SonoBlaster!®

WORK ZONE
INTRUSION ALARM
Operating Procedures

FHWA NCHRP-350 Accepted
Category II Safety Device HSA-10 / WZ-131

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5/08
The SonoBlaster!® Dual Alert™ Work Zone Intrusion Alarm is an impact activated safety alarm that alerts both roadway workers and errant vehicle drivers at the same time to help reduce crashes and injuries in our nation’s highway work zones.

The SonoBlaster mounts on standard work zone barricades such as traffic cones, drums, and delineators. Upon impact by an errant vehicle, the SonoBlaster’s built-in CO₂-powered horn blasts at 125 decibels (dB) to signal workers that their protective zone has been violated allowing them critical reaction time to move out of harm’s way.

The SonoBlaster’s loud alarm sound can also alert distracted or drowsing drivers allowing them to steer out of the work zone or brake prior to reaching workers or construction equipment, addressing a major cause of work zone crashes.
SonoBlaster® Operating Procedures

Visual Inspection
Make sure all components are in proper working order.
Do not use the unit if there is any doubt about its condition or ability to operate properly.

Examine the Horn Diaphragm to assure it is clean, unobstructed and not damaged.

Make sure the Horn Port Holes are unobstructed on the unit’s front and rear.

Check that the CO₂ Cartridge Insertion Hole is clean and unobstructed.
Control Knob Operation

- The Control Knob controls the operation of the SonoBlaster unit’s activating (firing) system.
- In Locked Position the unit will not activate.
- When the knob is in the Unlocked Position and the unit is Cocked, the SonoBlaster will activate when tilted or impacted.

Operating the Control Knob
- The Control Knob locks in place to prevent inadvertent rotation.
- Pull Out the Control Knob to Turn - Release to Lock in Place
The Visual Cocking Indicator

• The Visual Cocking Indicator shows whether the SonoBlaster unit is properly cocked.

• A visible Red Indicator showing through the site-glass window indicates that the unit is properly cocked and ready for operation (with appropriate charged CO₂ cartridge in place).
Cocking the **SonoBlaster!**

- Use Only the Plastic SonoBlaster Cocking Rod Provided – Using another object to cock the unit can cause severe damage and operating failure.
- **Do not attempt to cock the unit in the Locked Position.**
- Make sure the unit is stationary in a vertical upright position when cocking.
- Remove the CO₂ Cartridge Holder and Cartridge from the SonoBlaster unit.
- Rotate the Control Knob to Unlocked Position.

*Pull Knob Out to Turn - Release to Lock*
Cocking Rod & Handle

- Make sure the SonoBlaster Plastic Cocking Rod is CLEAN and undamaged.
- The SonoBlaster’s Cartridge Holder is designed to become a handle grip to provide easier cocking of the unit.
- Place the Cartridge Holder onto the Cocking Rod to create a Handle.
Cocking the **SonoBlaster!**

- Insert the Cocking Rod into the Cartridge Insertion Hole.
- Push the Cocking Rod in firmly until it clicks, cocking the unit’s firing mechanism.

*Now, to prevent accidental firing,*
- Rotate the Control Knob to the LOCKED POSITION.
  
  *
  [Pull Knob Out to Turn]*

- Check the Visual Cocking Indicator:
  - A visible Red Indicator shows that the unit is properly cocked.
Testing the Unit Without a CO₂ Cartridge Installed

• Before inserting a CO₂ cartridge, test fire the unit with an empty Cartridge Holder in place.
• Cock the unit (with Control Knob Unlocked)
• With the Control Knob in Unlocked Position: Tilt the SonoBlaster unit 90° to test fire.
• If it fails to fire, do not use the unit. 
  (See Troubleshooting)
• After test firing, Repeat Cocking Steps to Re-Cock the firing mechanism.
• After Re-Cocking, Turn the Control Knob to the Locked Position deactivating the firing mechanism.

  [Pull Knob Out to Turn – Release to Lock Knob in Place]
Required Hearing Protection

**Caution:**
- The SonoBlaster can produce sound in excess of 125 dB.
- Hearing protection meeting minimum NRR 33 must be worn while activating or handling an activated unit.
Installing the CO₂ Power Cartridge

- Hearing Protection Must Be Worn when Installing the CO₂ Cartridge -

• Check the VISUAL COCKING INDICATOR → A visible Red Indicator shows that the unit is properly cocked.

With the unit Cocked and the CONTROL KNOB in LOCKED POSITION:

• Make sure the CO₂ Cartridge end and Cartridge Holder are completely clean.

• Insert a new SonoBlaster Approved 16-gram CO₂ Cartridge in the Cartridge Holder.

• Screw the CO₂ Cartridge Holder onto the unit. Make sure the threads are aligned

• Hand tighten firmly without over-tightening.

• Use only the exact cartridge specified for your SonoBlaster unit.
Setup Complete - Ready to Fire!

• The unit is now ready to operate upon rotating the Control Knob to the Unlocked Position.
  
  [Pull Knob Out to Turn]

• Keep the Control Knob in Locked Position until the unit has been placed in the desired operating location and is securely in a stable upright position.

• Use only the properly designated SonoBlaster approved 16-gram CO\textsubscript{2} Cartridges specified for use in your device.

See “Installation Instructions”
Activating the **SonoBlaster!**® for Operation
With Hearing Protection in Place:

- Place SonoBlaster equipped device on level roadway surface with horn trumpet facing oncoming traffic.
- Avoid moving the device while activating the unit.
- Rotate the Control Knob to the Unlocked Position.
  
  *Pull Knob Out to Turn*

- The SonoBlaster is now set to activate upon tilt or impact.
- Repeat procedure to setup as many units as required to protect the work zone.
Sound Muffling

- The sound of a discharging SonoBlaster can be easily muffled, as needed, by cupping a gloved hand over the end of the unit to prevent excessive noise from affecting nearby personnel during a test firing or an unplanned unit activation.

- Hearing protection should be worn while muffling the horn.
Deactivating the SonoBlaster!®

- With Personal Hearing Protection In Place –

- Turn the CONTROL KNOB to the LOCKED POSITION without tilting or jarring the unit.

  [Pull Knob Out to Turn – Release to Lock Knob in Place]

- The unit is now disarmed and will not fire if tilted or moved.
Purchasers and users of this device shall each determine on their own, the fitness and suitability of this device for their particular use or application. Neither the seller, distributor, manufacturer, nor licensor of this device make any claim regarding its suitability or fitness for use in any particular application.

Deploying Multiple Units
The use of multiple SonoBlaster units in the same area is recommended to provide the maximum possible level of work zone safety protection.

Impacted SonoBlaster Units
SonoBlaster units involved in any vehicle impact or crash are NOT TO BE REUSED for worker protection. Impacted and crash involved units must be destroyed and replaced with a new unit.

Caution
The SonoBlaster can produce sound in excess of 125 dB. Hearing protection meeting minimum NRR 33 must be worn while activating or handling an activated unit.