

**APPENDIX 10.1**  
**GLOSSARY**

## Appendix 10.1 ACOUSTIC TERMINOLOGY

Decibel, dB	A unit of level derived from the logarithm of the ratio between the value of a quantity and a reference value. For sound pressure level ( $L_p$ ) the reference quantity is $2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ N/m}^2$ . The sound pressure level existing when microphone measured pressure is $2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ N/m}^2$ is 0 dB, the threshold of hearing.
L	Instantaneous value of Sound Pressure Level ( $L_p$ ) or Sound Power Level ( $L_w$ ).
Frequency	Number of cycles per second, measured in Hertz (Hz), related to sound pitch.
A weighting	Arithmetic corrections applied to values of $L_p$ according to frequency. When logarithmically summed for all frequencies, the resulting single "A weighted value" becomes comparable with other such values from which a comparative loudness judgement can be made, then, without knowledge of frequency content of the source.
$L_{eq,T}$	Equivalent continuous level of sound pressure which, if it actually existed for the integration time period T of the measurement, would possess the same energy as the constantly varying values of $L_p$ actually measured.
$L_{Aeq,T}$	Equivalent continuous level of A weighted sound pressure which, if it actually existed for the integration time period, T, of the measurement would possess the same energy as the constantly varying values of $L_p$ actually measured.
$L_{n,T}$	$L_p$ which was exceeded for n% of time, T.
$L_{An,T}$	Level in dBA which was exceeded for n% of time, T.
$L_{max,T}$	The instantaneous maximum sound pressure level which occurred during time, T.
$L_{Amax,T}$	The instantaneous maximum A weighted sound pressure level which occurred during time, T.