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Soundim

Soundim's Modular Design Makes Sound Barrier Installation Quick and Easy

Soundim's noise barriers have been developed to speed up installation, saving rail operators both time and money.

Soundim manufactures award-winning low-height barriers that reduce railway noise without restricting passenger views.

The company's products can be installed much faster and easier than traditional noise barriers, saving customers time and money.

Modular Design

This is due to a number of unique features, including the barriers' modular design, which enables installation in three easy steps, as well as providing a flexible, customisable solution.

"Our barriers are like Lego pieces you can put together in whatever form you'd like – they're modular so you can add them together to create a solution that suits you," says Tero Lepistö, Soundim CEO.

Swift and Easy Installation

Installing a Soundim noise barrier takes only three steps:

- Installing the fixing poles
- Connecting the pile heads and base to the poles
- Fixing the barrier elements on top of that with bolts

The simple, modular design of Soundim's products enables rail operators to overcome many of the

challenges related to traditional noise barrier installation.

“They are very easy to install compared to conventional sound barriers,” says Tuomo Viitala, an inspector who worked closely with Soundim on the approval of its barriers by the Finnish Transport Authority.

“No landscaping or foundation work is needed as barriers can be installed directly into existing ballast. This means rail operators don’t need to acquire extra land or investigate ground conditions, plus barriers can be installed alongside operational railway tracks, avoiding unnecessary downtime.”

No heavy construction takes place either. The barrier is fastened directly into the trackbed with only metal fixing poles and the use of lightweight drills.

Lightweight Components

This is in part thanks to the use of lightweight materials, which make

the two and four-metre length barrier components easy to move and slot into place.

“The fence blocks are lightweight enough that two people can carry and mount these easily, without the need of a machine,” Lepistö points out.

Their low weight also makes the barriers ideal for installation in challenging environments, such as those with limited access or hilly terrain, as they are easier to transport than their traditional counterparts.

Finally, if for any reason part of the barrier needs to be moved or removed, it’s as simple as taking out the relevant components and removing the poles. These can then be reinstalled and reconstructed when and wherever needed.

Suitable for All Rail Projects

The noise barriers’ modular design also means they are well suited to any rail project – new or retrofit –

including tram and subway systems.

They work across all track conditions and structures, and are suitable for use on:

- Varying and difficult terrain
- Curved tracks
- Bridges
- Any structures with special fixtures

Maintenance Simplified

Soundim has also factored in the maintenance needs of rail operators by incorporating a hinge mechanism into its product design. This allows the barriers to be individually lowered or even removed, and provides easy access to the integrated cable channels.

“This is one of our unique features,” says Jukka Näräkkä, Head of Business Development at Soundim. “Its flexibility means you can lower the barrier without having to dismantle it, which is very useful in case there’s a need for maintenance work, or a large shipment travelling through.”



Benefits of Soundim Noise Barriers

Clearly, Soundim's product design minimises the time, costs and downtime rail operators face when installing noise barriers along their network.

"With Soundim barriers you can protect an area from railway noise in a matter of weeks, compared to months if you were installing a conventional solution," says Viitala.

"For example, when we worked on the Helsinki Ring project, we installed approximately 200 metres of barrier per day with just one machine and a crew of four," highlights Näräkkä.

Mikko Kelavaara, Unit Manager at Lisäpalvelu, has worked closely with Soundim for several years, installing noise barriers for many of the manufacturer's customers.

"It's a pleasure to work with Soundim, it's effortless and rewarding. So much time has been spent perfecting the design of the product that the barriers are very simple and quick to install. We call it 'big boy Lego'," he laughs.

"We have worked together on several rail projects, the latest being Lauritsala station in southeast Finland. Here it took us approximately two days to install all the pillars, and within two weeks we had installed all the barrier components, completed the finishing work and handed over the project."

Find Out How Soundim Can Help You

Soundim is keen to hear from any rail operators interested in discussing how the company could create a bespoke rail noise barrier solution to fit their specific needs.

For more information on Soundim and its railway noise barriers, please visit www.soundim.fi/.

