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Course information

# Insert Earphones Workshop

# About the course

The **Insert Earphones Workshop** provides hands-on training in the safe and effective use of insert earphones and earmuffs for occupational audiometry.

The latest version of Australian Standard 1269.4 Auditory assessment (2014) lists an innovative earphone arrangement for testing in noisy areas: earphones inserted in the ears plus high attenuation (noise-reducing) earmuffs fitted over the top.

### What are insert earphones?

Insert earphones plug into the audiometer as usual, however the test tones are conducted through a thin tube which is inserted into an earplug. The earplug is then placed inside the client's ear canal.



Insert earphones alone provide a reasonable level of external noise reduction, however research by NAL (National Acoustics Laboratories) demonstrated a much greater reduction is achieved when a pair of specific, high rated earmuffs is fitted over the top.

Insert earphones

Earmuffs

# Benefits of using the insert earphones + earmuff combination

- **High noise reduction**. This new configuration achieves the highest levels of attenuation (noise reduction) compared to all other ear-level equipment.
- **Flexibility of testing location**. Better noise reduction means Standards/legislation-compliant audiometric testing is possible in many rooms that would normally be too noisy without a booth.
- **Cost effective**. Compared to a booth (the "gold standard" for audiometry), equipment set up costs are significantly lower.
- **Portable**. Takes up roughly the same space as a pair of standard audiometer headphones, so easily transportable.
- **Same annual calibration costs**. Calibration laboratories charge the same amount to calibrate insert earphones as standard earphones.
- **Enhanced perception of quality**. Many customers report that if customers hearing external noise during a test, they can question the accuracy quality of the audiometry service. With insert earphones and earmuffs fitted the majority of external noises in a testing room will be inaudible to the patient.
- Avoid the problems associated with earphone enclosures. Conventional "earphone enclosures" (cups fitted over the earphones) can achieve some reduction of background noise during a test however have a few issues that can lead to inaccurate test results (the need to apply correction figures, discomfort, highly variable noise reduction). The insert earphones/earmuff combination not only eliminates these issues but also provides superior noise reduction.

# Why get training?

When using insert earphones, the audiometric tester inserts an compressible earplug deeply into the client's ear canal. This "invasive" technique requires formal instruction to complete the task safely. Training also helps to achieve a proper fit to ensure a high level of noise reduction.

We provide one-on-one supervised practice along with exercises, handouts and all practice equipment.

The workshop content is developed from *Australian Standard/New Zealand Standard 1269.4 Auditory assessment* (the key reference document in occupational audiometry), National Acoustic Laboratories research and audiologists with over 20 years of teaching and clinical practice.

#### **Pre-requisite**

The **Insert Earphones Workshop** is only offered to graduates of the **Occupational Audiometry Course\*** and **Intermediate Audiometry Workshop\*\*** conducted by The Hearing Company, or equivalent course. This ensures competence in Australian Standards audiometry and otoscopy, which means we can focus on developing advanced skills during the workshop.

No reading or other pre-course preparation is required.

These courses provide comprehensive (\*) and intermediate (\*\*) training in the practical skills and knowledge required to conduct occupational audiometry and otoscopy (ear inspection). The **Occupational Audiometry Course** provides full compliance with the Australian Standard, legislation and Code of Practice.

# About the presenter

The course presenter is Glenn Johnson, an Occupational Audiologist (hearing assessment specialist) with over 20 years' experience in clinical practice, hearing rehabilitation, teaching, management and consulting. In his role as Director/Principal Audiologist at The Hearing Company, Glenn has developed and presented courses to over 2,000 students throughout Australia and the Asia Pacific region.

# **Registration and course dates**

The workshop is presented at public venues and in-company at the customer's premises. Contact us to discuss in-company training or see upcoming dates on the <u>Insert Earphones Workshop page</u> on our website.

Phone:

Website:

To discuss course content, scheduling or how the course might benefit your organisation please contact us:

Email:admin@hearingcompany.com.auAddress:PO Box 79, Floreat Forum,<br/>Western Australia 6014

#### Student feedback

"I found the workshop content very interesting and complimented the training in audiometry very well. The supervised practice as well as Glenn's approachable nature made the course easy and enjoyable. I am so much more confident using insert earphone after completing the workshop."

#### Nike, Energy Qld

"I wish I had done the Inert Earphones Workshop years ago! It has completely transformed my ability to complete onsite testing in a far greater range of environments, comply with background noise specifications and avoid the cost and hassle of shipping a hearing booth. We now offer more competitive pricing and can fly in and out of jobs with minimal equipment. I received excellent feedback and practical coaching from Glenn, and was able to immediately start testing the following week." **Cherie, Attune Hearing** 



Course Presenter: Glenn Johnson, Principal Audiologist and Consultant

1300 118 222 (select option 1)

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