



The venue of HEARING LOOPS

Photo: Winterthur Tourismus

Hearing Loops

International Conference on Induction Loops for Hard of Hearing People and People with Cochlear Implants

Date: 25.-27. September 2009

Place: Winterthur / Switzerland (Zurich Airport is nearby, with direct trains from the airport to Winterthur)



Winterthur is the sixth largest city in Switzerland with 100'000 inhabitants and is situated north of Zurich

Objective: The conference will deal with the latest technology of audio frequency induction loop systems (AFILS) according to the international standard of the International Electrotechnical Commission IEC 60118-4:2006, including future developments.

It is aimed at technical / accessibility committees of hard of hearing and Cochlear Implant organizations, disability organizations, architects, installers of loops, hearing aid providers, audiologists, the hearing aid and cochlear implant industry, manufacturers of assistive listening devices, as well as technically interested people with hearing loss.

Venue: Zurich University for Applied Sciences at Winterthur (zhaw), Department of Applied Linguistics, Theaterstrasse 15c, Auditorium (with induction loop) 3-minute walk from Winterthur train station.

Language: The conference language will be English with simultaneous translation into German.

English speech to text support (CART) by Daniel Tuijnman, The Netherlands

Hearing Loops www.hearingloops.org

is organized by the European Federation of Hard of Hearing People (EFHOH), Pro Audito Winterthur, Verein für Menschen mit Hörproblemen, and by Pro Audito Schweiz, Organisation für Menschen mit Hörproblemen, Update 11. April 2009

Preliminary Program:

Friday evening, 25. September: Registration, opening ceremony; **Saturday, 26. September:** Technical presentations: Speech intelligibility in hearing aids and cochlear implants. The basic concept of assistive listening devices especially induction loops. The IEC standard 60118-4:2006 for audio frequency induction loop systems. Complex loop designs.

Saturday afternoon: The legal situation for people with hearing loss in different countries. Short presentations from USA, United Kingdom, Netherlands, Sweden, Austria / Switzerland followed by a plenary discussion.

Saturday evening: Social Event: Train ride to Zurich and boat trip on lake Zurich with dinner.

Sunday, 27. September: Workshop 1 + 2: How to test a loop according to the IEC standard with practical exercises (one group in English, one group in German), Workshop 3: What can national hard of hearing and CI organizations do to improve induction loop systems? International exchange of experiences and ideas, drafting of a resolution. (In this group either English or German can be spoken, it will be translated sentence by sentence into the other language). Keynote addresses from an audiologist and a technician about the present situation of assistive listening devices.

Sunday afternoon: Panel discussion with representatives from different companies about future developments. Plenary discussion and passing of a resolution.

End of conference on Sunday at 3:30 p.m., so that participants from Europe can catch an evening flight home.

It takes 16 minutes by train from Winterthur to Zurich airport.

All major European airlines fly to and from Zurich.



Hotel Banana City

Organizer: European Federation of Hard of Hearing People EFHOH www.efhoh.org (the European Region of the International Federation of Hard of Hearing People IFHOH), and Pro Audito Winterthur www.proaudito-winterthur.ch (the local organization) in cooperation with Pro Audito Schweiz www.pro-audio.ch (the Swiss national organization of hard of hearing people).

Organizing committee: Alphonse Acrémann, Heinz Nafzger, David Norman, Thomas Schmidhauser (finances), Siegfried Karg, EFHOH vice president (chairman)



Hotel: The hotel "Banana City" is within walking distance of the venue (4 minutes).

Hotel prices in Winterthur are cheaper than in Zurich (the city of Zurich can be reached by train in 18 minutes).

The hotel offers a weekend discount (Friday through Sunday) (including breakfast): Single room per night CHF 130.00; double room per night CHF 190.00

Hotel registration (special conference price!) for Friday night, Saturday night and Sunday night and additional nights) must be made via our conference website www.hearingloops.org and **not** directly with the hotel.

The registration form is now online!

Participant's fee: There is a participant's fee to cover the costs for renting the venue, technical equipment, translation booth, simultaneous translators, speech to text support, expenses of the keynote speakers and so on.

Conference participant CHF 390 / € 250.

Accompanying person CHF 195 / € 125

One-day participant (Saturday or Sunday only) CHF 230 / € 150

Registration by July 15, 2009 at the latest (early bird registration by **May 15, 2009**. see discount prices on registration form).

You may **contact** us on our new conference website www.hearingloops.org. The website is still work in progress.

Siegfried Karg

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