

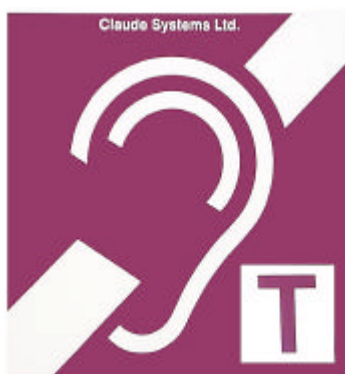
What is an Induction Loop System ?

Uncertainty & lack of awareness as to what an Induction Loop System is, how it works or even why it is used ?, is a common everyday question asked in every organisation.

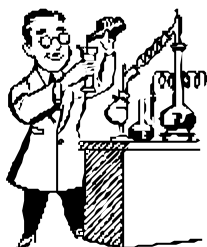


The following information sheet should allow you to have a better understanding about Induction Loops, their use and operation.

Found in such places as cinemas, theatres, banks, etc. The logo as pictured below should be displayed where an Induction Loop System is in use.

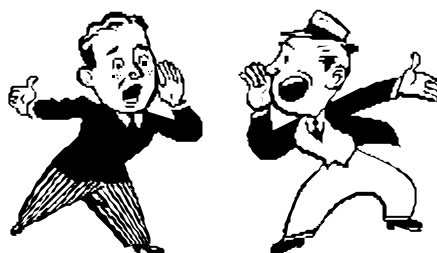


Where this logo is shown, it informs people who have a hearing impairment, and have the use of a hearing aid, that a system, (the Induction Loop System), can assist them to receive much clearer and more intelligible speech from their hearing aid than the conventional internal microphone within the hearing aid. All they have to do is switch their hearing aid to the 'T' position, as denoted on the 'Loop in use' sticker or sign. This is usually achieved by means of a small switch on their hearing aid. Once in the 'T' mode the user can then receive the sound generated by the Induction Loop System.



Contrary to popular belief, the operation & use of an induction Loop System is not likened to Rocket Science !

People who wear hearing aids can suffer from difficulty in distinguishing speech when subject to certain circumstances. This would normally be as result of how the hearing aid works. Within the hearing aid there is a small very sensitive microphone that picks up sound from all around the hearing aid user. This is not ideal if you are trying to have a conversation on a one to one basis, or are trying to listen to only one sound source, such as a lecturer giving a presentation, etc.



Where the Induction Loop System can benefit the hearing aid user is when, as described above, the hearing aid user switches the aid to the 'T' (telecoil) position. As this switches off the internal microphone, (some aids have both an M&T position, which allows both [M] microphone & [T] Telecoil to operate), it then allows them to pick-up the signals only transmitted by the Induction Loop System.

An Induction Loop System consists of three main parts.

1: The Wire Loop or Antenna.

The Wire Loop as the name suggests, is a continuous length of wire that forms a closed loop, for example; around a room perimeter, or a small multi-turn loop under a desk or counter. This is essentially the aerial or antenna that transmits the signal to the users hearing aid.

2: The Pick-up Microphone.

The Pick-up Microphone is an often overlooked item within the overall operation of the system. As this essentially becomes the hearing aid users ear when in use, careful consideration should be made to both its type and placement. Incorrect type could result in the hearing aid user picking up unwanted or additional noise. Incorrect placement could result in the user picking up unwanted noises from printers, fans, etc, possibly even the wrong voice being picked-up, or a bad or muffled sound source.

3: The Loop Amplifier.

The Loop Amplifier amplifies the signal picked up from the microphone and feeds it into the wire loop (antenna).

A typical example of an under counter fixed Induction Loop System

