

Comply™ Platinum Canal Tips

The TA-100 earphone achieves its outstanding noise-blocking performance because it uses the Comply Platinum Canal Tip. Comply foam tips were initially created by Hearing Components Inc. (Oakdale, MN) for use with high-end hearing aids. They are made from viscoelastic foam which is designed to be squeezed for insertion into the ear canal and expand in response to body heat. When properly inserted, they conform precisely to the outer ear canal of each user, sealing out a significant amount of external noise. This process, referred to as Viscoelastic Passive Noise Reduction (VPNR) has been tested by the U.S. Army. Their test results show that VPNR provides better hearing protection and better noise reduction than can be achieved with any combination of Passive Noise Reduction or expensive Active Noise Reduction. The Comply tips are currently used by U.S. Army helicopter pilots.

The viscoelastic foam is very soft which provides many hours of continued comfortable use. Another feature of the foam is that it maintains its ear canal seal throughout a variety of movements and activities. The ear canal moves when the head and jaw moves. This is common while talking, drinking, chewing, laughing or moving the head during exercise. This movement often dislodges competing tips allowing them to fall out or block less noise.

Additional information can be found in two abstracts co-authored by Dr. Robert J. Oliveira where he references the importance of the otoplastic materials used in the Comply Canal Tips. These abstracts explain how the research was conducted as well as how the ear canal anatomy and activity influences the measurement of VPNR. Dr. Oliveira has over 12 patents and has published over 30 articles or chapters on topics related to the human ear canal. He has been an elected member of the Board of Directors of the Hearing Industries Association as well as an elected Board Director for the American Auditory Society. The basic research used to define the activity and geometry of the ear canal was funded by four Small Business Innovative Research grants by the National Institutes of Health.

Comply Platinum Canal Tips are licensed for use with the TA-100 earphone under U.S. Patent nos. 4,880,076 and 5,002,151.

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