



Voice Tracker User Guide

Noise Reducing Microphone for Meeting Recording

The Acoustic Magic Voice Tracker is a unique microphone that makes it possible to record meetings in larger rooms with high levels of background noise.

The Voice Tracker microphone system is designed to reduce noise using advanced digital signal processing technology. This makes it possible to capture recordings of larger meetings with greater accuracy than conventional microphones. The design uses “array microphone” technology, a method for combining a set of 8 microphones to automatically “point” towards each person speaking in the room. The digital signal processing computer built into the unit instantly switches the direction that it points, in response to who is speaking at any given time. This helps to reduce background noise and room resonance. In addition to pointing, the Voice Tracker uses digital signal noise reduction processes, further enhancing the intelligibility of speech, reducing background noises such as paper shuffling, air conditioner noise and traffic noise. The Voice Tracker microphone connects to the computer through a USB audio adapter module that is included.

Features

- Voice Tracker Microphone
- Professional-quality sound
- USB Adapter for connecting to the computer
- 6’ audio extension cord
- Power Adapter

Benefits

- Hear voices more clearly
- Coverage for larger conference rooms
- Accurate reproduction of speech under noisy conditions

System Requirements

- Windows XP
- Laptop or desktop computer
- SoniClear recording software

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Directions for Use

Microphone Placement

The Voice Tracker microphone can pick up people speaking up to 20 feet away in a noisy room, and even further in a quiet setting. Locate the Voice Tracker unit in the room close enough to the meeting participants for reliable capture of their voices. The unit must also be able to reach the power source and connect to the computer running the SoniClear software for recording. The included power adapter plugs into standard 110 volt power outlets. Contact SoniClear technical support for information about how to connect the Voice Tracker at distances greater than allowed by the supplied cables.

Microphone Switch Settings

There are two switches on the top of the Voice Tracker unit. The “LDS” switch is designed for recording dictation and must always be set to OFF. When LDS is on, voices in the meeting recording will be cut off, with long periods of complete silence. When this happens the audio in the silent sections cannot be restored. The second switch on the unit is a Wide and Narrow setting. This switch should be set to Wide to ensure picking up from the entire room. It is recommended that you tape these switches in the correct position to avoid their being set to the wrong position accidentally.

Connecting to the Computer

The Voice Tracker includes an audio cable (approximately 6 feet long with 3.5mm stereo mini plugs on both ends). One end connects to the back of the Voice Tracker. The other end connects to the USB adapter pod, also included. Connect the microphone cable to the adapter and plug the adapter directly into the computer USB port (do not use a USB hub). Start the SoniClear software only after the USB adapter has been plugged in and recognized by the computer. If you are using a laptop computer you should reboot the computer before recording. Otherwise, Windows may malfunction causing the recording process to fail.

Newer models of the Voice Tracker have the ability to connect directly to the microphone input of the computer, without the need for the USB adapter. Consult with the documentation provided with the unit to confirm the availability of this feature. SoniClear will automatically detect whether the USB adapter is plugged in or not, and use the appropriate input source.

Technical Support

The most common problem is to have recordings where voices get cut off because of the LDS switch setting inadvertently being set to On (see “*Microphone Switch Settings*” above). A second less common problem is to have severe hum in the recording. This is caused by an audio “ground loop” connection problem. The problem may appear intermittently, as a result of mis-wired power outlets in the building. This can be resolved by using an Ebtech HumX power adapter. The Voice Tracker is delicate and can easily be damaged from rough handling. When travelling, pack the unit in the original box, or in a suitably padded case.

View the SoniClear Support Page at www.soniclear.com for additional technical support and support contact information.