



261 Sound Level System  
Nightclubs and Bars



**THE MARKET & APPLICATION**

People are becoming more aware of the impact of noise from non-workplace sources. One major source of noise and complaints are the local nightclubs, bars, pubs and discos. In the past, little could be done to resolve the issue of noise in the bars, short of closure. However, the Quest 261 Sound Level System can solve this problem, enabling a compromise to be reached between affected residents of "noisy neighbors." Limiting the noise that the neighbors receive will also lower employees' exposure.

**THE PRODUCT**

The versatile Quest 261 Sound Level Detector System consists of a controller box with microphone inputs, alarm set point adjustment dials and a relay. It can be customized for each unique situation. In a typical installation:

- The microphone is discretely installed at a strategic location, near the band and away from the bar. In most cases, they are hidden and well out of reach.
- Up to three microphones can be installed to one controller. The controller activates the relay when the preset threshold is reached.
- The Controller is located in a very secure location, typically locked near the bar or of f site office.
- Indicator lights, which are activated when the alarm thresholds are exceeded, are placed in view of the band, "disc jockey" or bar manager. Placing indicator lights outside for viewing by the affected neighbors is also an option, with one light indicating the 261 is powered and another indicating it "triggered".

Once the hardware is installed, the controller is set to activate when a threshold, between 55 and 110 dB, is reached.



Typically the installer performs a noise survey - at night when the bar or nightclub is in operation - to determine proper controller settings. The threshold varies by the facilities unique acoustics and is based upon the levels agreed upon by the bar owner and the neighbors, or by the courts. For example, if the closest neighbor can not be exposed to more than 50 dB; the settings may be 85 dB on the controller, when the windows are open and 90 dB when the windows are closed. Note: the lights need a bright colored bulb and a bulkhead mount protected by a screwed in cover.

**COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES**

Other systems on the market have a light visible to the dance floor. This encourages people to make as much noise as possible. Other systems will "cut out" power to the musician's amplifiers if the threshold is exceeded for a specified period of time. However, this can potentially cause equipment damage, and liability concerns to the bar manager. Customers will become very upset when their music is shut off, especially after several hours of "socializing." The Quest 261 can be wired to shut the power off to the equipment (within the specifications of the relay), so that threat exists if noise levels are not controlled. For example, modifications can be done to shut down the "show" for two minutes after the alarm threshold has been exceeded for one minute.

**QUEST SOLUTION**

| <u>Part Number</u> | <u>Description</u>  |
|--------------------|---|
| 261                | Sound Level Detector/Controller includes #58-874; fixed microphone and 30 ft. cable assembly    |
| 58-874             | Fixed microphone and 30 ft. cable assembly (261 unit includes 1 microphone but accepts up to 3) |

