

## New Product Announcement:

### PT Tools™



**MM300-O** This is an omni-directional upgrade or replacement mic for the PT. The factory mic is merely a capsule stuffed into the handle of a 3.5mm mono plug. It works, but it does not perform as a properly design microphone should. No negative comment intended, just recognition that we've paid additional attention to the detail of the input device. We are "customizing" the PT to maximize its potential. The MM300-O has a smoother response and better S/N ratio in noisy environments. This, by itself, is a significant accomplishment. The microphone's solid brass construction further enhances S/N ratio by significantly reducing the transfer of noises naturally generated when handling the PT. All this performance is achieved at an attractive price including lapel clip, replaceable windscreen and a zipper tote makes the MM300 even that much more special.



**MM300-U** is the uni-directional version of the above. The same physical form factor is used, but with a quality cardioid capsule that provides a significant S/N boost by focusing greatest capsule sensitivity in a 90 (+/-45) degree cone. This is my personal favorite as a primary microphone for the PT. Provided with replaceable windscreen, lapel clip and zipper storage pouch.



**MM300-S** is a hypercardioid plug-in microphone with a primary pick-up cone of sensitivity that is 30 (+/-15) degrees. The typical application is a student who is trying to improve their listening field when a wireless ALD is not available or convenient. It is not an ideal microphone for noisy environments because of its extreme sensitivity. It's ideal for classroom or library study where partners are speaking softly and extra gain is needed. Provided with windscreen.



**MM400-S** is a handheld version of the 300-S. It is shipped with a professional microphone stand mount and a flange base to use as a table stand. This microphone was developed for a school teacher who, due to her hearing loss, could not hear her students' questions. She uses this microphone as her pointer and, when a hand is raised, uses the MM400-S with a PT and a neckloop to help hear her students' questions or response. It would also serve well in the classroom environment described for the MM300-S.



**MM310-U** is another iteration of the plug-in uni-directional mic. Here we raised the capsule on a vertical stalk to reduce case handling noise and provide visual reinforcement to aid the user in understanding the directional effect of the microphone. "Point and hear".



**MM311-U** is a 90 degree execution of the MM310-U. This is the Florida Widower's mic. We have thousands of eligible old fellows living in condo communities down here and they are delicious targets for eligible, lonely widows who greatly outnumber them. Slip the PT in your "blazer" or "flowered shirt" pocket and direct the mic toward the lady who is the object of your charms. Includes zipper storage pouch. The MM311-U also works well with my IBM Thinkpad where I plug it into the side mounted microphone jack and dramatically improve its utility in VoIP applications where I am sharing the computer as a conference device. We can also provide a clip to mount either the MM310-U or MM311-U to your computer monitor for vastly improved computer microphone performance. (Again, more universal applicability to achieve economies of scale).



**MM312-U.** This microphone is the great compromise. Uni-directional performance that can be directed anywhere from 90 – 180 degrees. Brass construction reduces handling noise. It is a great all around microphone but will, because of moving parts and flexing cable, have a somewhat shorter life than the fixed angle microphones. It too is provided with a replaceable windscreen, lapel clip and zipper pouch.



**MM100:** You've knew this mic as a WSC MIC026. We made it for them. It is a remarkable compact handheld microphone with a made of copper alloy for acoustic density and, therefore, negligible handling noise. The HOH community has embraced this little fellow. We pack it with a spring clip stand that can double as a table prop or be worn, with the included neckstrap, as a lavalier microphone. The applications are nearly limitless. Holding the mic at a party, on it stand in class, worn around your traveling companion's neck as a handsfree S/N booster in the car, train or plane. Or...using our new MC/LC100 mic combiner listening center you can combine up to four MM100's to the input of a PT or PFM to hear in a group setting or to share mics in a roundtable discussion. The idea came from an evening of dining with HOH friends at the Seattle SHHH convention.



**MM200:** This mic you might confuse with a Listen LA-277. The tooling is the same shape. The performance is not. MM200 is, again copper alloy to isolate the capsule as much as possible from case induced noise. Our objective is to place the capsule in as inert a field as we possibly can so it can capture sound as naturally as possible. Unlike the LA-277, the MM200 is NOT an omni-directional microphone. It's unique pick-up pattern makes it excel in the conference setting. Normal conference microphones are omni-directional and, for that very reason, are very susceptible to sounds reflected from the ceiling of the space. The MM200 has a uniquely applied directional capsule that creates a null field above the microphone and compresses the front field of the microphone against the conference table surface. The net effect is a pick-up pattern that looks very much like a donut. High sensitivity in the voice path across the table surface with a significant drop in sensitivity above head level. This makes the MM200 an ideal choice for personal conference systems, playing cards and conversation in moderately noisy restaurant environments (moderately noisy...not very noisy). In very noisy environments close micing will still provide a vastly superior result.).



**MC/LC100:** OK, now we have all kinds of mics. It's time to get creative and think outside "the BOX" by using our little black box.

We both know we have many HOH friends who are party animals. What happens when they get together? Too often it's either a short evening at the restaurant because background noise levels preclude any real socialization (unless, of course, everyone speaks ASL...not me unfortunately. Can hardly speak French) or there is a rat's nest of wire and a bumping of glasses and dishes. MC/LC100 offers a low cost way to manage (not eliminate) the rats nest. Up to four mics (we prefer MM100) can be combined to a single input (PT ) or up to four headphones, loops etc. can share the PT (or other device) output. If we connect two MC/LC100 units it can get scary. Each person wears a mic and a coupling. These are connected to the PT (or similar) through the two MC/LC100's. Now a single amplifier is creating a communications hub or bubble within the noisy restaurant environment.

Let's try a different strategy. Those four mics might be on a dais and the MC/LC100 is plugged into my trusty PFM. Now I can hear all the folks on the dais without meeting participants passing the mic (which they inevitably forget to do or they puff so hard into the mic that the PFM AGC spends 90% of the time compressed.

Flip the signal path over...up to four friends can share the output from my PFM at a lecture.

And that's just the beginning. PT Tools is about options, creativity, situation management and living well. In the simplest form they help George meet Martha. From there they keep people chatting in autos on trains and planes. They facilitate consultations with doctors, bankers, lawyers, business associates and classmates. They help make business deals and romance. Maybe we should have called them PT Toys.



**PTT/ PC Widget™** This is an item we originally made for schools. It is essentially a passive headphone and microphone extension cable that incorporates a volume control for headphones and a mute switch for an attached microphone.

We produce a range of inexpensive yet very durable headphones for the classroom. Our SchoolPHONES™ brand is very popular from Primary through Secondary grades. Our objective in making them was to eliminate the sanitation issues related to sharing sweaty headphones in the classroom or computer lab. To make the whole concept work, we needed to get the headphone jack from the back of the computer to a handy location students could easily access. Widget (a moniker left over from my freshman economics courses created this link.

PC Widget also meant HOH students could now patch neckloops, DAI cables, Silhouettes, even CI patch cables into the computers achieving dramatically improved access. COOL!!!

When we finished the MC/LC100 little lights started flashing in minds around here. What if we put two mixer/combiners together we could create the communications hub I mentioned above? If we used PC Widgets as part of the hub and PT Tools plug-in mics we could provide not only a more tangle free system with individual volume controls and a mute capability for the microphones. WAY COOL!!! All we needed to make this work was a slightly longer cable on the PC Widget. Enter the VM1.3L (L= long, aren't we creative?) with a 1.5 meter cable. Users need only bring their "dummy" stereo compatible coupling for listening. This means that mono plugged loops would require a mono to stereo adapter plug to work with the system. Not too hard to come by.