

DESCRIPTION OF TRAINING STAGES:

A Variphone ® technician will be required to take an ear impression in order to fit a client with his/her Personal Hearing Protection device.

It is important that the impression is an accurate representation of the external ear and ear canal to achieve optimum fit and comfort. Ear impressions are taken to manufacture the Variphone hearing protection devices. An ear impression is a physical replica of the ear achieved by injecting an impression material into the ear canal and external ear cavities (concha and helix areas of the ear).

To enable you to do all the above, the following modules will be included in your training:

Stage 1: IMPRESSION TAKING

This initial stage consists of 8 modules and serves as a brief introduction to the knowledge required prior to making impressions of the ear. Each module has a set of questions which you have to pass before you may proceed to Stage 2. You may take each test as many times as you like but only one test per 24 hours will be allowed. You may contact Ear-O-Tec at any stage during this stage for advice and discussions around the information contained in these modules.

Module 1: The anatomy **of the external ear and ear canal**

Module 2: The anatomy of the **middle ear**

Module 3: Anatomy of the **inner ear**

Module 4: **Otoscopic examination techniques** of the external ear and ear canal.

Module 5: Conditions of the external ear, ear canal and tympanic membrane that would **preclude** making an ear impression.

Module 6: Sound and Understanding an audiogram

Module 7: How noise affects hearing

Module 8: **Documentation** is mandatory for the protection of all parties involved in the ear impression process and a high priority for Ear-O-Tec

STAGE 2: PRACTICAL

Once you have completed all the modules successfully, you may proceed to stage 2 which consist of practical training sessions that will enable you to put all your knowledge you have gained into practice. This will be in a non-threatening environment where you can practice your impression taking skills, learn how to use the ACU and learn how to trouble shoot. During this session you will also receive training on how to make the necessary modifications to an earmould when needed.

All equipment and materials will be supplied together with the necessary course materials.

It is preferable to arrange for Stage 3 to occur soon after completion of Stage 2.

Stage 3: ON SITE PRACTICE

Once you have reached a certain level of competency after Stage 2 training, you will be ready to accompany a certified Variphone technician to a site and put your new skills into practice. Therefore the two stages should be scheduled soon after each other to ensure your knowledge is still retained.

During this visit you will be able not only to observe, but to also make impressions on different people, perform an actual complete fitting procedure and practice your earmould modification skills. During this training session you will be encouraged to address any questions to the certified technician at all stages.

You will be required to allocate at least **5 hrs** to this session.

Once all three stages have been completed successfully, you will be awarded a certificate of competence from Ear-O-Tec Pty Ltd and will be able to represent Ear-O-Tec as a certified provider of our products and services.

We wish you luck and look forward to welcoming you to our team.