Proven Patient Performance with the Enhanced Synergy Platform

With the Synergy® platform, Starkey Hearing Technologies introduced its most advanced line of hearing aids to date. With technologies such as Music Enhancement, ear-to-ear phone streaming, compatibility with Apple® devices, and a CROS system, the Synergy platform features technologies designed to help all patients hear better and live better in a variety of listening environments. The latest additions to the Synergy platform provide patients and professionals with added comfort and convenience.

Acuity™ OS 2 with Interactive Intelligence is designed to respond five times more rapidly to changes in environmental noise levels. Muse™ and Halo® 2 hearing aids continuously monitor speech and noise levels to rapidly calculate the signal-to-noise ratio. Interactive Intelligence has accelerated the rate at which the noise level is calculated. This results in rapid adaptation when noise levels change. In difficult listening environments, the system acts very quickly to reduce noise, providing a more comfortable, less fatiguing listening experience for the patient.

Inspire® X version 2017.0 introduces a new Initial Fit Protocol that individualizes the hearing aid fitting based on the patient’s prior experience with amplification (Figure 1). By incorporating this information about a patient’s previous hearing aid experience into the fitting, the professional can reduce the amount of time needed for fine tuning, while also improving the patient’s comfort and satisfaction with the initial fitting settings. Audiologists who participated in a research trial using the new Initial Fit Protocol reported that it was “easy and intuitive to use” and that it “made it easier... to achieve patient acceptance and satisfaction when fitting new hearing aid users.”

New to the Halo 2 product family is a small Receiver-In-Canal (RIC) hearing aid with a 312 battery and a rocker switch for easy patient adjustments (Figure 2). Connectivity to iPhone® gives the patient the ability to adjust his or her hearing aids and stream phone calls, music, or other media directly to his or her hearing aids. The TruLink® Hearing Control app for both Apple and Android™ devices now gives the patient the ability to control and customize noise management.
settings for a variety of listening environments: wind, noise and crowds. Clinical trial patients using this app reported benefit from the ability to make on-demand changes to their hearing aid settings in demanding listening situations. For more information on the new TruLink Hearing Control app, see "Taking Personalization to the Next Level."

Starkey Hearing Technologies has also introduced SurfLink® Mini Mobile, a system consisting of the SurfLink Mini Mobile adapter and the SurfLink Remote Microphone 2 [Figure 3]. SurfLink Mini Mobile offers the patient an easy-to-use, Bluetooth®-compatible cell phone streaming solution and remote microphone functionality. Both Muse and Z Series™ hearing aids are compatible with SurfLink Mini Mobile.

These solutions offer the patient improved comfort and convenience. As Starkey Hearing Technology research audiologist Jingjing Xu demonstrates in his article "Technological Advancements in Hearing Aids Have Improved Subjective Outcomes," the technologies offered on the Synergy platform are significantly improving patient outcomes. Starkey Hearing Technologies’ updates to the Halo 2 and Muse product lines along with the new functionalities offered in the TruLink Hearing Control app and in SurfLink streaming accessories all serve to improve professional and patient satisfaction.

Figure 3: The SurfLink Remote Microphone 2 with the SurfLink Mini Mobile.