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Acoustics — Preferred reference values for acoustical and vibratory levels

*Acoustique — Valeurs de référence recommandées pour les niveaux
acoustiques et vibratoires*



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Foreword

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The committee responsible for this document is ISO/TC 43, *Acoustics*.

This third edition cancels and replaces the second edition (ISO 1683:2008), which has been technically revised.

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Introduction

Various kinds of acoustical and vibratory levels expressed in decibels are commonly used in acoustics. In order to establish a uniform basis for the expression of those levels, a set of agreed reference values is needed.

The reference value determines whether the level for a particular quantity is positive or negative. For general measurements and many engineering specifications, it is desirable that levels of a given kind be consistently positive (or consistently negative) rather than both positive and negative.

In general, a reference value is expressed as the number one and a derived SI unit formed by the use of an appropriate SI prefix.

The values specified in this International Standard represent the values internationally adopted.

For airborne sound, a special reference value for sound pressure is stated according to widespread use and legal implications.