



# Hearing Aid Loop System

## Instructions for Use

The hearing aid loop system is designed to allow people wearing hearing aids to pick up an amplified sound from a microphone.

It is used for public meetings, talks or presentations with or without a PA system.



<b>Hearing Aid Loop System</b> .....	1
Instructions for Use.....	1
<b>Overview</b> .....	2
<b>Instructions for use.</b> .....	2
Microphones. ....	2
The Loop.....	3
Power. ....	3
Testing.....	4
<b>Connecting a PA System</b> .....	5
<b>Troubleshooting</b> .....	6

## Overview

Whilst the system control panel looks complex the operation is in fact quite simple.

There are three parts to the system;

**The Mixer** – The complex looking front panel which is used to mix the signals from one or more microphones

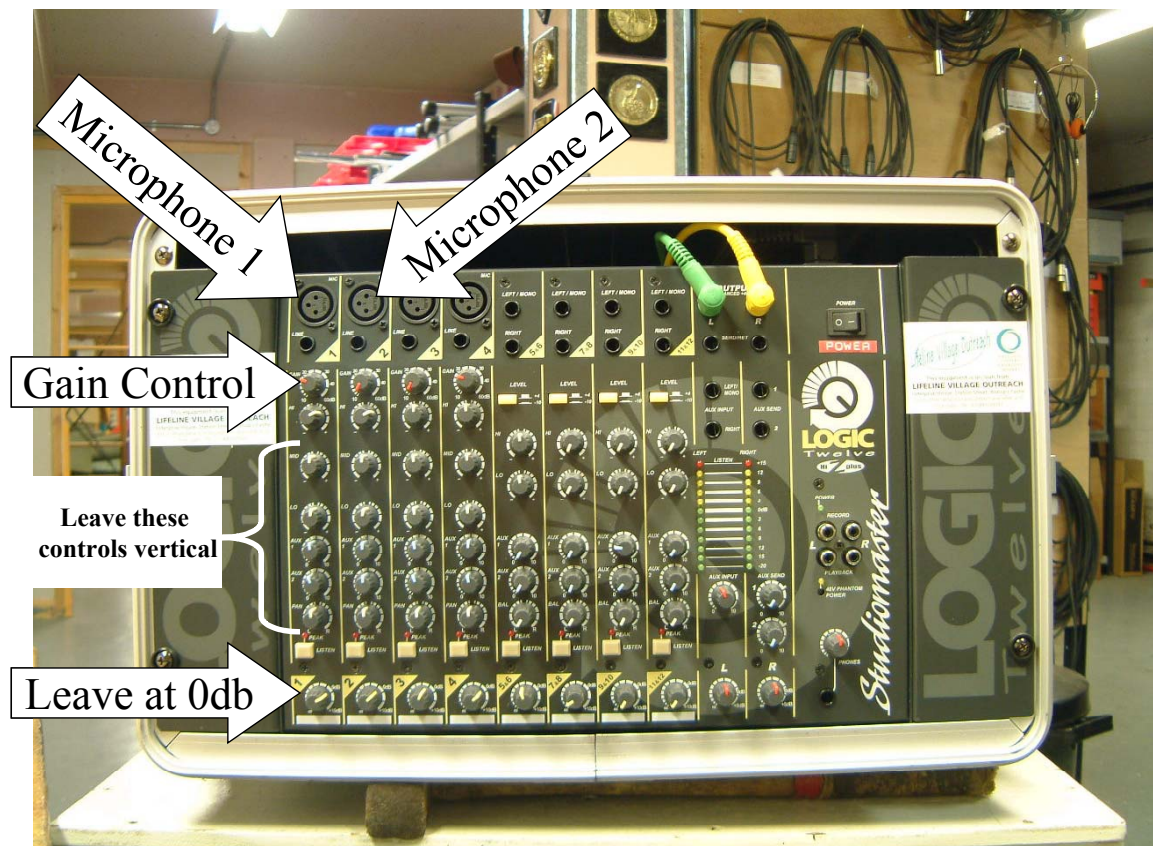
**The Driver Amplifier** – Hidden in the back of the unit this converts the sound into magnetic signals suitable for hearing aids

**The Loop** – A loop of cable which acts as an aerial, if someone with a hearing aid stands within the loop they can pick up the signal, outside the loop they hear nothing.

## Instructions for use.

### Microphones

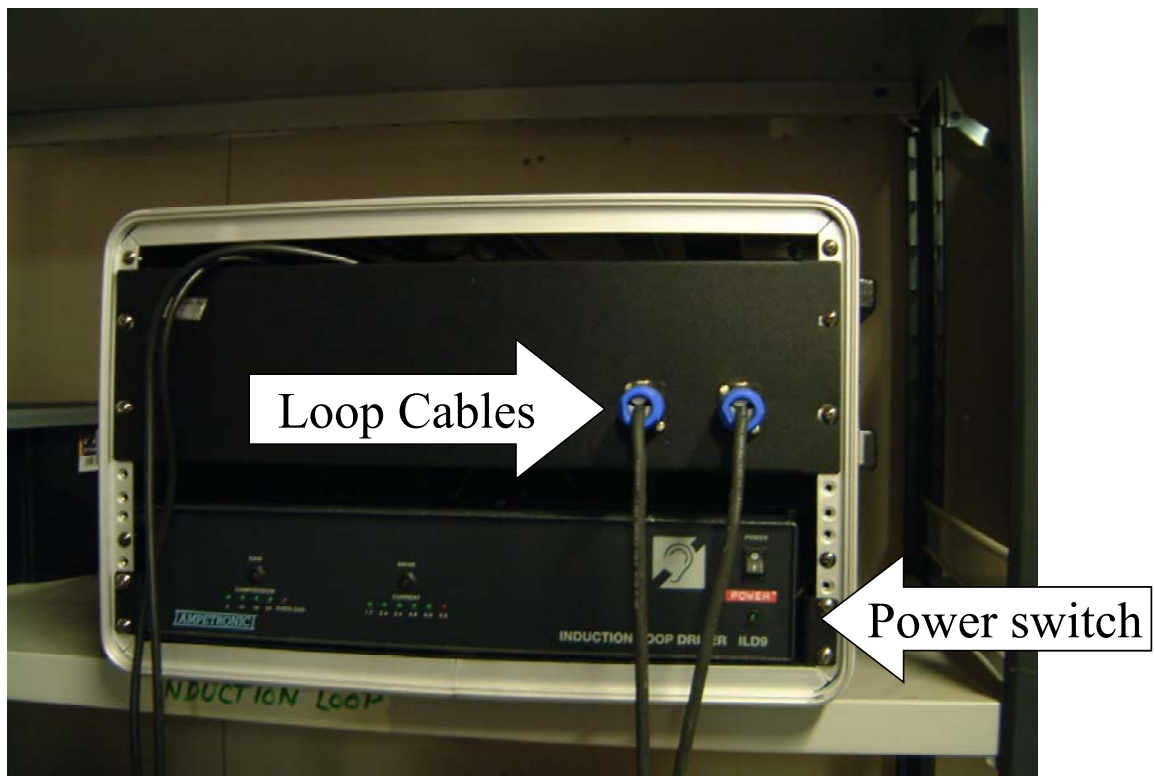
Set out the two microphones on the speakers table, plug one microphone into the socket at the top of channel 1 and the other in the top of channel 2. Make sure the gain controls on channels 1 and 2 are turned to zero before switching the unit on.



**The Loop**

The listener needs to be inside the loop to be able to hear anything. You therefore need to designate one part of the audience for those with hearing aids and then run the blue cables around this area. We supply a number of cables which can be joined together to form different sizes of loop, you do not need to use them all but you must complete the loop for the system to work.

Each end of the loop plugs into the rear of the unit, push the plugs in and turn them clockwise to engage them.

**Power.**

There are two mains leads (the driver amplifier and the mixer) and two mains switches (one on the front and the other at the back). Lights should come on the front and rear panels.

**Testing**

You need two people to test the system, one to be where the speakers will be to talk into the microphones the other to act as a listener.

First ensure the power is on, now turn the gain control for one microphone on the front of the unit to the mid position (about 25dB)

The listener uses headphones and a unit we supplied that mimics a hearing aid.



Plug the headphones into the unit, the red light should come on. Turn the volume control the middle position and stand inside the loop.

You should be able to clearly hear what the speaker says. The sensitivity of the speakers microphone can be adjusted by the gain control on the main unit unit.

Once you are happy with the quality of the sound note set the gain control for microphone 2 to the same level. Check the listener can hear sound from this microphone as well.

Once you are happy that the system is working make sure the loop cables are covered with tape or rubber matting to make sure no one trips over them.

## Connecting a PA System

Quite often the hearing loop is used in conjunction with a PA system used to amplify the voices in a large venue.

There are two ways in which this can be achieved, which depends on if the source is going to be the desk microphones supplied with the hearing loop or from another system.

### Using the Hearing Loop Desk Microphones.

The Hearing Loop has two additional outputs marked “Record” L & R.



These can be used to provide an output to the PA system.

### Using the PA system microphones

Instead of using the microphones plugged into the mixer the output of the PA can be plugged into channels 5 - 12 of the unit.

The output from the PA is plugged into the sockets at the top of the mixer. The “level” button should be pressed in to reduce the sensitivity of the amplifier.

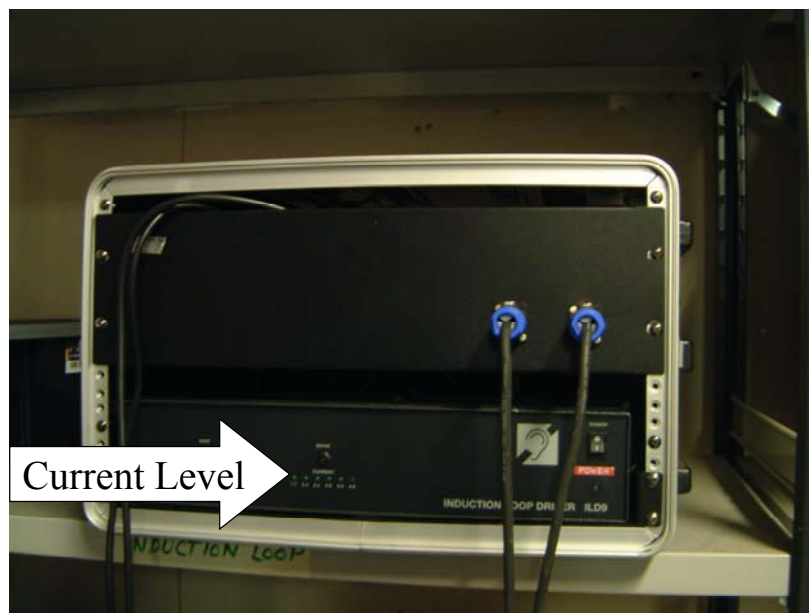
Set all the controls to the 12 o’clock position.



## Troubleshooting

If the system does not work then check the following:

1. That the lights indicating power are illuminated on **BOTH FRONT AND BACK** panels.
2. Ensure all the knobs on the mixer panel below the microphone sockets are vertical, i.e. the marker is at the 12 o'clock position (the bottom one should be at 0dB, just off centre but a small variation would not stop the system working).
3. As someone speaks into the microphone the row of lights on the front panel should light up to indicate the volume of the sound. If this does not happen there is something wrong with the microphones or the mixer, check all connections and controls.
4. If the lights indicate the sound is being detected but the listener does not hear anything then the fault is likely to be in the loop cables or the test hearing aid.



At the rear of the unit are a row of lights, these should also light up when the speaker is talking, if they don't then the most likely cause is a break in the loop. Ensure the loop cables form a circuit. Try just one cable first – don't forget the listener must be inside the loop.

5. If the lights illuminate then the probable cause of the problem is the hearing aid simulator. Check the red light comes on and that the battery is OK, if possible find someone who has a hearing aid to test the system for you.