

International Accessibility Conference on Hearing Loops and Hearing Technology “Future Loops”

Friday 6th and Saturday 7th October 2017

Call for Papers

It is with great pleasure that the International Federation of Hard of Hearing People (abbreviation: IFHOH) has awarded the hosting of the International Accessibility Conference on Hearing Loops and Hearing Technology, also known as *Future Loops*, to its German member, Deutscher Schwerhörigenbund e.V. (abbreviation: DSB). The conference will take place on Friday 6th and Saturday 7th October 2017, in the metropolis of Berlin, Germany.

Experts will assemble from numerous countries and bring their technical expertise, wide experience in designing of loops and knowledge of accessibility for people with hearing loss. This event is an unparalleled opportunity to network, discuss progress and share ideas.

Submission Deadline:

The deadline to submit a proposal (including title and abstract) to the Call for Papers for the Conference is Monday, **3rd of April 2017**.

- Speakers should be prepared to present on either the 6th or 7th of October, 2017.
- Presentations will typically be 20 minutes in duration including 5 minutes for questions
- The abstract will be posted on the DSB website

The Conference is designed for anyone interested in technology that provides accessibility for people with hearing loss: consumers, family and friends, audiologists, hearing aid providers, cochlear implant providers, captionists, sound engineers, architects, audio/visual designers and installers and manufacturers of hearing and assistive listening devices. As well, those involved in facilities covered by disability access laws or involved in accessibility committees are part of the intended audience.

Speakers are invited to contribute to the Conference by submitting articles relevant to their profession or field of endeavour, sharing their expertise and experience in looping and other future hearing technology, including significant advances, technical aspects and to how to advocate for them in communities throughout the world.

Topic Areas:

Three topics should run like a thread through the conference: **knowledge of technology**, **exchange of experience** and **social dynamics**.

We encourage proposals that explore the latest technological advancements and standards related to hearing loops and hearing technology. The following themes are for inclusion but are not limited to:

- How can other countries benefit from your experience?
- How are standards enforced?
- How do we ensure Hearing Loops are installed properly?
- What do standards mean for the hearing aid user?
- Have hearing loop standards helped?
- How hearing aid users can become the advocates for Hearing Loops (AFILS) provision for performance and for other forms of hearing technology
- Experiences from around the world
- Education & awareness initiatives
- Looping and looking to the future

Keynote Speakers Confirmed Attending:

Horst Warncke

A social and technical innovator in the field of medical and hearing technology
Director Audiology Oticon GmbH, Hamburg, Germany

Juliette Sterkens

An audiologist and the National Hearing Loop Advocate with the Hearing Loss Association of America.

Peter Dieler

A counselor, coach and mediator for hearing issues working as Head of Audiotherapy at the MEDIAN Klinik am Burggraben, Bad Salzuflen, Germany

Submission Guidelines:

All proposals must be submitted by attaching the completed Call for Papers Word document to an email. Any questions may be directed Dr.-Ing. Hannes Seidler:

IFHOH-2017@hoer-umweltakustik.de

Notification of Acceptance will be by email by the 30th of April 2017.

Presentation Requirements:

By submitting a paper for the Conference you will agree to provide the following:

- **Name and Contact** Information of all speakers involved.
- **Disclosure Statement** – disclose any and all real or potential conflict of interest.
- **Potential Conflicts** - Name any and all professional, financial, or personal affiliations which may cause the impression that bias or prejudice could affect the objectivity of material presented.
- **Presentation Title** – Name of the presentation as it will appear in our Exhibit and Programme Guide.
- **Short Description** of your proposed presentation to be used in the Exhibit and Programme Guide (Maximum 100 words).
- **Outline or overview** of your proposed presentation to be considered by the Conference Management Team in the selection process (Maximum 500 words), clearly stating objectives.

Speaker Responsibilities:

If accepted, speakers will be asked to sign a Presenter Agreement based on the following:

- That all participants in the presentation shall register for the Conference.
- Registration is free for all speakers only on the day of their scheduled presentation. If they wish to arrive early, or stay beyond the day of their presentation, then a discounted Registration Fee of 90 EUR will apply.
- To agree to present in the time slot and format assigned by the Conference Management Team.
- To grant permission to DSB to take photographs of you and to publish them at DSB discretion and in any format.
- Not to market specific products and services and refrain from overt selling.

Contact:

For more information and to register your interest in attending, please contact
Gudrun Brendel, Conference Manager: IFHOH-2017@schwerhoerigen-netz.de

Deutscher Schwerhörigenbund e.V., please contact
Renate Welter, Vice President: dsb@schwerhoerigen-netz.de