	61

06/11/2012 08:10	63	61
06/11/2012 08:20	62	61
06/11/2012 08:30	64	61
06/11/2012 08:40	64	61
06/11/2012 08:50	62	61
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06/11/2012 12:10	62	61
06/11/2012 12:20	62	61
06/11/2012 12:30	62	61
06/11/2012 12:40	62	61
06/11/2012 12:50	62	61
06/11/2012 13:00	62	61
Attended Survey		
Date & Time	Measured $L_{Aeq,5mins}$(dB)	Measured $L_{A90,5mins}$(dB)
07/02/2013 02:42:30	55.7	55.2
07/02/2013 02:47:30	56.7	55.0
07/02/2013 02:52:30	55.7	55.2
07/02/2013 03:00:39	55.5	54.8
07/02/2013 03:05:50	55.9	55.2
07/02/2013 03:11:01	55.6	55.0

Appendix B

Acoustic terminology

Decibel (dB)

The ratio of sound pressures which we can hear is a ratio of 106 (one million:one). For convenience, therefore, a logarithmic measurement scale is used. The resulting parameter is called the 'sound pressure level' (L_p) and the associated measurement unit is the decibel (dB). As the decibel is a logarithmic ratio, the laws of logarithmic addition and subtraction apply.

dB(A)

The unit used to define a weighted sound pressure level, which correlates well with the subjective response to sound. The 'A' weighting follows the frequency response of the human ear, which is less sensitive to low and very high frequencies than it is to those in the range 500Hz to 4kHz.

In some statistical descriptors, the 'A' weighting forms part of a subscript, such as L_{A10} , L_{A90} , and L_{Aeq} for the 'A' weighted equivalent continuous noise level

Equivalent continuous sound level

An index for assessment for overall noise exposure is the equivalent continuous sound level, L_{eq} . This is a notional steady level which would, over a given period of time, deliver the same sound energy as the actual time-varying sound over the same period. Hence fluctuating levels can be described in terms of a single figure level.

Frequency

Frequency is the rate of repetition of a sound wave. The subjective equivalent in music is pitch. The unit of frequency is the hertz (Hz), which is identical to cycles per second. A 1000Hz is often denoted as 1kHz, eg 2kHz = 2000Hz. Human hearing ranges approximately from 20Hz to 20kHz. For design purposes the octave bands between 63Hz to 8kHz are generally used. The most commonly used frequency bands are octave bands, in which the mid frequency of each band is twice that of the band below it. For more detailed analysis, each octave band may be split into three one-third octave bands or in some cases, narrow frequency bands.

Sound pressure level

The sound power emitted by a source results in pressure fluctuations in the air, which are heard as sound.

The sound pressure level (L_p) is 10 times the logarithm of the ratio of the measured sound pressure (detected by a microphone) to the reference level of 2×10^{-5} Pa (the threshold of hearing).

Thus L_p (dB) = $10 \log (P_1/P_{ref})^2$ where P_{ref} , the lowest pressure detectable by the ear, is 0.00002 pascals (ie 2×10^{-5} Pa).

The threshold of hearing is 0dB, while the threshold of pain is approximately 120dB. Normal speech is approximately 60dB(A) or more and a change of 3dB is only just detectable. A change of 10dB is subjectively twice, or half, as loud.

Statistical noise levels

For levels of noise that vary widely with time, for example road traffic noise, it is necessary to employ an index which allows for this variation. The L_{10} , the level exceeded for 10% of the time period under consideration, and can be used for the assessment of road traffic noise (note that L_{Aeq} is used in BS 8233 for assessing traffic noise). The L_{90} , the level exceeded for 90% of the time, has been adopted to represent the background noise level. The L_1 , the level exceeded for 1% of the time, is representative of the maximum levels recorded during the sample period. A weighted statistical noise levels are denoted L_{A10} , $dB L_{A90}$ etc. The reference time period (T) is normally included, eg $dB L_{A10, 5min}$ or $dB L_{A90, 8hr}$.

Appendix C

Plant data sheets



Systemair A/S - Air handling unit design
SystemairCAD - Version C2012-07.03.B9

06/11/2012

Page 1

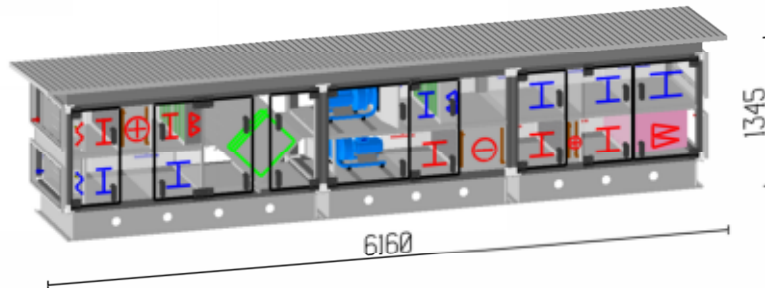
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Unit: Danvent DV 10

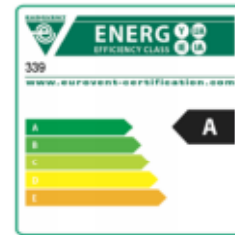
Plant no.: AHU-01/

Summary for unit no. 1

Unit size	10	Roof unit
Unit width	970	mm
Weight	1128	kg



	Supply		Extract	
Airflow (1,205 kg/m³)	0.49	m³/s	0.41	m³/s
Face velocity (unit)	1.37	m/s	1.15	m/s
External pressure	200	Pa	200	Pa
Filter	F7		G4	
Fan	77.3	%	71.0	%
	590	Pa	368	Pa
	3011	RPM	2440	RPM
Motor	0.75	kW	0.75	kW
	3x400	V	3x400	V
	1.77	A	1.77	A
SFP, clean filters including frequency converter	1.35	kW/(m³/s)		
SFP, clean filters excluding frequency converter	1.28	kW/(m³/s)		
Heat recovery	52.4	%		
Heating	4.22	kW - Air 10.9/18.0°C - Water 80/60°C - 0.8 kPa - 0.05 l/s		
Pipe connections	3/4" / 3/4"			
Heating	5.90	kW - Air -5.0/5.0°C - Water 80/60°C - 1.5 kPa - 0.07 l/s		
Pipe connections	1/2" / 1/2"			
Cooling	8.20	kW - Air 31.0/18.0°C - Water 6/12°C - 19.9 kPa - 0.32 l/s		
Pipe connections	3/4" / 3/4"			



Sound power level	63	125	250	500	1k	2k	4k	8k	Hz	Total
Supply air	62	61	66	66	64	57	53	41	dB	68 dB(A)
Outdoor air	62	59	64	64	58	52	50	44	dB	64 dB(A)
Exhaust air	60	60	66	65	66	62	57	52	dB	69 dB(A)
Extract air	61	59	64	63	60	57	54	55	dB	66 dB(A)
Sound break out	59	55	49	44	40	36	34	31	dB	47 dB(A)

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Systemair A/S - Air handling unit design
SystemairCAD - Version C2012-07.03.B9

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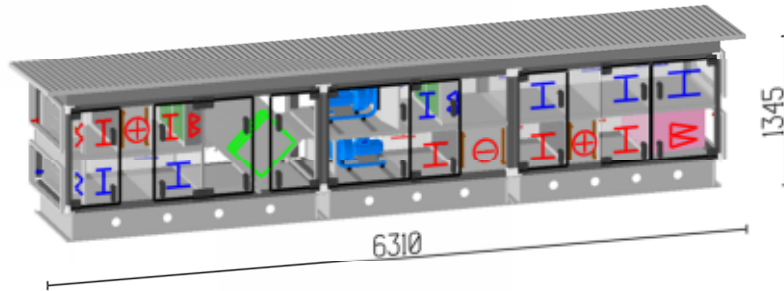
Project:

Unit: Danvent DV 10

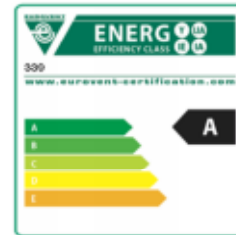
Plant no.: AHU-02/

Summary for unit no. 2

Unit size 10 Roof unit
Unit width 970 mm
Weight 1134 kg



	Supply		Extract	
Airflow (1,205 kg/m ³)	0.35	m ³ /s	0.28	m ³ /s
Face velocity (unit)	0.98	m/s	0.78	m/s
External pressure	200	Pa	200	Pa
Filter	F7		G4	
Fan	74.4	%	68.2	%
	468	Pa	305	Pa
	3036	RPM	2443	RPM
Motor	0.55	kW	0.55	kW
	3x400	V	3x400	V
	1.29	A	1.29	A
SFP, clean filters including frequency converter	1.09	kW/(m ³ /s)		
SFP, clean filters excluding frequency converter	1.04	kW/(m ³ /s)		
Heat recovery	52.5	%		
Heating	3.00 kW - Air 10.9/18.0°C - Water 80/60°C - 0.4 kPa - 0.04 l/s			
Pipe connections	3/4" / 3/4"			
Heating	4.21 kW - Air -5.0/5.0°C - Water 80/60°C - 0.8 kPa - 0.05 l/s			
Pipe connections	1/2" / 1/2"			
Cooling	5.86 kW - Air 31.0/18.0°C - Water 6/12°C - 19.9 kPa - 0.23 l/s			
Pipe connections	3/4" / 3/4"			



Sound power level	63	125	250	500	1k	2k	4k	8k	Hz	Total
Supply air	57	55	61	62	62	58	50	41	dB	65 dB(A)
Outdoor air	56	53	58	61	57	52	50	45	dB	62 dB(A)
Exhaust air	54	55	61	62	63	62	56	50	dB	68 dB(A)
Extract air	54	53	59	61	59	58	55	53	dB	64 dB(A)
Sound break out	52	49	43	41	39	36	34	31	dB	45 dB(A)

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Seasonal Classic



For motor assembly category, the noise from scope of this standard is 110 dB(A) or 102 dB(A), see separate drawing for electrical data Equipment complying with EMC 61000-4-2: European/international technical standard setting the limits for harmonic currents produced by equipment connected to public low-voltage system with input current > 16A and < 75A per phase (B) Short-circuit power (C) Separate drawings for electrical data (D) European/international technical standard setting the limits for harmonic currents produced by equipment connected to public low-voltage system with input current greater than 16A and < 75A per phase. (E) IEC 61000-3-2

Indoor unit
FAQ-C

Wired remote control
BRC1E52A/B



Outdoor unit
RZQG-L7V1/LY1