



E.D.G.E. Acoustics

E.D.G.E. Acoustics is a division of Etymotic Research, the originator of high-fidelity noise-isolating in-the-ear earphones. E.D.G.E. Acoustics (Enhanced Definition Gaming Earphones) represents the pinnacle of gaming earphone technology by applying Etymotic's best technology and proven capabilities in sound isolation and audio accuracy to harness the various audio elements heard in video games.

Company Overview

The name "Etymotic" (pronounced "et-im-oh-tik.") means "true to the ear." Established in 1983 by world-renowned engineer and audiologist, Dr. Mead Killion, Etymotic's mission is to design high-fidelity products to measure, improve and protect hearing. Etymotic Research has developed and patented some of the most innovative hearing technology available today, and its products are used worldwide by scientists, hearing practitioners, hearing-impaired consumers, professional and amateur musicians, and others who insist on superior sound quality.

Management Team

Mead Killion, President

Mead Killion, Ph.D., founded Etymotic Research, Inc. in 1983. Prior to starting ER, he worked for over 20 years for a major electronic component manufacturer, where he designed hearing aid microphones that were so accurate they were also used in recording and broadcast studios. Dr. Killion earned degrees in mathematics from Wabash College and the Illinois Institute of Technology, and completed his doctorate in audiology at Northwestern University. He was awarded an honorary doctor of science (Sc.D.) degree from Wabash College.

Dr. Killion teaches an advanced course in hearing aid electroacoustics at Northwestern University, where he holds an adjunct professorship. He has directed graduate research at Northwestern and at the City University of New York Graduate School, where he is also an adjunct professor. He has given invited lectures on hearing and hearing aids in 19 countries. Dr. Killion is a Fellow of the Acoustical Society of America and the Audio Engineering Society and has received numerous awards for his contributions to the field of hearing. He is an accomplished choir director, jazz pianist and violinist.

Gail Gudmundsen, Director Sales and Marketing

Gail Gudmundsen, Au.D., earned her masters and doctoral degrees in audiology. At the beginning of her career, she provided clinical audiology services at two large teaching hospitals in Chicago, after which she operated a multi-office audiology private practice for over twenty years. Her experience includes teaching, research and organizational leadership.

Dr. Gudmundsen has served on two State of Illinois licensure boards and on the board of directors of numerous state and national audiology organizations and foundations. She is a Trustee of the Pennsylvania College of Optometry.

Rich Heimlich, Marketing Associate

Rich Heimlich has worked in the game audio industry throughout his entire 24 year career. In 1983, he developed Top Star, the first third-party quality assurance testing company in the gaming industry. Rich has been involved in the development of more than 10,000 software and hardware products since the early 1980's and in 1987, he helped AdLib gain acceptance as the first successful sound card in the PC industry. Rich is the author of several game audio industry books, including the international bestseller "Sound Blaster: The Official Book" (series). Rich has worked as an editor, columnist and reviewer, and has been published in top gaming publications such as Computer Gaming Magazine, PC Games, and Compute Magazine.

High Fidelity Innovators

Innovation and education are key elements of the Company's mission. Etymotic Research has over 100 patents issued or pending that cover circuitry and devices for audiometry, infant hearing screening, otoacoustic emissions, auditory brainstem response measures, real-ear measurement, hearing aids, directional and array microphones, high fidelity hearing protection and sound level meters.

Etymotic's engineers and audiologists provide advanced coursework and laboratory instruction to audiology graduate students. They lecture at local, national and international meetings, publish research, and develop educational materials for consumers.

Etymotic Research received a government grant in 1987 to develop the K-AMP® circuit, a high-fidelity hearing aid amplifier. In 2004, Etymotic Research received an SBIR grant to help fund the development of Companion Mics™ that facilitate communication for people with significant difficulty hearing in noise. Etymotic repays these grants by providing financial assistance to graduate students, researchers and practicing clinicians.

Facilities and People

Etymotic Research has an extensive, industry-recognized sound laboratory that includes three anechoic chambers and one of the only working reverberation rooms in the hearing aid industry. In addition to its extensive laboratory facilities, Etymotic maintains a classroom facility adjacent to its R&D lab. There are eighteen engineers, many technicians, numerous outside audio-engineering consultants and programmers, and four audiologists. Etymotic's Board of Directors is comprised of business leaders and experts in auditory research.

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