

## Guide to Hearing Loops

Hearing loops, also known as induction loops, are sound systems that help people with hearing loss to hear more clearly in public spaces. They work by transmitting sound directly into a person's hearing aid or cochlear implant.

Hearing loops have been installed in millions of locations around the world, providing ease of communicate for those with hearing loss.

### How a hearing loop works:

- Sound is picked up by a microphone.
- The microphone sends this sound signal to an amplifier.
- The amplifier sends the signal to a loop of wire around the room, creating a magnetic field.
- Hearing aids that have a special feature called a telecoil (T-coil) can pick up the magnetic signal directly.
- Switch your hearing aid to the 'T' position to connect to the hearing loop. Check with your audiologist that this has been activated.
- The hearing aid converts the magnetic signal in to audible sound, delivering it directly to the ear; reducing background noise and making speech and music clear.

There are different types of hearing loop depending on size of the area sound has to traverse.

- One-to-one hearing loops for conversations between two people such. You will find these at bank counters, doctors' offices and supermarkets.
- Integrated hearing loops support automated machines such as ticket machines, door entry intercoms and self-service checkouts.
- Large area hearing loops are installed in settings where a large number of people gather, such as theatres, classrooms and conference rooms.