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New ACQUA Version

Version 2.3.300 of the Advanced Communication Quality Analysis System ACQUA now allows measurements of analog terminals according to the new ETSI standard ES 203 021 which is the successor of TBR 21. For example, the wideband measurement descriptors were extended by new features to meet the requirements of ES 203 021, such as an unlimited recording length and the possibility to playback a signal via the sound board and simultaneously record via the HF-AD card.

For more information on the new standard see the corresponding section below.

Furthermore, the new ACQUA version offers a better support of the new codecs which can be used with the latest firmware update of MFE VIII. For example, the payload type for L1 6-256 and G.726 can now be set in the SIP setup.

ACQUA Release 2.3.300 is now ready for production and will be automatically delivered to all customers with a maintenance contract.

New Handset Positioner HHP III

We already introduced the prototype of the new handset positioning mechanism in our last newsletter issue. For some weeks now HHP III has been ready for delivery and is finding a growing number of users.

HHP III not only supports wide handsets but is also adjustable in all three axes. It fulfills all requirements with regard to the "Recommended Test Position" (RTP) specified by IEEE 269 as well as the latest draft of ITU-T recommendation P.64. HHP III moreover supports both "Standard Test Positions" (STP) according to ITU-T P.64 for pinna types 3.3 and 3.4.

The new HHP III is a high quality product which fulfills all traditional expectations towards "Made in Germany". Its main advantages are:

- Support of all pinna types
- Robust and yet light-weight metal construction



HHP III mounted to HMS II.3

- Good fixation and range of width of handsets
- Exact and reproducible adjustment
- Measuring gauge with display unit allows precise adjustment of application force

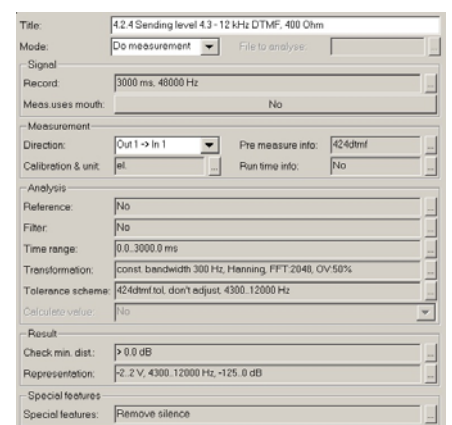
Moreover, HEAD acoustics also puts emphasis on security of investment: owners of the previous models HHP I, HHP II and HHP II.1 can upgrade to the functionality of HHP III, thus ensuring they meet all current requirements with regard to handset positioning.

New and Updated Measurement Standards

For more than 20 years HEAD acoustics has made important contributions to the development of new telecommunication standards by closely cooperating with standardization institutes (3GPP, ITU-T, ETSI, TIA etc.). The relevant standards are implemented into test suites for use with the communication analysis system ACQUA to allow automated measurements according to standard specifications or advanced analyses based on the comprehensive experience of HEAD acoustics.

The following list gives an overview of the standards which were newly implemented or updated since our last newsletter issue:

HQS-mobile-additions, Rev.02: Extension of HQS-mobile for Tests of Headsets, Hands-free and MP3; new wideband test (WAV, MP3) were implemented (ACQUA 2.3.300 or later).



Measurement Descriptor ES 203 021

ES 203 021, Rev.01: Basic Attachment Requirements for Analog Terminals; successor of TBR 21, available either as standard only (Code 6782), as upgrade from TBR 21 (UG-ES 203 021, Code 6792) or as ACQUA option (ACOPT 22, Code 6847) (ACQUA 2.3.300 or later).

EN 50332, Rev.01: Maximum Sound Pressure Level (ACQUA 2.3.100 or later).

GBT I, Rev.03: Acoustic Measurements for Analog Telephones According to Chinese Standard GB/T 15279-94; adapted from CAS to ACQUA (ACQUA 2.3.100 or later).

HQS-HFT-GE, Rev.02: HEAD acoustics Quality Standard for Hands-free Phones; all previous versions of HQS-HFT are replaced by this version (ACQUA 2.3.100 or later).

For more details on all the standards currently available for ACQUA as well as the corresponding datasheets please take a look at the Telecom section of our website at www.head-acoustics.de.

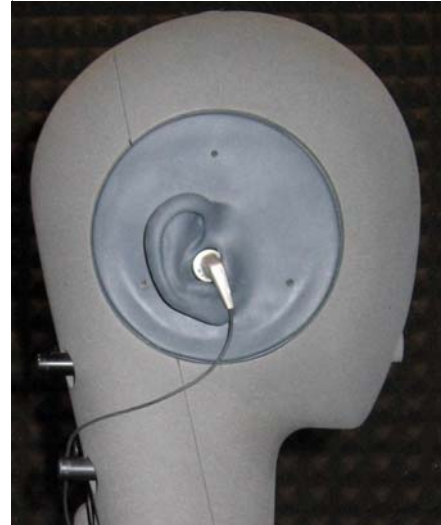
Audio Player and Headset Tests According to EN 50332

In France the fulfillment of the European standard EN 50332 which already exists since 2000 has recently been made mandatory by law. Other European countries are to follow the French example soon. The standard specifies methods for the measurement of maximum sound pressure level as well as limit values for portable audio players such as radios, MP3 players and cell phones with corresponding features.

Even outside France only the conformance with EN 50332 can safeguard manufacturers of such devices and corresponding headsets against the in-

creasing number of law suits filed by customers who demand compensation for hearing defects suffered during use. As most audio players and headsets are manufactured in Asia, conformance with EN 50332 is an absolute must in these countries too.

HEAD acoustics has therefore implemented the requirements of this norm into a corresponding measurement standard for the analysis system ACQUA (version 2.3.100 or later). In combination with the front end MFE VI.1 which allows direct connection of headsets, measurements according to EN 50332 can now be carried out with or without the artificial head HMS II.3.



Headset Tests with EN 50332 and HMS II.3

HAE-car / HAE-BGN Update

A new version of HAE-car / HAE-BGN is now available. Version 2.0.100 of the Automated Equalization for Car Cabins (HAE-car, Code 6970) and for Background Noise Simulation in Laboratories (HAE-BGN, Code 6971) has been considerably improved in many aspects.

For example, a new equalization type "Noise Generator" has been implemented in HAE-BGN which allows equalization with a measurement microphone in the absence of an artificial head.

The "Settings" menu has been extended and now allows to select the trigger channel. In addition, the clock source for synchronization can be selected (sound board or external). Moreover, remote control via TCP/IP or RS232 by means of a null modem cable and a command file can be activated.

A new menu "Show" has been added which e.g. allows to display the average level for left and right channel, the current set of filters in the analysis window or the connected hardware including firmware information.



Telecom Events 2008

As in previous years HEAD acoustics will again be present at numerous Telecom conferences, workshops and exhibitions. The following list gives a short overview, more details can be found on our website at www.head-acoustics.de:

The Fully Networked Car, Geneva, Switzerland, 5-7 March; HEAD acoustics GmbH Paper: "The new ITU-T focus group FitCar - ITU-T test specification for hands-free terminals in cars".

DAGA 2008, Dresden, Germany, 10-13 March; HEAD acoustics GmbH Papers: "VoIP meets DECT", "The new ITU-T focus group FitCar - ITU-T test specification for hands-free terminals in cars", "New developments in mobile phone testing", "Testing Wideband Terminals".

Spring VON, San José, USA, 17-20 March; Visit HEAD acoustics Inc. at booth #735.

CTIA Wireless, Las Vegas, USA, 1-3 April; Visit HEAD acoustics Inc. at booth #5515.

Von.x Europe, Amsterdam, Netherlands, 2-5 June; Visit HEAD acoustics GmbH at booth #120.

ETSI Workshop "Effects of transmission performance on Multimedia QoS", Prague, Czech Republic, 17-19 June; HEAD acoustics GmbH is member of the steering committee.

8th ITG Conference Speech Communication, Aachen, Germany, 8-10 October; HEAD acoustics GmbH Paper.

VO.IP Germany, Frankfurt, Germany, 28-29 October; HEAD acoustics GmbH Paper and Speech Quality Live Tests.

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represented by:

Binaural Background Noise Simulation with HAE-BGN