

Individual Handset Positioning in Conversations

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The positioning of handsets at the ear during telephone conversations depends on many geometrical, technical, environmental and individual parameters. The shape (form factor) of the handset itself, the resulting comfort and individual preferences influence the positioning. Furthermore technical parameters like the level of the loudspeaker signal or the audibility of the implemented sidetone play a role. Last but not least the course of the conversation (relaxed or concentrated) and the environmental conditions (quiet or noisy) need to be considered. In order to derive the typical positioning range, test persons have been monitored during conversations via handsets. The test procedure and results are discussed. The conclusions are also relevant for laboratory tests as they give a first indication for the positioning range of handset mounting devices for HATS (Head and Torso Simulators) and to derive realistic handset test positions to verify the positional robustness of terminals.

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