



## Industrial

**Client:** BSW Timber

**Location:** Newbridge-on-Wye, Powys

### Project Overview

BSW Timber is the UK's largest sawmilling companies, employing over 800 people. In order to facilitate a variation to the planning conditions for their site in Powys, a detailed noise assessment was undertaken including baseline noise monitoring, on-site source noise measurements and comprehensive noise propagation modelling.

### Key Challenges

The site was located in a rural area sparsely populated with farmsteads and hamlets, therefore baseline noise levels, especially at night, are extremely low. This resulted in a particularly sensitive site, with approximately 20 noise-sensitive receptors located nearby. In addition, the site was limited to daytime and weekday hours of operation due to noise related planning conditions and our noise propagation model indicated that night-time operations would exceed the agreed noise limit levels.

### Our Solutions

We worked alongside the client to identify suitable mitigation measures. This included fitting 'smart' re-versing alarms to vehicles (where the alarm noise level varies automatically with prevailing ambient noise levels), implementing a Noise Management Plan and working on engineering solutions for externally located machinery such as log infeed decks and log kickers.

Once the noise control measures were in place, further noise modelling demonstrated that the site could operate effectively under the night-time noise level limits.

### The Successful Outcome

The noise assessment reports, specified mitigation and Noise Management Plan were presented to the Planning department and all noise-related planning conditions have since been modified to allow the site to operate 24/7.

As well as increasing sawmill production, the existing amenity of local residents has been protected and BSW has been able to increase local employment opportunities, creating an additional 24 full-time positions to facilitate the additional operational hours.

### What our client said

"All remarkably quiet on the night shift! Fourteen months on, no complaints and 24/7 operations are now a part of everyday life. Many thanks for Atmos' assistance with gaining planning permission for 24/7 operation at the site. Atmos were a pleasure to work with."

David Burd, BSW Timber

## Our Acoustic and Noise Expertise

Environmental noise regulation is now more stringent than ever, and as a result, regulators are becoming increasingly rigorous in relation to noise assessments and noise control measures.

Our specialist consultants bring extensive experience in environmental and occupational noise impact assessments across a wide range of projects – from wind farms, hydroelectric and biomass stations, to schools, residential developments, commercial buildings and industrial sites.

Our aim is to simplify the process of noise monitoring, assessment and management, providing effective advice and innovative solutions that helps smooth the way to realising the vision of your project.

## Our Ecology and Biodiversity Solutions

Atmos offers a comprehensive range of acoustic and noise solutions across the entire project life-cycle. From feasibility, scoping and planning submissions through to construction and on to post construction and operational monitoring.

Choose from an integrated service approach or one of our specialist services that can seamlessly feed into your project, whatever its current lifecycle stage, including:

- Baseline and Specific Noise
- Monitoring and Analysis
- BREEAM Assessments
- Compliance Monitoring and Discharge of Planning Conditions.
- Compliance with PPC and EP
- Conditions and Preparation of Applications
- Consultation and Liaison with Regulatory Bodies
- Due Diligence
- Noise Impact Assessments
- Noise Management Plans
- Vibration Monitoring and Reporting
- Noise Propagation Modelling and Prediction
- Response to Noise Related Complaints
- Specification of Noise Mitigation and Noise and control measures.
- Vibration Monitoring and Reporting



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