



BSI Standards Publication

Code of practice for hearing-loop systems (HLS)

National foreword

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TECHNICAL REPORT



Code of practice for hearing-loop systems (HLS)

INTERNATIONAL
ELECTROTECHNICAL
COMMISSION

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CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	7
INTRODUCTION.....	9
1 Scope.....	10
2 Normative references.....	10
3 Terms, definitions, signs and symbols	10
3.1 Terms and definitions	10
3.2 Signs and symbols	12
3.2.1 Symbol for an induction-loop	12
3.2.2 Symbol for multiple loops	13
3.2.3 Sign for display in premises where an HLS is installed and for HLS equipment identification	13
3.2.4 Identification of areas where reception of the HLS is not satisfactory.....	14
4 General	14
4.1 How to use this document	14
4.1.1 Persons addressed	14
4.1.2 Objectives.....	14
4.2 Specialist advice	15
4.3 Safety aspects	15
4.4 Conforming to existing performance documents	15
5 Technical advice.....	15
5.1 Complying with this document	15
5.2 Seeking technical advice	16
5.3 The nature of the advice.....	16
5.4 Professional (consultancy) advice.....	16
6 Purpose of the system	16
7 Choosing the system supplier	17
7.1 General.....	17
7.2 Approaching a contractor	17
7.3 Approaching a manufacturer of HLS equipment.....	17
7.4 Approaching a specialist consultant.....	17
8 Contractual provisions	18
8.1 Performance specification	18
8.2 Verifying that the completed system delivers its intended performance	18
8.3 Arbitration	18
9 Classification of systems.....	19
10 Design.....	20
10.1 General.....	20
10.2 Symbols.....	21
10.3 Basic theory	21
10.3.1 Production of a magnetic field	21
10.3.2 Directional pattern of the magnetic field	23
10.3.3 Uniformity of the magnetic field strength	27
10.3.4 Reference points for magnetic field strength	27
10.3.5 Relationship between the requirements of IEC 60118-4 and the characteristics of hearing aids and speech signals.....	28

10.3.6	Impedance of the loop	29
10.3.7	Selection of the method of driving the loop	30
10.3.8	Current-driven loop	30
10.3.9	Voltage-driven loop	31
10.3.10	Voltage-driven loop with high-level equalization	32
10.3.11	Voltage-driven loop with low-level equalization	34
10.3.12	Use of transformers.....	34
10.3.13	Effects of building construction.....	35
10.3.14	Electromagnetic compatibility (EMC)	36
10.3.15	Tone signals	38
10.3.16	Equalization, other than for compensating loop impedance characteristics.....	38
10.3.17	Multiple loops.....	38
10.3.18	Protection of loop conductors	41
10.3.19	Automatic gain control (AGC), compression, limiting, noise gating and voice control	42
10.3.20	Signal-to-noise ratio	42
10.3.21	HLS for purposes other than assisted hearing.....	43
10.4	System components	44
10.4.1	Final amplifiers	44
10.4.2	Preamplifiers and mixers	44
10.4.3	Signal sources	45
10.5	Objective measurement of intelligibility	52
10.6	Safety and reliability considerations.....	53
10.7	Designing for monitoring and maintenance.....	53
10.8	External factors.....	53
10.8.1	Magnetic noise interference	53
10.8.2	Effect of metal in the building	54
10.9	Magnetic field overspill.....	54
10.10	The role of the system designer in commissioning.....	54
11	Responsibility of the installer	54
12	Installation practices and workmanship	56
13	Inspection and testing of wiring.....	57
14	Commissioning	58
15	Documentation	60
16	Certification.....	60
17	Acceptance	61
18	Verification	62
19	Owner responsibilities.....	63
19.1	Signage	63
19.2	User feedback.....	63
19.3	Staff training	63
20	Operation and maintenance	63
20.1	General.....	63
20.2	Routine testing.....	63
20.3	Inspection and servicing.....	64
20.4	Non-routine attention.....	65
20.5	Special inspection on appointment of a new maintenance organization.....	65

20.6	Arrangements for repair of faults or damage	65
20.7	Modifications to the system	66
21	User responsibilities	66
21.1	Responsible person.....	66
21.2	Logbook.....	67
Annex A	(informative) HLS monitoring receivers	68
A.1	General.....	68
A.2	Recommendations for fixed receivers	68
A.3	Recommendations for portable receivers	69
Annex B	(informative) What is a hearing-loop system (HLS) and how does it work?.....	70
B.1	General.....	70
B.2	Benefits of HLS (for hearing enhancement).....	70
B.3	Limitations of HLS	71
Annex C	(informative) Explanations of the basis of the design formulas	72
C.1	Magnetic field strength	72
C.1.1	Magnetic field strength produced by an element of conductor.....	72
C.1.2	Field strength produced by a circular loop at a point on its axis	72
C.2	Magnetic field strength at the centre of a rectangular loop.....	74
C.3	Magnetic field strength at an arbitrary point	75
C.4	Loop conductor sizes and resistances	80
C.4.1	General	80
C.4.2	Resistance of the loop conductor and relation between conductor size and cut-off frequency for a voltage-driven loop	80
C.4.3	Quick reference tables (derived from IEC 60228).....	82
C.4.4	Inductance of two parallel wires, leading to the inductance of a rectangular loop	82
C.4.5	Variation of the impedance of a loop of fixed dimensions with conductor resistance	84
C.4.6	High-level equalizer	85
Annex D	(informative) Explanation of the specification and measurement of magnetic field strength of induction-loop systems.....	88
Annex E	(normative) Specification of the PPM-based field strength meter	90
E.1	General.....	90
E.2	Checking magnetic field strength meters.....	91
Annex F	(informative) Magnetic field direction near the loop conductor	92
Annex G	(informative) Direct-to-reverberant sound pressure ratio	95
Annex H	(informative) Model certificates	96
H.1	Design certificate	96
H.2	Installation certificate	97
H.3	Commissioning certificate.....	98
H.4	Acceptance certificate	100
H.5	Verification certificate (optional)	101
H.6	Inspection and servicing certificate	102
H.7	Modification certificate	104
Annex I	(informative) Measuring STI with hearing loop systems (HLS)	106
I.1	Causes of loss of intelligibility.....	106
I.2	Measurement method	106
I.2.1	General	106

1.2.2	Limitations of the method	106
1.2.3	Measurement equipment	106
1.2.4	Procedure	107
Annex J (informative) Example of an architect's specification for an HLS		108
Bibliography		109
Figure 1 – Symbol for use on diagrams		13
Figure 2 – Symbol for multiple loops for use on diagrams		13
Figure 3 – Sign for display in premises to indicate that an HLS is installed and for HLS equipment identification		14
Figure 4 – Sign to show seating areas where HLS reception is not satisfactory		14
Figure 5 – Pictorial view of the magnetic field (lines of force) of a rectangular loop.....		22
Figure 6 – Directional response of a hearing aid telecoil		24
Figure 7 – Variation of the strength of the perpendicular component of the magnetic field across an axis of a rectangular loop, with listening height as parameter.....		25
Figure 8 – Variation across the median of a square loop of the perpendicular and coplanar components of the magnetic field at a height ratio $h_n = 1$		26
Figure 9 – Variation across the diagonal of a square loop of the perpendicular and coplanar components of the magnetic field at a height ratio $h_n = 1$		26
Figure 10 – Variation with frequency of the logarithm of the impedance of loops of constant inductance L , with the loop resistance R as parameter.....		30
Figure 11 – Circuit diagram of a "high-level" equalizer (for insertion between the amplifier and the loop)		34
Figure 12 – Preferred loop layout in a steel-framed building.....		35
Figure 13 – Methods of breaking eddy current paths in metal structures.....		36
Figure 14 – Filter for attenuating VHF signals picked up by the loop.....		36
Figure 15 – Methods of "breaking" loops into which interference voltages could be induced by an HLS.....		37
Figure 16 – Multiple loop layouts.....		39
Figure 17 – Variation across an axis of the system, at a height ratio of 0,32, of the component of the field strength, for a loop system similar to that shown in Figure 16 c), compared with the corresponding variations for a conventional single loop.....		41
Figure 18 – Horizontal directional response of an omni-directional microphone with its axis vertical: decibel scale		48
Figure 19 – Directional response of a cardioid microphone: decibel scale		48
Figure 20 – Directional response of a supercardioid microphone: decibel scale		49
Figure 21 – Directional response of a hypercardioid microphone: decibel scale		49
Figure 22 – Directional response of a highly directional shotgun (rifle) microphone where $f = 250$ Hz and barrel length is 275 mm.....		49
Figure 23 – Directional response of the same microphone where $f = 2,5$ kHz		49
Figure 24 – Directional response of the same microphone where $f = 10$ kHz		49
Figure 25 – Relative operating distances of directional microphones for equal direct-to- reverberant signal ratios		50
Figure 26 – Two methods of positioning microphones on a conference table		51
Figure 27 – The 3-to-1 ratio for microphone positioning (normal).....		51
Figure 28 – A reduced 3-to-1 ratio using angled microphones		51
Figure 29 – Illustrations of good and bad microphone placements.....		52

Figure 30 – Optimization of the height of the microphone above the table	52
Figure 31 – Measuring field strength of type 2 HLS – Plan views.....	59
Figure C.1 – Generation of magnetic fields	73
Figure C.2 – Diagram for calculating magnetic field strength at the centre of a rectangular loop.....	75
Figure C.3 – Diagram for calculating magnetic field strength at an arbitrary point	77
Figure C.4 – Diagram for calculating $\cos\Phi$ and $\sin\Phi$	78
Figure C.5 – Diagram for calculating magnetic field strength at point (x, y, z)	80
Figure C.6 – Circuit diagram of a “high-level” or Poperwell equalizer (for insertion between the amplifier and the loop).....	86
Figure C.7 – Frequency response obtained with a high-level equalizer	87
Figure E.1 – “EQ” or “wideband” frequency response: target curve and tolerances on response	90
Figure F.1 – Magnetic field patterns	92
Figure F.2 – Magnetic field directions for a floor-level loop.....	93
Figure F.3 – Magnetic field directions for a ceiling-level loop	94
 Table 1 – Classes of loop system	 20
Table 2 – Relative operating distances of directional microphones for equal direct-to-reverberant signal ratios	50
Table C.1 – Factor by which the loop current has to be increased, compared with that required for a given magnetic field strength at the centre of a square loop, to obtain the same field strength for a rectangular loop at a point at height ratio of h_n above or below the centre of the loop	74
Table C.2 – Class 5 flexible annealed copper conductors for standard single-core and multi-core cables	81
Table C.3 – Class 1 solid annealed copper conductors for single-core and multi-core cables	82
Table C.4 – Ratio of approximate to exact inductance.....	84
Table C.5 – Values of $L_{ z }$	85

INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

CODE OF PRACTICE FOR HEARING-LOOP SYSTEMS (HLS)

FOREWORD

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IEC TR 63079, which is a Technical Report, has been prepared by IEC technical committee 29: Electroacoustics.

This document has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The committee has decided that the contents of the base publication and its amendment will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC web site under "<http://webstore.iec.ch>" in the data related to the specific publication. At this date, the publication will be

- reconfirmed,
- withdrawn,
- replaced by a revised edition, or
- amended.

A bilingual version of this publication may be issued at a later date.

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INTRODUCTION

The performance of induction-loop systems is specified in IEC 60118-4, whereas IEC TR 63079 gives recommendations and guidance for their design, planning, installation, testing, operation and maintenance. Provisions for components of a system are given in IEC 62489-1. Methods of calculation and measurement of the magnetic field, in the context of human exposure, are given in IEC 62489-2.

This document takes the form of guidance and recommendations. It should not be quoted as if it were a specification and particular care should be taken to ensure that claims of compliance are not misleading.

Any user claiming compliance with this document is expected to be able to justify any course of action that deviates from its recommendations.

CODE OF PRACTICE FOR HEARING-LOOP SYSTEMS (HLS)

1 Scope

This document, which is a Technical Report, gives recommendations for and guidance on the design, planning, installation, testing, operation and maintenance of a hearing-loop system (HLS) intended for communicating speech, music and/or other signals. It is mainly concerned with HLS for hearing enhancement, in which the signals are communicated to users of hearing aids equipped with magnetic pick-up coils.

This document does not apply to induction-loop systems which use a carrier frequency, nor to other systems for hearing enhancement purposes which do not use magnetic induction.

2 Normative references

[A1] The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

IEC 60118-4:2014, *Electroacoustics – Hearing aids – Part 4: Induction-loop systems for hearing aid purposes – System performance requirements*

IEC 60268-16, *Sound system equipment – Part 16: Objective rating of speech intelligibility by speech transmission index* **[A1]**

3 Terms, definitions, signs and symbols

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <http://www.iso.org/obp>

3.1 Terms and definitions

3.1.1

hearing-loop system

HLS

system including amplifier(s), microphones and/or other signal sources, in which magnetic fields are created by the flow of audio-frequency current in a conductor arranged in the form of one or more loops or a coil or solenoid

Note 1 to entry: The technical term for a hearing-loop system is "audio-frequency induction-loop system" (AFILS).

3.1.2

HLS for hearing enhancement

HLS in which the intended receivers are hearing aids or specially designed listening devices equipped with coils acting as magnetic antennas