

## ***Ten Tips at Your Bidding***

Let's say you've hired the world's greatest acoustician to provide you with well-thought-out noise and vibration recommendations for your new project. His fees were expensive, and he took several weeks to find a solution to your problem. But you know you hired the best, so now you can rest easy that your project will be quiet and free from vibration... or can you? Not necessarily! All your careful plans can be derailed once the project goes out to bid. What should you be looking for to ensure that your investment will be safeguarded?

Here are ten tips to help maintain the integrity of your design:

1. ***Make sure that the acoustical recommendations have all been included*** in the architectural, mechanical, electrical and plumbing drawings.
2. ***Make sure that the drawings and specifications agree*** on acoustical issues. If you find conflicts, contact your acoustical consultant for clarification.
3. ***In the plumbing bid***, check that plumbing isolation is included, along with sealing of openings and penetrations. If cast iron waste pipe is specified, check to see that no substitution has been made.
4. ***In the drywall bid***, check that acoustical sealant has been included for perimeters and penetrations. If resilient channels have been specified make sure they're included and are the correct type. Make sure the thickness and number of layers of drywall agrees with the specifications.
5. ***In the insulation bid***, check the number and thickness of batts and their location. If ducts are to be insulated, check that the insulation is bid as a liner on the inside, not the outside, of the ducts.
6. ***In the electrical bid***, check that seals are included for outlets and fixtures in separation assemblies.
7. ***In the framer's bid***, watch out for substitution of materials (TJI joists, etc.).
8. ***In the glazing bid***, check that the correct STC (sound transmission class) or OITC (outside-inside transmission class) windows and glass doors are specified for the correct locations. Check with your acoustician before accepting substitutions.
9. ***In the HVAC bid***, make sure silencers are included, if required in the specs.
10. ***For vibration mounts***, check with the manufacturer to confirm the correct selection.

If all this checking seems too complicated, call us! We'll be happy to help you.