



LISTEN UP CONFERENCE 2024

A new era in hearing conservation

Tuesday 5th November | Birmingham

08:30 - 09:30 Registration, Refreshments & Exhibition

09:30 Intro & Welcome | **Clare Forshaw**

09:40 Failed Hearing Defenders: Greater Employer Liability for Hearing-Loss | **Kevin Bampton**
BOHS CEO

10:10 PPE | The Good, The Bad and the Ugly! | **Paul Manning**
BSIF

10:40 Why This issue is Important – A View From the Regulator | **Chris Steel**
HSE

11:10 Morning Break & Exhibition

11:30 HSE Inspections Noise Focus – What Practical Actions Should You Take | **Peter Wilson**
INVC

11:55 'Key Behavioural Determinants in Preventing Noise-Induced Hearing Loss in the Workplace' | **Dalia Tsimpida**,
SOTON

12:15 Police Comms Devices and Hearing Loss | **Hannah Guest**
Manchester Uni

12:35 Lunch Break & Exhibition

13:45 A New SINT Devised for Police Firearms Officers | **Christopher Daniel**
Amplivox

14:05 Turn Up, Plug In, Rock Out: Interventions to Promote Hearing Protection Use in Recreational Settings | **Sam Couth**
Manchester University

14:25 "Sounds interesting!" | **Stephen Wheatley**
Make Listening Safe

14:45 Afternoon Break & Exhibition

15:00 Noise Health Surveillance – Interactive Session | **Susan Donnelly**
HSE OH Inspector

15:30

Health Surveillance - Are You Doing it Right?

Emma Karagkevrekis

16:00

Noise exposure and risk to hearing in professional practice and leisure activities from balloon pops

Luis Gomez-Agustina
London South Bank
University (LSBU)

16:15

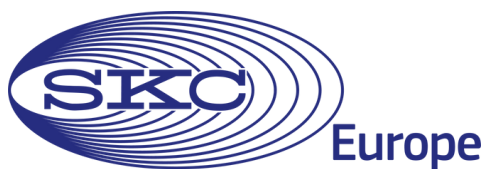
UKAN Panel Discussion on the Effects of Communication, Hearing and Immersive Audio on Health and Wellbeing

Chris Sumner
Nottingham Trent
University, **Volkan
Acun** (Salford
University), and
Stephen Dance (LSBU)

17:00

Conference Close

Thanks to our event exhibitors



SKC has been supplying quality air sampling products for over 60 years for the occupational hygiene, environmental and indoor air quality professional, providing both equipment and broad technical knowledge and support for particulate, gas & vapour and bioaerosol sampling.

At the UK Hearing Conservation Association Conference, we are delighted to be introducing our new range of SKC Noise and Sound Monitoring Equipment, so please head over and speak to Keith Emery and Catherine Zwarts who will happily show you what we can offer for your noise monitoring applications.

Expertise is the foundation and heart of our solutions. We supply the global community with product lines certified to European standards and manufactured in the UK and USA. With backup from our experienced technical personnel, SKC are leaders in customer care and technical support. Our goal is to help you protect the health and safety of people at work and in their communities.



Casella a division of TSI is a global leader in the manufacture and supply of occupational and environmental monitoring equipment. The instrumentation includes real-time dust monitors, personal sampling pumps, sound level meters, noise dosimeters, hand-arm vibration monitors, and environmental units.

TSI® offers a comprehensive range of reliable and accurate solutions, including workflow management, software services, and measurement instrumentation, all designed to support data-driven decision-making. Expanding its innovative product line, TSI® introduces the TSI OmniTrak™ Solution, a customizable and scalable ecosystem that integrates advanced monitoring instruments with TSI Link™ software for data collection and analysis. This versatile solution enhances TSI's Occupational Health & Safety offerings, providing comprehensive workplace risk assessment capabilities.



Health Wizard at Work.

Simpler, faster, more accessible surveillance health tests save 90% of technician time.

Health Wizard at Work is a unique health test platform that enables user-operated surveillance audiometry and surveillance health tests anywhere, at any time. We work with clients in occupational health, health and safety and in industry, to preserve staff health, manage risk and meet employer legal requirements.

Available as a technology for OH providers or complete surveillance service, Health Wizard's patient management system, automation, touch screen technology, robust clinical pathway and flexible systems mean experienced staff administer every result. This means everyone involved with taking or administering tests has more time for rewarding, demanding or productive work without compromising staff healthcare or protection.

Our complete service includes:

- Questionnaire
- Hearing/Spirometry
- Personal report by email
- Referral
- Referral escalation service
- Management summary report



The British Safety Industry Federation is the UK Trade Association for the Safety Industry, a major independent voice for UK safety. Providing authoritative information on a range of workplace safety issues and representing the needs of the UK market, our members and the country's work force.

It is our mission to support all businesses in the UK who help to keep people safe and healthy at work. We are passionate that safety and health is universally recognised for what it is – a positive force for good.

BSiF work closely with the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and Trading Standards with whom we have Primary Authority partnership.

BSiF are the lead association for the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Regulation. We ensure the needs of the UK safety industry are shared. Our active input across Government departments puts us at the forefront of influencing legislation.

Our work with Government enforcement agencies, standards making authorities, safety equipment manufacturers, distributors, users and sector associations makes certain we are leading the way in educating and advising on topical industry issues that affect worker safety and health.

To help give assurances to those that need to procure/use compliant PPE & Safety Equipment BSiF audit members under the 'Registered Safety Supplier Scheme', through this scheme a strict set of protocols are set for members so they can prove alignment with their regulatory/legislative requirements. The scheme seeks to improve the quality of product and the capability of suppliers in the safety/PPE market.



Dr Dalia Tsimpida from the University of Southampton's Centre for Research on Ageing will be showcasing her groundbreaking research on how noise—both environmental and occupational—affects hearing and mental health. Her work aims to pinpoint areas with high noise exposure to guide interventions that create healthier urban spaces, especially for marginalised communities who often face greater risks from environmental hazards. This project is funded by the Sustainability & Resilience Institute (SRI), University of Southampton. The views expressed are those of the author(s) and not necessarily those of SRI or the University of Southampton.



Professor Kevin Bampton, LLB FCMI FRSA FHEA

Chief Executive Officer of the British Occupational Hygiene Society

Kevin has worked as a legal adviser for the British Council and the Overseas Development function of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and as Special Constitutional and Legal Adviser for the United Nations.

Amongst his academic roles, he has been Professor of Public Law, Professor of Comparative Justice, Director of the International Policing and Justice Institute, Research Fellow in Good Government, Research Fellow in Health and Life Sciences, Higher Education Adviser to Trent Postgraduate Medical Deanery and is Visiting Professor at Gloucestershire University.

He is an award-winning educator with a focus on interprofessional education and the integration of practical skills into theoretical learning. He has taught across a range of areas, including advanced forensic science, professional ethics, and employment law.

As an extension of his 30 years of working in the justice field, he has worked extensively with professional and Chartered bodies with a focus on professionalisation, ethics and educational development.

Kevin is representing BOHS in various professional committees and bodies and is the Chair of the BSI HS/1 Occupational health and safety management committee. His life-long emphasis on the relationship between justice, science and health led him to his current role. His belief is that the British Occupational Hygiene Society plays a critical role in ensuring the protection of worker health and scientific independence in the development of occupational health in a post-Brexit Britain and a post-COVID-19 world.



Paul Manning BSIF Services Manager.

Over 25 years experience in the UK PPE/Safety sector. Having worked for Economic Operators and a Test Lab/Notified/Approved body for PPE before entering his 8 years and counting experience with BSIF.

Paul brings a great blend of commercial awareness and PPE technical knowledge.

BSIF – British Safety Industry Federation is The UK Trade Association for the Safety/PPE industry. All too thinly stretched/resource starved UK Market surveillance authorities have a huge breadth of responsibilities. In our area of concern the UK is seeing unprecedented quantities of non-compliant PPE/Safety Equipment land on our shores. For example, some Internet trading sites openly drop ship non-compliant PPE from multiple global areas with seemingly little worry for peoples safety or the countries law. The problem is now huge.

In this presentation Paul Manning, BSIF Services Manager will take you through all that is good, bad and downright ugly in PPE. With a walk through on what to look out for when you need to procure PPE/Safety equipment.



Chris Steel

Principal Specialist Inspector (Noise and Vibration)

Chris has worked as a specialist inspector for the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) for 9 years and is currently the technical lead for workplace noise and vibration. He specialises in the inspection and investigation of workplace noise, hand-arm vibration, and whole-body vibration.

His current role is to develop and promote HSE technical standards for workplace noise and vibration. He leads on; the development of operational guidance for HSE inspectors, maintaining the technical details of HSE's guidance, and encouraging and promoting good practice in workplace noise and vibration. Before joining the HSE he spent 18 years in noise and vibration; working in consultancy, academia, and acoustic product design.



Peter Wilson:

Technical Director: INVC

BSc MSc: Member of the Institute of Acoustics (M.I.O.A.)

In addition to a mechanical engineering degree and an MSc in Acoustics and Vibration, Peter has spent over 40 years honing his practical skills in the field of noise and vibration engineering. He has acquired a reputation for developing innovative, award-winning and patented noise control techniques across a very wide range of applications and industries.

He also developed the Institute of Occupational Health (IOSH) competency training courses in both noise and vibration (HAVS). He is a regular at international conferences as an entertaining and sometimes controversial speaker.

HSE inspections noise focus: what practical actions should you take?

This HSE inspection focus will expose the failings of many hearing conservation programmes and the actions needed to reduce the risk of Noise Induced Hearing Loss (NIHL). The 3 most common issues where best practice is not followed are:

- the real-world limitations of PPE performance
- lack of any cost/benefit analysis of the noise control options
- poor reporting that lacks an effective action plan

The presentation provides a pragmatic check list and resources that can be used to take pre-emptive actions to update NIHL risk reduction programmes to include the latest best practices.

It includes:-

- PPE: a brief review of the primary reasons for the poor performance of conventional PPE and free access to a simple tool to estimate the actual real-world performance for use in risk assessments
- Noise control audits (NCA) + Buy Quiet policy: examples of how to carry out cost/benefit analyses to evaluate the noise control options. This provides the information you need to make the right decisions. As effective noise control programmes are far too rare due to lack of knowledge, copious links to useful resources are included.
- Reporting: guidance on report content quality and expectations with links to resources. As the current standard is poor, the HSE will collect and assess workplace noise survey reports for the quality of the advice provided. Enforcement action will be possible.



Dr Dalia Tsimpida

Dr Dalia Tsimpida is a Lecturer in Ageing and Gerontology at the University of Southampton. She is an Associate Fellow and Chartered Member of the British Psychological Society and a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy. With over a decade of research experience, Dr Tsimpida specialises in the social epidemiology and public health aspects of hearing loss, with a particular focus on the links between socioeconomic inequality and hearing loss, as well as the impact of noise on physical and mental health. Her pioneering research has been recognised with the International Society of Audiology Scholarship in 2020 and the Scientific Award in Computational Audiology in 2021 and has informed health strategies both in the UK and internationally.

In this talk, Dr. Tsimpida will offer insights into predicting and influencing human behaviour to enhance hearing protection through effective interventions. She will provide an overview of multidisciplinary meta-analyses on behavioural determinants and intervention efficacy, highlighting the impact of various approaches. The presentation will address the effectiveness of interventions targeting individual factors such as knowledge, attitudes, and skills, as well as the influence of social-structural determinants like legal sanctions and social support. The key takeaway will be identifying promising strategies to help individuals overcome barriers and integrate hearing protection behaviours into their daily lives.



Hannah guest

Hannah Guest is an auditory scientist at the University of Manchester researching the auditory effects of noise exposure, including the early "subclinical" effects of noise on the cochlea and auditory nerve.



Christopher Daniel

Managing Director at Amplivox

Christopher Daniel, Managing Director at Amplivox, has been the project lead for the development of the Functional Hearing Assessment System and worked with multiple emergency services to effectively integrate this system within their operations.



Sam Couth

Sam Couth completed his BSc (1st class Hons) in Cognitive Neuroscience and Psychology at the University of Manchester in 2010. He then went on to do a PhD in Manchester investigating the effects of ageing on sensory processing, which he completed in 2014.

From then, Sam worked on several postdoc projects investigating the use of technology for detecting and monitoring neurodegenerative disease progression. In 2016, he joined the Manchester Centre for Audiology and Deafness (ManCAD) to investigate the longitudinal effects of noise exposure on musicians' hearing and methods for promoting hearing protection behaviours.

Sam obtained a research and teaching lectureship in ManCAD in 2019, where he continues his work exploring the effects of occupational and recreational noise exposure on hearing. Sam has broad experience in qualitative and quantitative research methods, including developing evidence-based behaviour change interventions for promoting healthy hearing.



Stephen Wheatley

As a long-term tinnitus sufferer (from 55 years riding motorcycles) with poor hearing (a combination of Led Zeppelin, Deep Purple and shooting) Stephen is committed to making people aware of, and reducing the risks of, avoidable hearing loss.

He co-found LimitEar/HearAngel in 2010 which has gone on to develop class leading devices that protect the hearing of occupational headphone users at work and software that provides recreational headphone users with exposure information and automatic safeguarding if they wish.

He is a Founder Director/Trustee of The UK Hearing Conservation Association, committee member of the World Health Organisations Make Listening Safe Campaign, lead of Make Listening Safe Campaign UK and contributor to both the ITU/WHO and CENELEC safety standards groups.

Listen Up agenda session = 'Sounds Interesting' – Sharing information on trends in recreational and occupational sound exposure and the impact on the populations hearing and the campaigns which aim to increase awareness of the risks.



Susan Donnelly

HM Principal Inspector Health and Safety (Occupational Health)

Susan is registered on the Nursing and Midwifery Council Register as a Registered Nurse and Specialist Community Public Health Nurse (Occupational Health).

I have been an Occupational Health Inspector since October 2001 managing, leading, and conducting inspection's/investigations assessing health risk management systems; focusing on the health and safety perspectives aimed at reducing workplace ill health. As a Principal Occupational Health Inspector, I am responsible for planning and delivering projects, developing standards and policy intervention campaigns, and providing support to others aimed at improving controls and changing behaviours in the workplace.



Emma Karagkevrekis

Lead Occupational health nurse, company owner and founder Derby Health Management

Emma Karagkevrekis is our lead occupational health nurse, company owner and founder. Before moving to Occupational Health, Emma worked in the insurance Group Risk business and a career break found her teaching IT and DT in a school. She worked for Public Health England during the pandemic returning to Occupational Health in 2022. Emma has over 15 years experience in Occupational Health and has worked in healthcare, education, warehousing, retail, construction and Rail from hands on delivery to service management.

She is passionate about working with employers to improve the health outcomes of the workforce and helping employees when they are struggling. She is also passionate about trucks, diggers, drills and anything with a decent torque!



DR LUIS GOMEZ-AGUSTINA

London South Bank University (LSBU)

Dr Luis Gomez-Agustina is a senior lecturer in Acoustics and Building Services Engineering at London South Bank University (LSBU). He has been the course director of the UK Institute of Acoustics (IOA) courses taught at LSBU for the last ten years and is a senior fellow of the Higher Education Academy. Luis holds a PhD and a MSc in acoustics and is Fellow member of the IOA and member of the Acoustical Society of America.

He is an active researcher and has published over 40 conferences and journal articles. He is a peer reviewer for seven leading international journals in acoustics and building environment. His research interests are in Architectural and Building acoustics, Noise Control, Occupational Noise, Electro-Acoustics, Speech Intelligibility, and Acoustics education.



Professor Stephen Dance

Professor Dance is the Director of the Acoustics Group at London South Bank University where he leads a team of four permanent academics. He is an expert in room acoustics and computer simulation with more than 30 years of experience.

He has published more than one hundred papers in field of acoustics. He acts as an advisor to the Royal Academy of Music, Henry Wood Hall, and the Royal Opera House. He has won awards from the Acoustical Society of America for mentoring, the Schultz Prize for architectural acoustics education, the Institute of Acoustics Tyndall Medal for research and more recently a National Teaching Fellowship from the Higher Education Academy, as well as two Noise Abatement Society awards for Innovation and Engagement.

Stephen is also the lead for the UK Acoustics Network for Communication and Room Acoustics and chairs the Institute of Acoustics Research Coordination Committee where he introduced a new member status specifically recognising research students. Currently, he represents UK/Europe for the International Institute for Noise Control Engineering.



Dr. Volkan Acun

Dr. Volkan Acun is a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of Salford's Acoustics Research Centre. With a background in architecture, he focuses on human response to soundscapes and environmental noise. His current research focuses on how people perceive and respond to air source heat pump noise.



Chris Sumner

Chris is an auditory neuroscientist with wide interests in the mechanisms of hearing and hearing loss. He has a background in engineering and computer science, and is experienced in computer modelling of the ear and brain, neurophysiology and experimental psychophysics.

He has worked on numerous basic science topics such as the biological basis of frequency analysis by the ear and brain, how neuronal adaptation supports our ability to analyze the auditory scene, how neural circuits in the brain encode and process dynamic sounds such as speech, sound localization and how speech perception is aided by being able to see people's faces.

Increasingly, he is concerned with how processing by our ears and brain change with age, and how this affects our ability to function in complex auditory environments. Chris believes that to solve the big questions scientists, engineers and clinicians need to work together.