

THE Measure

Keeping you up-to-date with the world of **noise measurement**

doseBadge⁵
The new generation of noise dosimeter

20 Years of Evolutionary Success

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Should noise be off the menu in cafés and pubs?

Rave reviews for Cirrus at Classical Hacienda Concert

Forthcoming events and courses

Cirrus unveil the eagerly-awaited doseBadge⁵

The new-look doseBadge was developed by the in-house R&D team and has arrived almost 20 years to the day since we brought the very first doseBadge to market. Since then we have sold an incredible 20,000 units worldwide.

The latest model has a wide range of new benefits including:

- New wireless communication technology allowing the doseBadge⁵ to be controlled by the dBLink App on either iOS or Android devices.
- Start, pause and stop measurements automatically with the scheduled timers allowing more control over when measurements are made.
- Detailed data logging with up to 6 channels of 1 second data being stored for each measurement.
- Intelligent charging with the doseBadge⁵ being able to maintain optimum battery life.
- Tap sensor to protect your measurements from external impacts.

Jim Tingay, Quality & Product Development, says: "We have still adhered to the same no display/ no controls philosophy that helped launch the original device but as technology has moved on, we have embraced many elements so the doseBadge⁵ will undoubtedly stand the test of time like its predecessors."

Stay connected with the noise experts

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The History of the doseBadge

Initially designed and developed as the world's first personal dosimeter, the original R&D team set out to create a unit that would revolutionise the industry by eliminating the need for cables, controls and buttons on the product – unheard of at the time. This brought the first real cost-effective solution to the occupational health sector that also cut down on any future damage, repairs, service costs and the potential for tampering.

Following on from the original doseBadge, a further four updated versions followed in 1996, 1998, 2002 and 2007. Here is a brief history of the doseBadge, from inception to present day:

In 1996, Cirrus pioneered the first doseBadge Noise Dosimeter. The innovative engineering behind the doseBadge has changed the way we look at noise dosimeters worldwide.

EVOLUTION OF THE NEW **doseBadge⁵**
The new generation of noise dosimeter

1995	1996	1998	2002	2007	2016
					
Prototype THE THEORY OF EVERYTHING	MK I THE FIRST WIRELESS NOISE DOSIMETER	MK II EVOLVING THE ICONIC DESIGN	MK III IMPROVING THE FUNCTIONALITY	MK IV INTRINSICALLY SAFE APPROVAL	MK V THE FIFTH GENERATION
Our mission was to create a self-contained noise dosimeter with the microphone, battery and mechanics to analyse personal noise exposure continuously. The evolution of the doseBadge began by testing this fundamental idea to see if it was possible.	The prototypes proved the theory was possible, so the first production model of the doseBadge went on sale – the world's first wireless noise dosimeter. The original casing was machined from a solid aluminium billet.	Cirrus improved the cone-shaped design of the doseBadge to make it even more durable. The new casings were cast in aluminium and now featured the doseBadge name. The microphone and battery was also fine-tuned to provide greater performance.	The design didn't change but the doseBadge became capable of so much more. It provided 1-minute data-logging allowing for detailed analysis of personal noise exposure. It could also be configured to measure within different regulations worldwide.	The gold casing signifies the doseBadge is Intrinsically Safe for use in highly flammable environments. It also boasted 24+ hours of battery life, two channels for recording data and a host of further enhancements.	The result of 20 years of evolutionary success. The fifth generation of the doseBadge is now available, visit: www.cirrusresearch.co.uk/dosebadge5

Ask the Noise Doctor

Should noise be taken off the menu?



Eight out of ten people have left a restaurant, café or pub early because of the noise according to a new survey from the charity Action on Hearing Loss.

An interesting statistic that is the backbone of a nationwide "Speak Easy" campaign for a quieter dining experience. The organisers are now calling on the catering industry to take action on background noise.

To be honest I'm not sure if this is a UK-wide or generational issue. I've found the older you get, the less tolerant you are to noise and you pick your venue accordingly. And whilst I applaud the noise awareness campaign I'm not sure how successful it can be ultimately.

After all, noise levels are very personal and what is one person's perfect pitch can be intolerable to another. Likewise, a bar with low background isn't going to pull in a crowd of young 20-somethings who want more atmosphere at the expense of chit-chat.

The campaign's online poll surveyed both people with and without hearing loss and showed that 81%

of respondents had difficulty holding a conversation because of the high level of environmental noise. Call me a cynic, but I imagine the kind of person inclined to fill in a survey about noise levels would be from the older generations?

According to the survey, a high level of background noise – including noise made by other diners, kitchen noise and background music – was also responsible for over a quarter (27%) of all respondents receiving the wrong order during a meal out.

The problem is possibly exacerbated by recent interior design trends that have seen venues employ minimalist aesthetics with lots of hard surfaces and high ceilings which don't help the acoustics and a lack of furnishings means less noise can be absorbed?

I'm sure if enough customers complained about noise levels, then any sensible owner would address the issues in a practical manner, a national campaign just seems a tad nanny state-esque?

The report, *Speak Easy: Hearing the views of your customers* is available online.

*The survey polled 1,461 people between October and November 2015, across the UK.

Follow the Noise Doctor on **twitter @TheNoiseDoc**

Rave reviews for Cirrus!

The concept of Hacienda Classical is to produce dancefloor cuts and classics from the legendary Manchester nightclub, performed by a live 40-70 piece orchestra, along with Hacienda DJs and special guests. Growing in popularity, the latest Lancaster event attracted more than 3,000 people.



Imagine a perfect summer's evening with a 40-strong classical orchestra playing to an appreciative audience in a leafy green park.

So far, so very English. Add in the fact the park is in the heart of Lancaster city surrounded by thousands of homes and the orchestra is playing sets of the Hacienda's classic 90s house music hits and you can understand the headache facing Acoustic Consultant Chris Selkirk on his latest noise monitoring project.

The location for this fusion of classical meets house was Lancaster's Williamson Park. A fantastic outdoor setting but surrounded on all sides by some 10,000 homes within 1km.

Organised by the company behind the iconic Hacienda Nightclub in Manchester, this new style of festival is quickly gathering momentum and a growing army of fans.

Chris was brought on board as acoustic expert to address the many noise issues that come with hosting a live music event in the heart of a crowded urban setting and relied upon the Invictus outdoor noise monitor and Optimus Green sound level meter to allow him to be in more than one place at one time for measurements.

With the Invictus positioned and stationary on-site in advance of the venue, Chris was then free to roam the main hotspots that had been identified during the sound check.

He explained: "I'm a big fan. Having both sets of kit – the Invictus can be set up in a key stationary position and then I take the Optimus handheld with me. I can then have simultaneous readings on the unit as well as on my iPhone to get live data from the Invictus."

"The kit allows me to get readings from multiple locations and to sign in the sound engineer so he can also see the live real time data coming through – it adds in that extra measure of control."

"You only have to look at Google Maps to see how many homes are close to Williamson Park, around 10,000 homes within 1km and that's about 25% of the city's population. Bear in mind that you would only need half a dozen or so complaints about noise to trigger enforcement, or at least a visit, and you can see why we needed to put tight controls in place to keep complaints to an absolute minimum and ensure local residents are out of harm's way of noise nuisance."

The software and connectivity of both the Invictus and Optimus also allows Chris to offer Local Authority clients direct access to the noise data as it is streamed for real time evidence. "It helps to reassure Local Authority clients when they are concerned about noise levels for local residents, so it is a big win for them," added Chris.

Photos – Nick Lakin, Lancaster Guardian



Product
Invictus Portable Noise Monitor
Optimus Green handheld sound level meter.

The Client: Chris Selkirk – Sustainable Festivals

Chris is a specialist Acoustic Consultant with more than 20 years of working in events and 5 years specifically overseeing the monitoring of sound levels at outdoor festivals, events and venues across the UK. He works both on-site at the music venues and off-site within the local population where necessary. Chris is also a registered member with the Institute of Acoustics.

Location
Hacienda Classical Outdoor Concert
Williamson Park, Lancaster

Application
Festival noise monitoring

Challenges
Proximity to 10,000 homes

Oar or nothing!

Team Cirrus turn out for charity dragon boat race

It was all hands on deck for Cirrus Research as a group of our hardy staff braved the unpredictable English summer to take part in The Rotary Club annual dragon boat race.

Led by skipper and MD Daren Wallis, the 16-strong team put in a very credible performance finishing 8th in a field of 28, despite admitting to a rather "relaxed" attitude to training beforehand.

The Cirrus team were up against a mix of Yorkshire businesses, charities and colleges. Said team member Tom Shelton: "It was a great day, lots of fun and we were pretty proud of our finishing position. Daren didn't let us slack and gave us the big push we needed to get over the finishing line in some of the races."



Money raised on the day will be split equally between The Rotary Club and Cirrus' own chosen charity Hearing Dogs for the Deaf.

Noise Academy

Cirrus is now offering an IOSH-recognised Noise at Work Training Course as part of its Noise Academy support for clients.

Cirrus Research has a new programme of product training courses ready to roll out for the remainder of 2016 and we have a host of additional venues to boot.

In September, the Cirrus team will be at Imperial War Museum, Duxford, followed a couple of weeks later at the Williams Conference Centre. October sees Cirrus at the National Railway Museum, York.

www.cirrusresearch.co.uk/training/iosh-noise-at-work-course/

Cirrus Product Training Courses on offer this summer include:

08 Nov 2016	Oulton Park Cheshire	10 Jan 2017	Rockingham Raceway Northamptonshire
07 Feb 2017	Castle Combe Circuit Wiltshire	18 Apr 2017	Imperial War Museum Duxford
13 Jun 2017	Beaulieu Motor Museum Hampshire	To book your place, call the Cirrus team on 0845 2302434	

News Round-up:

Have a gander at this noise nuisance complaint!

AN ELDERLY Yorkshire pensioner has been ordered to keep his beloved geese quiet or face court and a hefty fine after being served with a nuisance abatement notice. It was the first time in 79 years of keeping geese on land he owns behind his terraced house in Ilkley, North Yorkshire, that Philip Kempley, 89, has faced any complaints about the birds.

Honk if you support this anti-noise campaign!

MUMBAI TRAFFIC police in India are joining forces with local activists to fight noise pollution in the city. The first salvo in the anti-noise campaign is to tackle honking in the city. The 'Tell the Driver' campaign aims to encourage passengers to speak up if their driver is being too heavy on the horn.

Neighbours refuse to bow to noisy violinist

A VIOLINIST whose playing was compared to a dying cat has had her instrument confiscated by noise pollution officers. Tsgie-Jahna Simmons, from Folkestone, Kent, was given a noise abatement notice by Shepway District Council earlier this year but continued to ignore the warnings leading to the seizure of her violin, guitar, stereo, flatscreen TV and various speakers.

Who's not getting married in the morning?

A BRIDE-TO-BE had to put out an appeal on Facebook for a wedding venue after her dream location lost its licence due to noise nuisance issues. Ayshea Plumb was putting the last minute touches to her wedding preparations when she received the shock news just 10 days before the big day from the Olive Garden venue.

Rihanna concert's not music to local residents' ears

RIHANNA'S CONCERT in Manchester recently was so loud that it was reportedly heard 10 miles away. A number of Manchester residents took to Twitter to complain about 'noise pollution' during the superstar's show. Although the singer was performing at the Old Trafford cricket ground, some people were able to hear the songs right across the city.

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