

APPENDIX 19-1: VIBRATION TERMINOLOGY

In order to assist the understanding of vibration terminology, the following background information is provided.

Vibration Terminology

PPV Vibration is an oscillatory motion. The magnitude of vibration can be defined in terms of displacement (how far from the equilibrium position that something moves), velocity (how fast something moves), or acceleration (the rate of change of velocity). Standards for the assessment of building damage are usually given in terms of peak velocity (usually referred to as Peak Particle Velocity, or PPV) in mms-1.

Overpressure Energy released in an explosion creates an air overpressure, commonly called an airblast, in the form of a propagating wave. If the receiver is close enough to the blast, the overpressure can be felt as a pressure front as the airblast passes.