bq report

buy quiet
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a supplement to
the NIGP Letter
Service Bulletin

No. 1

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National Institute of Government Purchasing 1735 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington VA 22202 (703) 920-4020

W.S.S.C. Buys Quieter Tractors

"Asking for quieter tractors didn't cost us a cent more, and I'm sure that the folks who live near our work areas are going to be a lot happier," said Joe Pope, CPPQ, of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission during a visit to the NIGP office in early January. Mr. Pope, whose (cont. on page 12)

Virginia Contracts for Quieter Mowers

The Commonwealth of Virginia, Division of Purchase and Supply opened bids for rotary power lawn mowers, with various blade sizes and in hand-pushed and self-propelled models, on January 9, 1981. Bids offered on mowers specified in section II of the Virginia invitation were for mowers which met the noise level and other requirements of the NIGP/Buy Quiet suggested specification for quieter lawn mowers. The suggested specification includes a maximum noise level of 86 (cont. on page 13)

Costa No More

NIGP Announces Contest for Buy Quiet Scholarships

In order to encourage cities, counties, and other governments to purchase quieter products and services, the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing, Inc. (NIGP), beginning February 15, 1981, will award a total of $10,000 credit in NIGP professional development scholarships to the first 10 governmental units to submit documentation that they have earned 12 or more points based on the scoring system described on page 13.
W.V.S.G. Buys (cont. from page 9) 

employer recently purchased 7 industrial 

backhoe-loader-tractor combinations, 

specified that the equipment purchased 

would have a maximum noise level, when 

operating, of 81 decibels (A Scale) when 

measured in accordance with SAE J866b". 

WSSC Buyer Roy Ashlin, who worked with 

Brad Moore of the Mobile Equipment 

Division to develop the specifications, 

used Buy Quiet Product Information 

Supplement No. 7 (for wheel and crawler 

tractors) to select an appropriate 

maximum noise level and to word the noise 

level requirement. The noise level that 

Ashlin and Moore included in the 

specification was the median noise level 

for "wheel loader" type tractors, and not 

surprisingly nearly half of WSSC's usual 

bidders were able to offer models that 

complied with the noise level requirement. 

The bid tabulations, with noise level in 

accordance with SAE J866b, are shown 

below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Noise Level (dBA)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>$165,782.62</td>
<td>Does not exceed 81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>180,243.00</td>
<td>Does not exceed 81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-alt.</td>
<td>200,859.00</td>
<td>Not provided</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>199,064.45</td>
<td>77.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>199,774.74</td>
<td>Does not exceed 81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>198,909.00</td>
<td>77.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>196,893.04</td>
<td>Does not exceed 81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>201,659.92</td>
<td>77.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>208,495.00</td>
<td>Not provided</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>213,177.79</td>
<td>Does not exceed 81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J</td>
<td>216,650.00</td>
<td>Does not exceed 81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K</td>
<td>243,321.06</td>
<td>Not provided</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-alt.</td>
<td>216,148.00</td>
<td>85 (Does not comply)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L</td>
<td>222,829.00</td>
<td>Does not exceed 81</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

According to Mr. Pope, the commission 

will extend the Buy Quiet concept to their 

entire range of noisy products. "After 

this good experience with the tractor, I 

can't see any reason why we can't go out 

for quieter models of pavement breakers, 

air compressors, and other kinds of 

tractors. If you have the necessary 

information, requesting and getting quieter 

products is easy. NISP can provide you 

all the information you need to include 

realistic noise level requirements in your 

specification." The demonstration workshop 

in College Park (NISP Letter Service 

Bulletin, September/October/November 1980, 

p. 10) was the reason Mr. Pope gave for 

considering "buying quiet" in the first 

place. If you would like a copy of the 

specifications used in this purchase, 

please contact NISP Headquarters. 

Virginia Contracts (cont. from page 9) 

decibels (A scale), at the operator's ear, 

based on S.A.E. J1174 "Operator Ear Sound 

Level Measurement Procedure for Small 

Engine Powered Equipment."

At this writing, evaluation of the 

bids received by the Commonwealth has not 

been completed. Award information will 

be available soon through the NISP office. 

The State of West Virginia is currently 

going out for bids on quieter 'lawn mowers, 

using the NISP/Buy Quiet suggested 

specifications. Information on the West 

Virginia purchase will also be available 

soon through the NISP office. 

"Buy Quiet" Movies Available 

If you have access to a 3/4 inch video 
cassette player, you can watch the film 
clips "Buy Quiet I" and "Buy Quiet II" in 
your office or chapter meeting room. 

Buy Quiet I features "loud" and 

"quieter" Models of pile drivers, pavement 
breakers, and lawn mowers. Buy Quiet II 
features "loud" and "quieter" models of 

trash compactor trucks, portable air 
compressors, and vacuum cleaners. 

To borrow these movies, contact NISP.

bc Buy Quiet!