

Speech Privacy in Adaptable Workplaces

Course Numbers

AIA Course#: HAW800 - HSW

Programming & Analysis

IDCEC Course #: 106845 - HSW

Subject Code: 5. Technical Knowledge/1. Acoustics

Course Description

What are your client's expectations of the acoustics of a space? What does "Good Acoustics" mean, in each functional area? Privacy? Intelligibility? Minimized distraction? Sense of activity? What acoustic challenges exist in your current space that need to be addressed?

This 1-hour course will review the principles of acoustics as a science, offer examples of how to use key design tools for office interiors, and describe the key factors that define the user experience of speech privacy.

Learning Objectives

- Identify the primary factors prompting the need for speech privacy.
- Distinguish between speech intelligibility and speech privacy, and understand how signal-to-noise ratio, privacy index and sound frequency relate.
- Name the four key design tools that can be deployed to ensure speech privacy is achieved.
- Identify the performance properties of the key construction elements that are necessary to ensure privacy is achieved.
- Examine real world applications of workplace design that incorporate speech privacy.

Course Outline

1. Introduction
2. Factors of speech privacy
3. Speech intelligibility versus speech privacy
4. Design tools to help achieve speech privacy
5. Putting it Together: performance properties
6. Examine a practical case study
7. Questions & Discussion