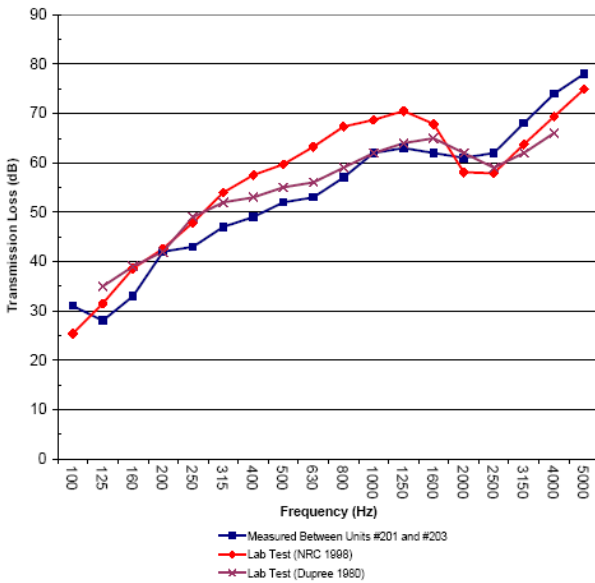


PROJECT PROFILE: CONDOMINIUMS

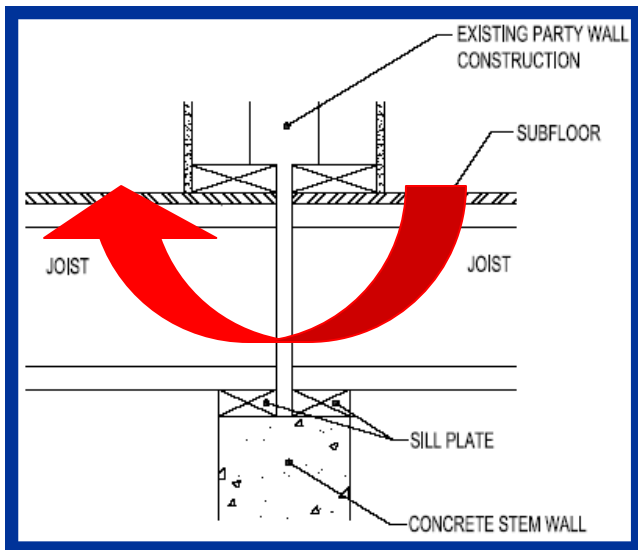


PROJECT: West Ridge Condominiums
Great Falls, Montana

When owners of adjacent units complained about hearing each other's music, snoring, television and footsteps, the developer attempted to address the complaints by modifying the party wall construction, but little change occurred. Big Sky Acoustics was hired to assess the sound isolation characteristics between the units and find the cause of the complaints.

BSA's SERVICES AND SOLUTIONS:

- ◆ Conducted an STC test per ASTM Standard E 336 to evaluate the sound isolation properties of the existing wall construction between units.
- ◆ Determined that the wall construction was performing as expected by comparing the test results to the lab-tested performance of similar wall constructions (graph).
- ◆ Evaluated possible noise flanking paths that would allow sound to bypass the wall construction, including the attic and the crawlspace.
- ◆ Used observations during the STC test to determine that sound was passing under the wall in the crawlspace through openings at the end of the joists and up through the particle board subfloor (figure).
- ◆ Recommended modifications to for the crawlspace to improve the sound isolation between units in both existing buildings and in future constructions.



The analysis determined targeted and appropriate improvements. Once the recommendations were implemented, the developer received no more noise-related complaints.