Final Environmental Noise Report

Tropfest
The Brazilian Field, Centennial Park
February 22nd 2026

Prepared for
The Centennial Parklands & Moore Park Trust
Centennial Park
Sydney NSW. 2021

Prepared by
The P.A. People Pty Ltd
A.C.N. 000 919 255

8-12 Ford Street
Greenacre NSW 2190

Phone (02) 8755 8700
Fax (02) 8755 8599

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A. Introduction

The P.A. People were engaged by The Centannial Parklands & Moore Park Trust (CPMP Trust) to provide Environmental Noise Management and Monitoring Services for the short film festival, Tropfest.

This document is the final report outlining the process and procedures employed by our Company to assist the venue and the event organiser to manage the environmental impact of this event on the surrounding residential areas of Centennial Park. The document is intended to fulfil the requirements of the sound monitoring report as required by The Centannial Parklands & Moore Park Trust to comply with EPA Notice details - Clause 17 (a) through (h) of the Trusts' Prevention Notice No 1002139, file No SR125 dated 26-Feb-2001. And Variations of Prevention Notice No 1521549 File No EF13/8821 dated 18-Feb-2015

To proactively prevent perimeter sound pressure levels exceeding the levels set by the regulator, The PA People provided a networked, real time sound pressure level monitoring system based on SPL*net*.

Sound pressure levels from five (5) fixed SPL data collectors located at key perimeter locations along with one (1) fixed SPL monitors at the FOH audio control mix position were centrally monitored in real time. During the event two additional mobile sound pressure level monitoring engineers supplemented the noise monitoring system. These mobile monitors were used to patrol the perimeter, verify SPL measurements collected by the system and to conduct location specific measurements in response to any received complaints.

This report comprises:

- An introduction
- Event Details
- Environmental Noise management approach
- Monitoring Details
- Results
- Appendices

The P.A. People prepared the report for this event, under the guidance of Chris Dodds M.A.A.S (Managing Director).

The report also draws extensively on our experience in other similar venues and our understanding of event operational requirements, coupled with our strong understanding of environmental noise issues as they relate to outdoor venues and live entertainment.

Please do not hesitate to contact us should you require clarification of any part of this report.

B. Compliance with the Prevention Notice

The Tropfest film festival did not complied with all the noise monitoring conditions of the Trust's prevention Notice, No 1002139, File number SR125, dated February 26 2001, and the Variations of Prevention Notice, No 1521549, File number EF13/8821, dated February 18 2015.

The location of perimeter noise loggers is at the direction of the CPMP Trust. In addition, guidelines on the position of stages and the type and direction of sound amplification were designed to minimise noise spill to residential areas, and noise loggers are generally positioned at the most sensitive perimeter areas. This provides consistency in approach to noise management and is reviewed for continuous improvement. An independent review of sound management for events on CPMP Trust land provided further investigation of the most sensitive perimeter areas and provided recommendations that have been implemented for the 2018/19 season onwards to concentrate noise loggers on sensitive areas that provide data that corresponds to the event levels.

The above procedures are implemented for each event in consultation between the Centennial Parklands and Moore Park Trust representatives, The P.A. People, and the event organiser. The Centennial Parklands and Moore Park Trust representatives and The P.A. People complement this further with the review of the Noise Management Plan for each event providing feedback and recommendations to further mitigate noise impact.

B.1 Exceedances

The P.A. People have collected a substantial amount of data pertaining to the noise levels at the perimeter during this event.

B.1.1 Rehearsals and Sound Tests

Zero (0) exceedance of the 65dB(A) limit was identified at the perimeter monitoring locations
Three (3) exceedance of the 85dB(C) limit was identified at one perimeter monitoring location.

The 85dBC limit exceedances were noted to have occurred in Darley Road, Randwick between 1830 and 1835.

Prior to each exceedance the key stakeholders were informed that the noise levels were approaching the limit at Darley Road and were informed again when the limit had been breached.

All exceedances were reacted to quickly by the audio team on site and no further breaches of the limits occurred.

Data will show A-weighted levels were also over the 65dBA limit. The elevated A-weighted levels were present before the audio system was operational and A-weighted levels continued to be higher than the limit defined in The Notice after the sound system ceased operation on the sound testing day.

One of the mobile monitoring engineers travelled to Darley Road to provide more information about noise levels in that area and confirms the A-weighted levels were the result of high levels of vehicular traffic in the area.

B.1.2 Main Event

Zero (0) exceedance of the 65dB(A) limit was identified at the perimeter monitoring locations.
Zero (0) exceedance of the 85dB(C) limit was identified at the perimeter monitoring locations.

In response to condition 17(f) of the Prevention Notice a list of all limit breeches as measured on the perimeter of the Centennial Parklands while the event sound system was in use is shown below.

It is noted that at the location of the Oxford Street logger it was particularly noisy prior to the event commencing, for the duration of the event and after the event had concluded. SPL measurements in this area were consistently higher than the limits set out in the prevention notice. SPL measurements in this area were confirmed by mobile monitoring engineers as being the result of local heavy traffic. Because of this, the limit breeches in this location are not noted individually here.

Similar circumstances were present at all other fixed monitoring locations on the perimeter of Centennial Park except Martin Rd.

The table below shows only limit breeches that were not the cause of local noise influences.

Time	Location	Avg level	Peak Level	Duration
1830	Darley Rd	87.5dBC	91.7dBC	53 seconds
1834	Darley Rd	88.0dBC	91.6dBC	7 seconds
1835	Darley Rd	88.2dBC	91.6dBC	79 seconds

On each occasion a limit breech was noted to have occurred the sound system operators and the production manager for the event were informed. When appropriate requests made to reduce levels. In addition to the requests for level decreases, frequency information was also provided so spectrum adjustments could be made. When Feasible a mobile monitoring engineer was sent to logger locations to verify the source of noise.

B.2 Complaints

As confirmed by the CPMP Trust, there were one (1) sound-related complaint to the telephone hotline during the sound tests and day of the event.

The complainant contacted the event hotline at 1614 on the afternoon of February 22nd, 2026. The complaint came from the western side of Centennial Park, and the complainant was calling to inform the hotline that the noise from the event was audible at the address but did not seem upset.
One of the mobile monitoring engineers attended the complaint site and took noise measurement reading and reported that levels were below the limits.

B.3 Hours of Operation

The Tropfest film festival took place within the nominated hours as detailed for this event.

C. Event Details

C.1 Dates and Times

Tropfest was a single stage event with music and the screening of short films. The event was set up "in-the-round" providing a view of the screens and audio coverage in 360 degrees. The event was held at The Brazilian Field, Centennial Park, Sydney from 1200 – 2234 on Sunday 22nd February, 2026. Sound system checks and rehearsals were held on both Friday 20th February between 1800-1931 and between 1000 and 1100 on the morning of Sunday 22nd of February.

The Trust reports that 8,000 people attended the event this year.

The Trust confirms that the event program concluded at 2230 and low-level background walk-out music for a further 4 minutes at the start of the audience egress.

The event, rehearsals and sound tests were all held within the licensed hours nominated and contained in the venue licence and the event plan.

C.2 Schedule of Acts

In general the event conformed with the published schedule.

C.3 Weather Conditions

During the times when noise monitoring was carried out for this event, information pertaining to weather conditions around the event site were obtained from the Sydney Airport Weather Station, the closest weather station to the event site, as it appears on the Bureau of Meteorology website,

Weather conditions on Friday 20th of February could be described as warm, humid and overcast with no rainfall.

It is noted that temperatures ranged between 25.3-26.9°C.
Humidity was from 60-76%
The wind was from a NE-NNE direction at speeds of between 20-32km/h.

On Sunday February 22nd the weather was hot and humid with moderate to strong winds and a small amount of rainfall in the evening.
Temperatures ranged between 25-34.6°C.
Humidity was from 33-81%
Winds in the morning and early afternoon were from a NW-NNW direction at speeds of between 9-17km/h. Mid-afternoon the wind direction was predominantly from a NE direction at speeds between 7-39km/h.
.2mm of rainfall was recorded between 1830 and the end of the event.

D. Environmental Noise Management Approach

D.1 Mitigation before the Event

The CPMPT have a good history of managing its noise emissions on event sites.

Audio system design has historically been carried out by the sound system contractors with the dual goal of reducing emissions, whilst maintaining acceptable performance for the events' requirements. On this occasion we are satisfied that the systems provided for event was of an appropriate professional standard and level of performance.

The P.A. People reviewed the site layout plan and the noise management plan prior to the event.

The client's Noise Management Plan forms the basis for sound monitoring for Tropfest.

D.2 Mitigation during the Event

The networked system was used to continuously monitor and log nose levels at the event site.

The system engineer on site was able to use this data, in combination with the subjective analysis of the information received from the mobile monitoring engineers, to identify the source of any sound pressure level exceedances at the event perimeter. Any perimeter exceedances detected by SPL monitoring system, or the mobile monitoring engineers caused by external factors were identified. Any potential exceedances caused by the Tropfest sound reinforcement systems were identified and immediately actioned by event control.

The noise monitoring system engineer set dynamic SPL thresholds and exceedance indicators for the FOH positions. These thresholds were based on the stage's effect on perimeter SPL conditions. Therefore, the sound engineer was able to proactively adjust the sound pressure level produced by the stage based on its' effect on perimeter conditions at any given time.

D.3 Mitigation after the Event

The Trust, the P.A. People and the organisers of Tropfest regard the management of environmental noise for this event to be appropriate and in compliance with the venue License and the EPA Prevention Notice. It is proposed that this level of sound management and monitoring is implemented for future events of this nature in Centennial Park.

E. Monitoring Details

E.1 Details of Measurement System

To monitor perimeter sound pressure levels for Tropfest, The PA People provided a networked, real time sound pressure level monitoring system based on SPL*net*.

Key features of this system include:

- The centralised logging of SPL data includes information as to when stages are notified of exceedances or, to the best of our knowledge, impending exceedances, to ensure immediate action from the stages otherwise penalties are implemented from the sound bond.
- When notified of a complaint, sound control can immediately identify readings at the perimeter so there is an immediate measurement in the vicinity at the time of the complaint before the roving sound monitor arrives at the complaint location. This allows more accurate and immediate response to the complainant, and if there is an exceedance this can be immediately rectified centrally while the mobile sound monitor is being dispatched to the residence.
- The communication lines between identifying an exceedance and notifying the offending stage are more streamlined.
- All logging meters work in all weather conditions. Most logging meters currently employed for event monitoring in Australia are affected by wet weather or cannot be used at all.

As noted previously, the noise monitoring system is focused on proactively preventing perimeter sound pressure level exceedance.

Sound pressure levels for the Tropfest film festival were centrally monitored and recorded from fixed SPL meters located at five (5) key perimeter locations and centrally monitored from one (1) FOH mixing positions in real time. During the event two (2) additional mobile sound pressure level monitors supplemented the networked system. The mobile monitors were used to patrol the perimeter and verify the SPL*net* measurements and to conduct location specific measurements in response to any received complaints.

The system was used to continuously monitor and log noise levels from each of the five (5) SPL perimeter monitors for the duration of the event.

The system continuously recorded data that was visible in real time. The system engineer was able to use this data, in combination with the subjective analysis of the mobile monitoring engineers, to identify the source of potential, and real, sound pressure level exceedances at the event perimeter. Any perimeter exceedances detected by the SPL monitoring system or the mobile monitoring engineers caused by external factors (i.e. not due to sound emanating from the event) were identified. Similarly, exceedances caused by the event sound reinforcement system could be identified and immediately actioned by event control.

Fast dB(A) and dB(C) SPL measurements for all SPL*net* meters were simultaneously monitored by the engineer at event control.

Fast dB(A) and dB(C) SPL results for the stage were also monitored at the FOH mixing position by the sound engineers. Dynamic SPL thresholds and exceedance indicators were set for the FOH position by event control. These thresholds were based on the sound systems' effect on perimeter SPL conditions. Therefore, the sound engineer was able to proactively adjust the sound system outputs to maintain predetermined sound pressure levels based on their effect on perimeter conditions at any given time.

E.2 Site Plan and Measurement Locations

The P.A. People reviewed The Centannial Parklands & Moore Park Trust prevention notice and noise management plan. This information assisted us in formulating the event monitoring strategy that was implemented for this event.

E.2.1 Perimeter Monitoring

As per the requirements outlined in The Centannial Parklands & Moore Park Trust prevention notice for this category of event. Five (5) perimeter locations were used for the installation of a fixed sound pressure level monitoring instruments. At these locations the instrument was attached to a light pole at a height of approximately three (3) metres.

The instrument cabinet comprises the following items:

- SPL*net* M100 analyser complete with third octave analysis software
- SPL*net* M121 Type 1 measurement microphone fitted in a weatherproof enclosure
- Battery, 4G mobile broadband modem

The five (5) fixed locations were near the following locations.

- 12 Martin Road, Moore Park.
- The corner of Lang Road and Mitchell Road, Centennial Park.
- Oxford St, Centennial Park, adjacent to the Paddington Gates.
- 85 Darley Road, Centennial Park.
- 59 York Road, Queens Park.

To proactively manage levels at the perimeter of the event site, the engineer uses the fixed location data collection units If the engineer detects any exceedance of the limits set out in the prevention notice a roving monitor is dispatched to the location to conduct location specific measurements and determine if the exceedance is a result of the amplified sound from the event.

These measurements are conducted using a class one portable analyser mounted on a tripod stand at a height between 1.2m-1.6m above ground, this meter when practical would be placed within 1m of the boundary of the nearest affected premises in relation to the fixed monitoring location.

E.2.2 Stage Monitoring

One (1) noise logger was also located within the event boundary, at the FOH mixing location. At this location an instrument was attached to the supporting structure of the platform.

The instrument cabinet comprises the following items:

- SPL*net* M100 analyser complete with third octave analysis software
- SPL*net* M121 Type 1 measurement microphone fitted in a weatherproof enclosure

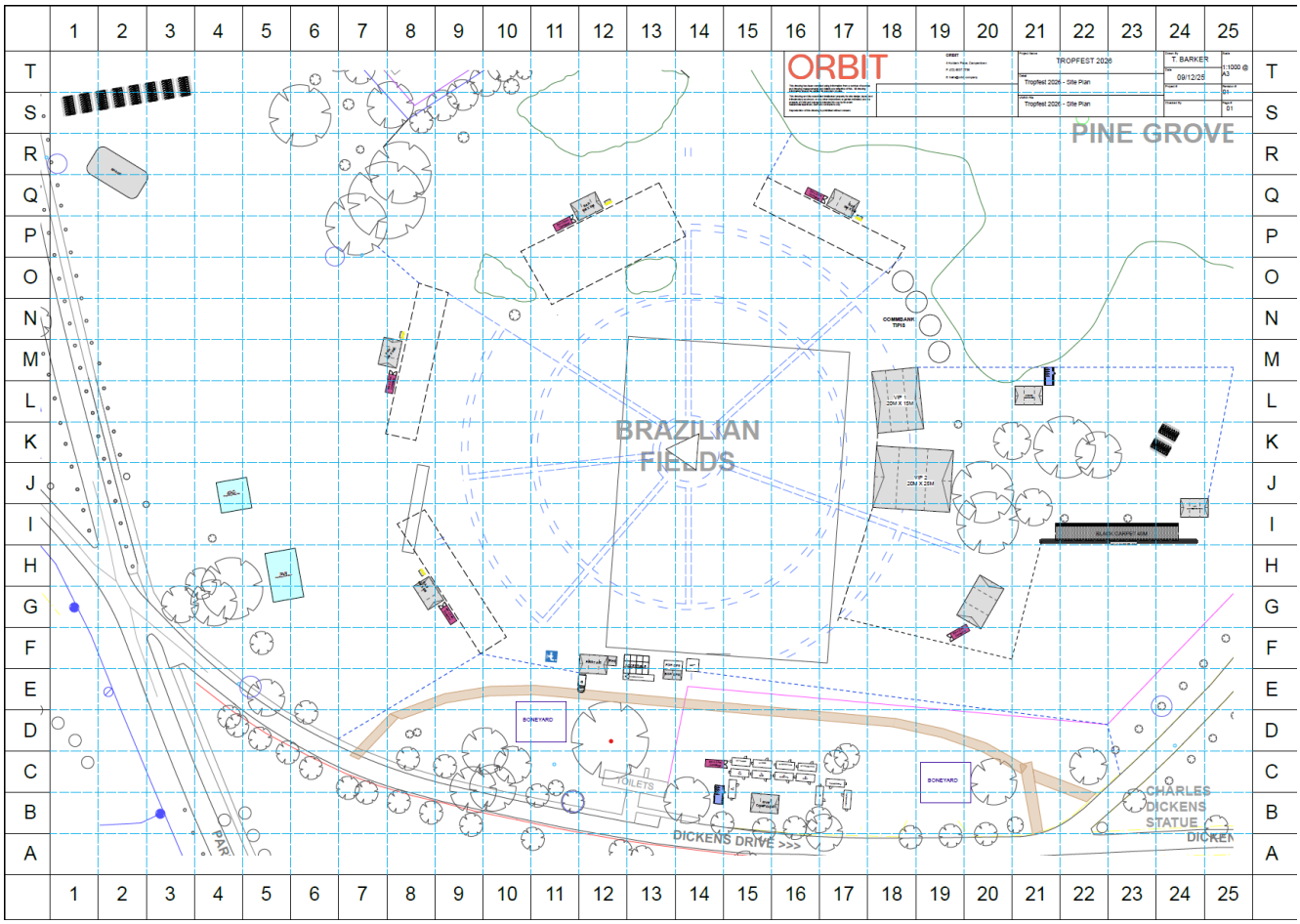
E.2.3 Mobile Monitor

Two (2) mobile monitoring personnel were also available to patrol the perimeter, corroborate the perimeter data logger measurements and to conduct location specific measurements in response to any received complaints or exceedances noted by the engineer.

The remote monitoring engineers were provided with a Type1 sound analyser complete with calibrator.

E.2.4 Site Plan

Below is a plan showing the relative position of the monitoring locations used for this event. It also shows the event site location.



E.2.5 Calibration

Each instrument was calibrated using a Bruel and Kjaer 4230 calibrator prior to and after use.

No significant variations were noted between pre and post use measurements.

E.3 Use of Third Octave information

A feature of the SPL monitoring system is the capability for third octave analysis at all measurement locations, again in real time.

This capability is significant in that it allows the audio operators of each system to tailor the response of their system to maximise the perceived level of their system by adjusting spectral content of the music, rather than relying on level only.

This also reduces the annoyance factor of the noise by reducing dominant frequencies and smoothing the resultant frequency response.

E.4 Complaints Management

The Centannial Parklands & Moore Park Trust has adopted a comprehensive sound management program, which includes a detailed complaints management procedure.

The focus of The P.A. People and The Centannial Parklands & Moore Park Trust for this event was to proactively minimise complaints by monitoring perimeter sound pressure levels continuously in real time. In addition to continuous static perimeter monitoring two (2) mobile monitoring engineers were available to attend complainant locations personally.

F. Results

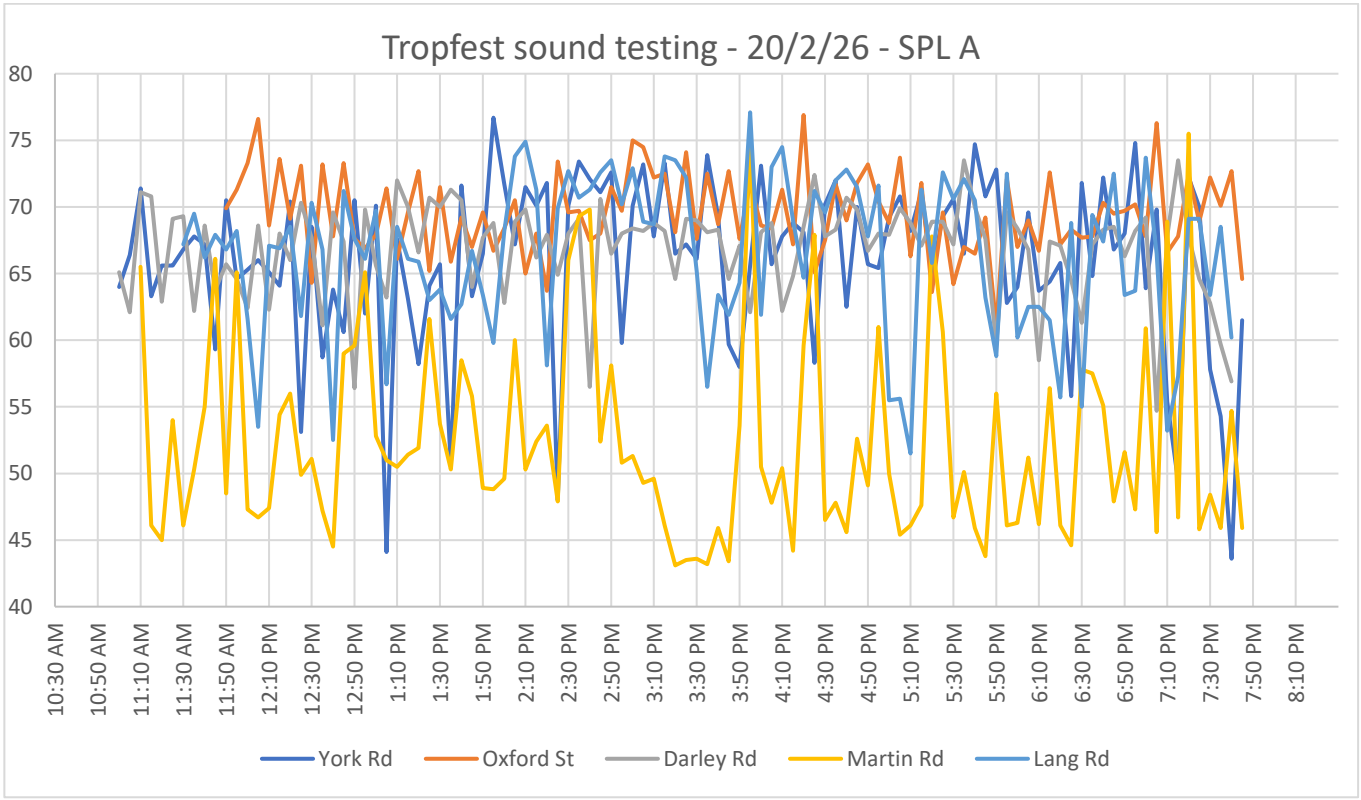
F.1 Perimeter Results

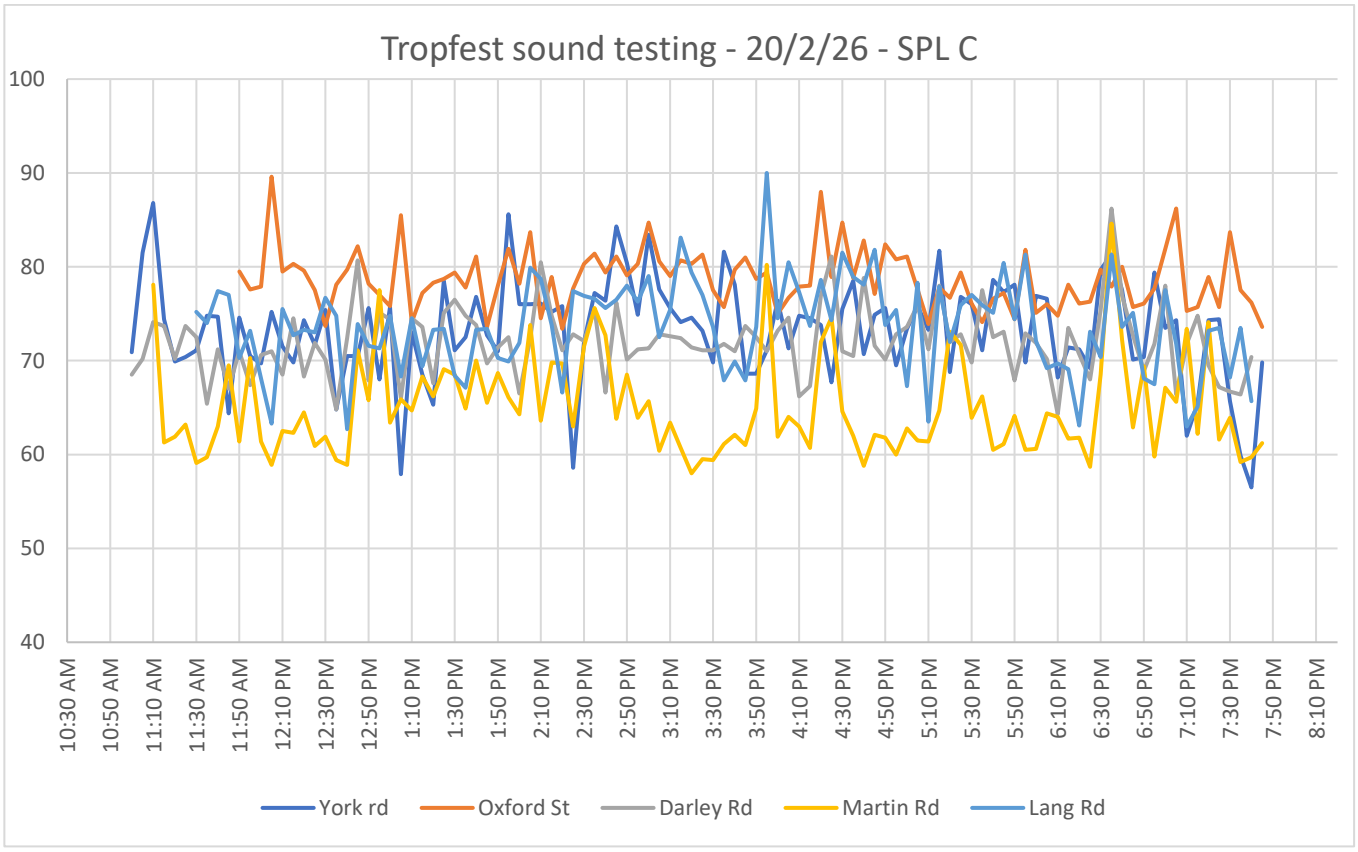
A significant amount of data was collected by system during the sound tests and the event.

One would expect that continuous monitoring of all perimeter sensors might reveal a significant increase in the number of exceedances identified. This has not proven to be the case, due mostly to the proactive approach of using this same information to adjust the exceedance thresholds provided to each stage.

Below are four (4) graphs outlining the levels at each perimeter location over the duration of the event, please note that these graphs are of limited use in and of themselves as they record absolute levels due to all environmental factors, not only levels that are associated with the sound generated by the event sound system.

Each plot represents samples taken at 5-minute intervals of a total some 3600 points per hour at each measurement location.

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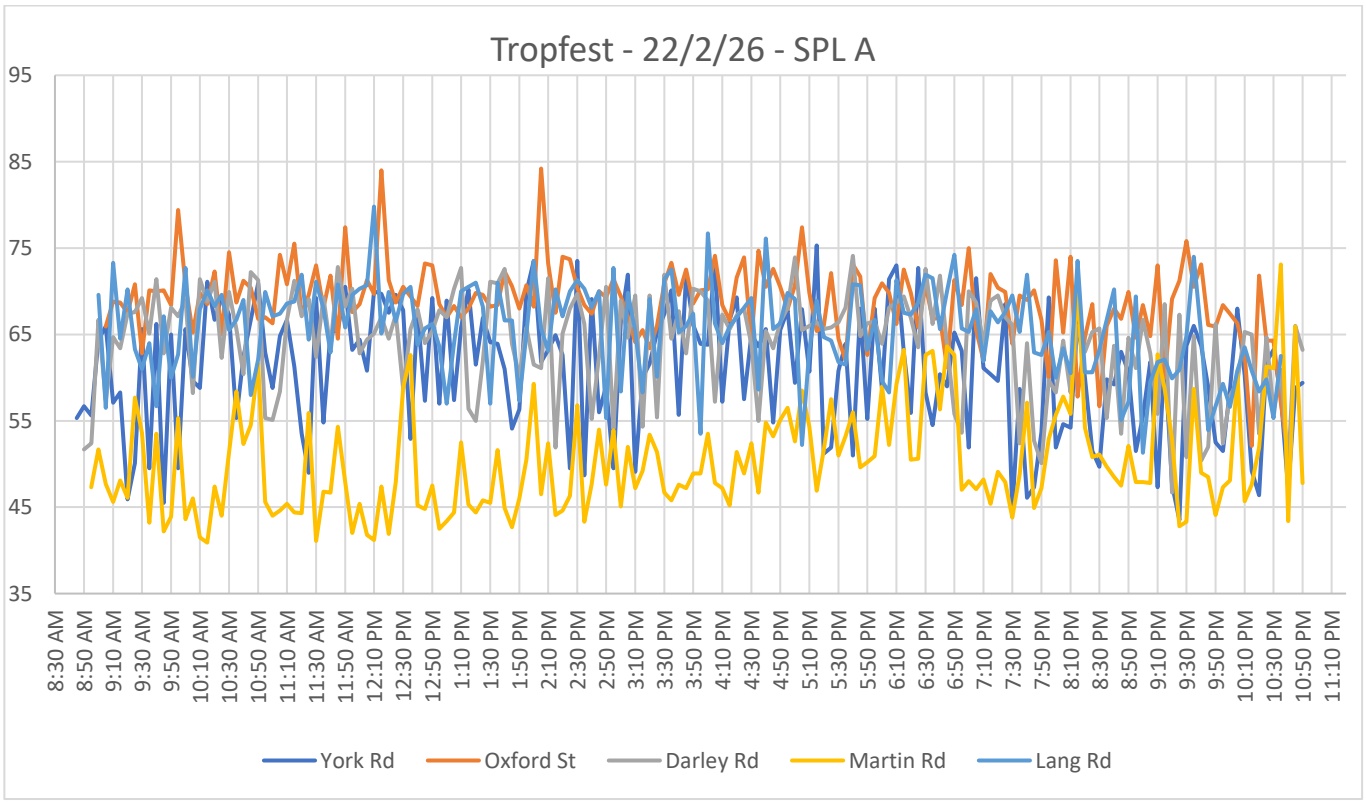
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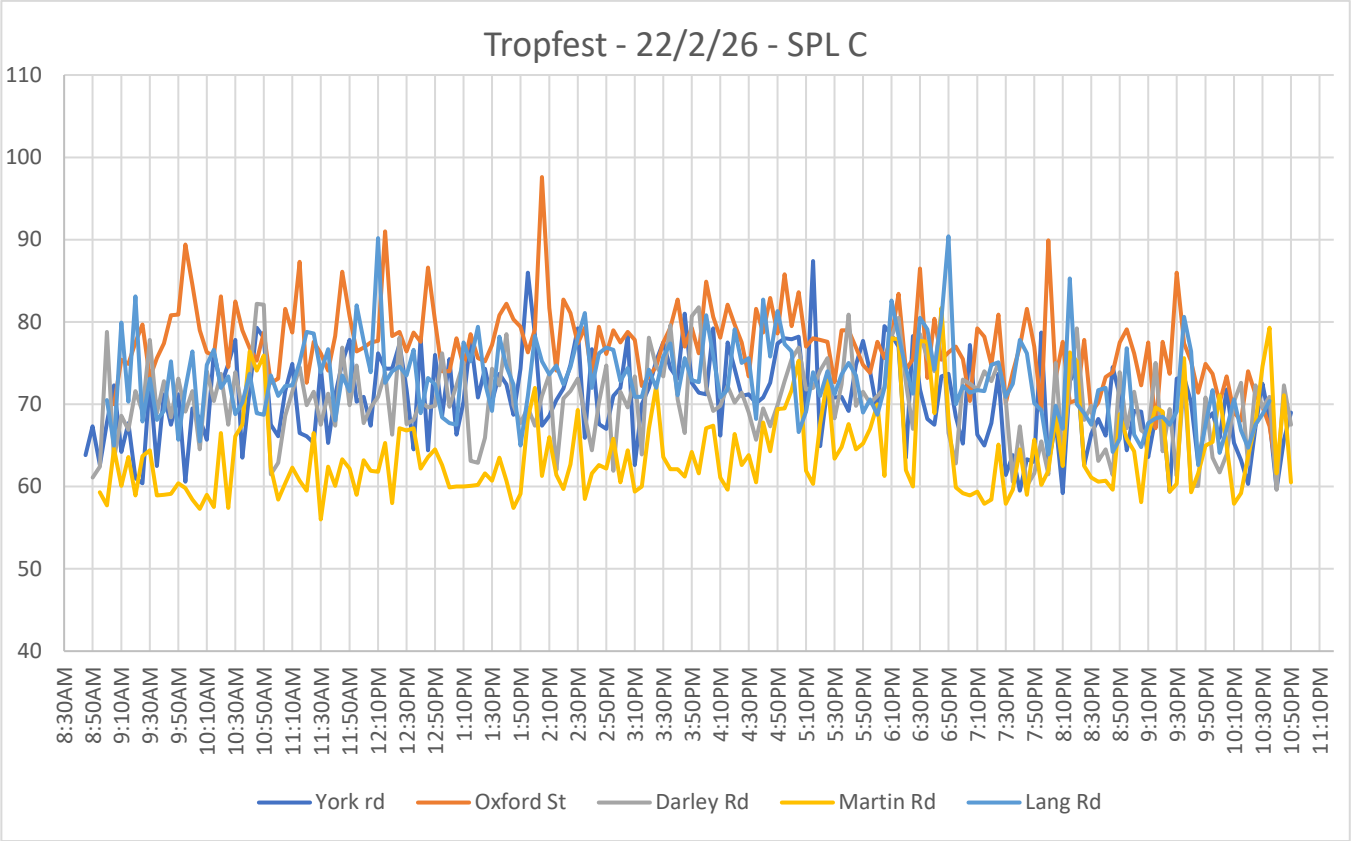

F.2 Management Process for Exceedances

SPL levels at all perimeter points were centrally monitored in real time from event control. The system is designed so that upon the detection of a perimeter exceedance deemed to be the result of the event sound reinforcement systems, event control would immediately contact the front of house sound control position and, or the event organiser to request a level decrease.

In general, communications between event control and all key stakeholders were prompt and effective in preventing and correcting any perimeter exceedances.

The dynamic sound pressure level thresholds set for the stage were effective in preventing perimeter exceedances.

G. Summary

Overall, we believe that the implementation of the SPL monitoring system used as part of the environmental noise management plan for the Tropfest film festival has improved the quality of noise management for the event and ensured overall compliance with the EPA Prevention Notice.