Phonak
at a glance

SpeechSensor: accurate detection of the direction of speech

What is it?

SpeechSensor is an automatic feature of Phonak SmartSpeech™ Technology, providing better access to speech from the side and rear in noisy environments. This results in an average of 15% better speech understanding when speech is from the side/behind.[1]

What does it do?

SpeechSensor automatically detects where the dominant speaker is located and sends this information to AutoSense OS 5.0 to adjust the directional microphone mode accordingly. If the speech is coming from the left/right it goes into fixed directional, if the speech is coming from behind it goes into Real Ear Sound.

What are the key benefits?

17% better speech understanding when speech is from the side[1*]

More access to sound not only provides clarity but reduces listening effort [2,3,4]

11% reduced listening effort[1]

14% better speech understanding when speech is from behind[1]

Who is it for?

Clients who are often in group situations where conversations are not always from the front.

How can I demo it?

- By using the feature animation on Phonak.com you can explain the benefits of SpeechSensor depending on the listening environment
- Let your client try the feature using trial hearing aids
- Demonstrate how the myPhonak app allows clients to tailor settings in real time

*compared to StereoZoom 2.0 with power dome

1. Woodward, J. & Latzel, M. (2022). New implementation of directional beamforming configurations show improved speech understanding and reduced listening effort. Phonak Field Study News in preparation. Expected end of 2022.
2. Hornsby, B.W.Y. (2013). The effects of hearing aid use on listening effort and mental fatigue associated with sustained speech processing demands. Ear and Hearing, 34(5), 523–534.
3. Picou, E.M., Ricketts, T.A., & Hornsby, B.W.Y. (2013). How hearing aids, background noise, and visual cues influence objective listening effort. Ear and Hearing, 34(5), e52–e64.
4. Pichora-Fuller, M.K., & Singh, G. (2006). Effects of Age on Auditory and Cognitive Processing: Implications for Hearing Aid Fitting and Audiologic Rehabilitation. Trends in Amplification, 10(1), 29–59.

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