

Sound Choice Hire Ltd

Pro Audio and Lighting Hire



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Risk Assessment Record

Area: All

Location: GRAND CONNAUGHT ROOMS

Reference: Havens House

Assessment completed by: Lee Waddington

Date: 11/11/2014

Activities: Cable Management

Mains cables are run from a power supply point to mains distribution equipment, dimmers, etc. Multicore and "TRS" cables run from distro / dimmers to lighting fixtures on stage trusses etc. Front of House Ethersound cat 5 cabling and mains is also run through audience area to the mix position. Speaker cables run to delay positions in audience area from amp rack.

This assessment covers the physical hazards of such cabling and cable management.

Severity	Likelihood	Risk Class
Equipment Damage No Injury Trivial injury Minor injury Major injury Fatal injury	Impossible Remote Possible Probably Likely	High Moderate Minor Acceptable

Hazards

Item	Hazard	Severity	Likelihood	Risk Class
1	Trip hazard from floor run cables	Trivial injury	Possible	Minor
2	Tension hazard in cables when fixture is rotated can cause damage to strain relief.	Equipment damage	Possible	Minor
3	Melting hazard due to cables running close or against hot surfaces of lighting fixtures	Equipment damage	Possible	Moderate
4	Weight of cables running from truss may effect truss stability	Equipment damage	Possible	Minor
5	Dropped cables from truss could inflict serious shock load on truss possibly leading	Fatal injury	Remote	Minor

	to failure			
6	Cable weight from truss could snap PVC tape on truss and cause cable fall	Minor injury	Possible	Moderate
7	Trip and tangle hazard to persons working at height on truss	Fatal injury	Remote	Minor
8	Trip hazard for cables laid in public areas	Equipment damage	Possible	Minor
9	Equipment faults	Fatal injury	Possible	Minor

Persons at Risk:

Employees: Yes

Contractors: Yes

Public: In case of point 5

Current Controls / Procedures

Item	Control/ Procedures	Monitored & Assessed by:	Adequate control
1	All floor run cables to be laid flat to floor and vertical to walls etc. Cables across walkways and in audience areas to be secured by cable ramps as appropriate. Walkway crossings to be kept a minimum and cables grouped together.	Sound Choice	Yes
2	Sufficient slack to be left in all fixture cables to allow full rotation of the unit and possible small positioning changes	Sound Choice	Yes
3	All cables to be taped securely	Sound Choice	Yes

	to prevent any possible contact with hot surfaces. Silicon lantern cables may make contact with the lantern they are connected to but extra care should be taken to ensure any connectors are kept clear.		
4	Weight of cables should be factored into truss load calculations. If the load is significant, or the fall angle is far from vertical then an additional chain hoist should be employed	Sound Choice	Yes
5	Cables should not be dropped from the truss at any time. All changes to a cable pick should be made with the truss at ground level	Sound Choice	Yes
6	Cable pick to be supported via a "spanset" and shackle, noosed around the cable, so as to take all the weight from the PVC tape. The shackle to be fitted in such a manner as to avoid cable damage	Sound Choice	Yes
7	All cables run on truss, stage roof or similar structure to be run neatly on top of truss and taped securely.	Sound Choice	Yes
8	All cables in public movement areas to be covered by cable ramp.	Sound Choice	Yes
9	All equipment to be tested in accordance with the Portable Appliance Testing (PAT) regulations	warehouse manager	Yes

Activities: Noise Level

This assessment covers the risk of noise levels during the event.

Pre-event noise risk assessment

Name of event:

Havens House - GRAND CONNAUGHT ROOMS

Date of assessment:

11 November 2014

Assessment completed by:

Lee Waddington

System set up:

The system used for this event is capable of producing up to 115 / 120 db from up to 40m from rigging point. Noise levels will be assessed by SOUND CHOICE HIRE LTD to ensure levels are kept within HSE guidelines.

What are the noise sources?

- Stage PA systems.
- Instruments and backline.

Are there sources of noise which are likely to result in personal exposures above the lower exposure action value?

Yes

What area(s) may be affected at this level?

- The stage platform (including side wings).
- The Venue
-
- **Action to be taken to protect staff in these noisy area**
-
- Operating times of the PA system to be closely managed by Lee Waddington – Sound Choice Hire Ltd.
- **Noise monitoring plan**
- Integrating sound-level meter to be used and a range of 15-minute L_{Aeq} samples to be taken by Sound Choice Hire Ltd during the event to establish the geographic limits of noisy areas.

Additional considerations

- Review of noisy areas and the type of hearing protection provided to be conducted once measurements are taken during the event. These measurements will also inform those involved about possible measures for future events.

* This is only strictly required at or above the upper exposure action value.(probably not applicable for this event)

How is noise measured? – Please Note

Noise is measured in decibels (dB). An 'A-weighting' sometimes written as 'dB(A)', is used to measure average noise levels, and a 'C-weighting' or 'dB(C)', to measure peak, impact or explosive noises.

Noise limits

Unlike workers, there is no specific legislation setting noise limits for the audience exposure to noise. However, HSE strongly recommends that the A-weighted equivalent continuous sound level over the duration of the event (Event LAeq) in any part of the audience area should not exceed 107 dB, and the C-weighted peak sound pressure level should not exceed 140 dB.

The above sound-level exposure values are for the whole of the audience area. For practical purposes, it is usual for audience sound-level exposure to be monitored close to the front-of-house sound mixing position. For the largest outdoor and indoor venues, this can be up to 75m from the front-of-stage barrier position where the audience sound-level exposure can be significantly higher than at the front-of-house sound mixing position.

Make sure that during the sound check the difference in sound level between the front-of-house sound mixing position and the front-of-stage – and, where delay / distribution stacks are in use, at the barrier for each delay / distribution stack – is established. This will then allow a guideline sound pressure level for the front-of-house sound mixing position to be determined that will restrict the whole of the audience sound-level exposure to below an Event LAeq of 107 dB, and C-weighted peak sound pressure levels to below 140 dB.

Where practical, the audience should not be allowed within 3m of any loudspeaker. This can be achieved by the use of approved safety barriers and dedicated stewards, wearing appropriate hearing protection. Where this is not practical, the overall music sound levels will have to be modified so that people closer than 3m to the loudspeakers are not exposed to an Event LAeq of more than 107 dB or C-weighted peak sound pressure levels of more than 140 dB. Under no circumstances should the audience and loudspeaker separation distance be less than 1m.

Activities: General Set up

This assessment covers the physical hazards of set up and running the event within the location
This includes general public safety and fire routes

Severity	Likelihood	Risk Class
Equipment Damage No Injury Trivial injury Minor injury Major injury Fatal injury	Impossible Remote Possible Probably Likely	High Moderate Minor Acceptable

Persons at Risk:

Employees: Yes

Contractors: Yes

Public: In case of point 1 - 4

Hazards

Item	Hazard	Severity	Likelihood	Risk Class
1	General Public within set up area	Trivial injury	Possible	Minor
2	General Public within control area	Trivial injury	Possible	Minor
3	High Noise Levels	Trivial injury	Possible	Minor

4	Set up near fire route – Access Blocked	High	Possible	Minor
5	Musician or performer electrical Equipment faults – 3 rd party equipment not supplied by Sound Choice Hire Ltd	Minor injury	Possible	Minor

Current Controls / Procedures

Item	Control/ Procedures	Monitored & Assessed by:	Adequate control
1	Set up area including Foh mix position and stage with be taped off with barrier tape to prevent general public from encroaching within the working set up area	Sound Choice	Yes
2	Control area to be manned at all times during event to prevent general public encroaching into this area.	Sound Choice	Yes
3	As mentioned in the previous pages all noise levels will be monitored by the production manager – Lee Waddington	Sound Choice	Yes
4	All staff and contractors working for Sound Choice Hire Ltd will be made aware of the fire route and at no time will this be blocked by vehicles or equipment	Sound Choice	Yes
5	All 3 rd party electrical equipment used on stage Would have to be PAT tested to check electrical safety	Sound Choice	Yes