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## Elektroakustik – Simulatorer för huvud och öron – Del 8: Akustiskt kopplingsdon för högfrekvensmätning hos hörapparater med öroninsats

*Electroacoustics – Simulators of human head and ear –  
Part 8: Acoustic coupler for high-frequency measurements of  
hearing aids and earphones coupled to the ear by means of ear inserts*

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### Nationellt förord

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- **IEC 60318-8, First edition, 2022 - Electroacoustics - Simulators of human head and ear - Part 8: Acoustic coupler for high-frequency measurements of hearing aids and earphones coupled to the ear by means of ear inserts**

utarbetad inom International Electrotechnical Commission, IEC.

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English Version

Electroacoustics - Simulators of human head and ear - Part 8:  
Acoustic coupler for high-frequency measurements of hearing  
aids and earphones coupled to the ear by means of ear inserts  
(IEC 60318-8:2022)

Electroacoustique - Simulateurs de tête et d'oreille  
humaines - Partie 8: Coupleur acoustique pour les  
mesurages à hautes fréquences des appareils de correction  
auditive et des écouteurs couplés à l'oreille par des  
embouts  
(IEC 60318-8:2022)

Akustik - Simulatoren des menschlichen Kopfes und Ohres  
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von Hörgeräten und Kopfhörern die mit dem Ohr mittels  
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## **European foreword**

The text of document 29/1111/FDIS, future edition 1 of IEC 60318-8, prepared by IEC/TC 29 "Electroacoustics" was submitted to the IEC-CENELEC parallel vote and approved by CENELEC as EN IEC 60318-8:2022.

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In the official version, for Bibliography, the following notes have to be added for the standards indicated:

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| IEC 60318-5      | NOTE Harmonized as EN 60318-5                     |
| IEC 60318-4      | NOTE Harmonized as EN 60318-4                     |
| IEC 60118-0      | NOTE Harmonized as EN 60118-0                     |
| IEC 61094-4      | NOTE Harmonized as EN 61094-4                     |
| IEC 61094-2:2009 | NOTE Harmonized as EN 61094-2:2009 (not modified) |
| IEC 60318-1:2009 | NOTE Harmonized as EN 60318-1:2009 (not modified) |
| IEC 61094-6      | NOTE Harmonized as EN 61094-6                     |

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD

# NORME INTERNATIONALE



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**Electroacoustics – Simulators of human head and ear –  
Part 8: Acoustic coupler for high-frequency measurements of hearing aids and  
earphones coupled to the ear by means of ear inserts**

**Électroacoustique – Simulateurs de tête et d'oreille humaines –  
Partie 8: Coupleur acoustique pour les mesurages à hautes fréquences des  
appareils de correction auditive et des écouteurs couplés à l'oreille par des  
embouts**

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## INTERNATIONAL ELECTROTECHNICAL COMMISSION

**ELECTROACOUSTICS – SIMULATORS OF HUMAN HEAD AND EAR –****Part 8: Acoustic coupler for high-frequency measurements of hearing aids and earphones coupled to the ear by means of ear inserts**

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The text of this International Standard is based on the following documents:

Draft	Report on voting
29/1111/FDIS	29/1117/RVD

Full information on the voting for its approval can be found in the report on voting indicated in the above table.

The language used for the development of this International Standard is English.

This document was drafted in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2, and developed in accordance with ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1 and ISO/IEC Directives, IEC Supplement, available

at [www.iec.ch/members\\_experts/refdocs](http://www.iec.ch/members_experts/refdocs). The main document types developed by IEC are described in greater detail at [www.iec.ch/standardsdev/publications](http://www.iec.ch/standardsdev/publications).

A list of all parts in the IEC 60318 series, published under the general title *Electroacoustics – Simulators of human head and ear*, can be found on the IEC website.

The committee has decided that the contents of this document will remain unchanged until the stability date indicated on the IEC website under [webstore.iec.ch](http://webstore.iec.ch) in the data related to the specific document. At this date, the document will be

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## INTRODUCTION

Advancement in hearing aid design makes it possible to increase the bandwidth of hearing aids up to 16 kHz.

The 2 cm<sup>3</sup> coupler as described in IEC 60318-5 [1]<sup>1</sup> is suitable for measurements up to 8 kHz. At frequencies above 8 kHz, high measurement uncertainty will occur in earphone responses, due to acoustic resonances in the coupler.

The occluded-ear simulator as described in IEC 60318-4 [2] simulates the human external ear up to 10 kHz and can be used as an acoustic coupler up to 16 kHz. It is designed with a principal cavity length which produces a half-wavelength resonance of the sound pressure at approximately 13,5 kHz. This resonance, which is also present in a person's ear canal but more controlled by the tympanic membrane, can also cause measurement uncertainty in earphone responses above 10 kHz.

Accordingly, there is a need for a well-defined and robust acoustic coupler to be used by designers of transducers (receiver, earphone), and by the designer and dispensers of hearing aids when making measurements on earphones in the frequency range 8 kHz to 16 kHz.

The sound pressure developed by an earphone is, in general, not the same in an acoustic coupler as in a person's ear. However, results obtained with an acoustic coupler can be used as a simple and ready means for the exchange of specifications and test data on hearing aids and insert earphones used in audiometry.

This document describes an acoustic coupler for loading a hearing aid or insert earphone with a specified acoustic impedance when testing acoustic performance, in the frequency range up to 16 kHz, as required in IEC 60118-0 [3].

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<sup>1</sup> Numbers in square brackets refer to the Bibliography.

## **ELECTROACOUSTICS – SIMULATORS OF HUMAN HEAD AND EAR –**

### **Part 8: Acoustic coupler for high-frequency measurements of hearing aids and earphones coupled to the ear by means of ear inserts**

#### **1 Scope**

This part of IEC 60318 describes an acoustic coupler for loading a hearing aid or insert earphone with a specified acoustic impedance when testing its acoustic performance, in the frequency range up to 16 kHz. It is suitable for air-conduction hearing aids and earphones, coupled to the ear by means of ear inserts, earmoulds or similar devices.

The acoustic coupler does not simulate the human ear. However, it has an effective volume of only 0,4 cm<sup>3</sup>, which is small enough not to produce significant resonances in the coupler in the frequency range below 16 kHz. Therefore, it will load the earphone with a known acoustic impedance, which allows repeatable measurements with low uncertainty to be obtained on earphones used in extended high-frequency audiometry.

#### **2 Normative references**

There are no normative references in this document.