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Hearing Aid Compatibility (HAC)

Device Listings

The standard for compatibility of digital wireless devices with hearing aids is set forth in American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standard C63.19. ANSI C63.19 contains these two sets of standards:

- An “M” rating from M1 to M4 for reduced radio frequency (RF) interference to enable acoustic coupling with hearing aids that do not operate in t-coil mode.
- A “T” rating from T1 to T4 to enable inductive coupling with hearing aids operating in t-coil mode.

A digital wireless handset is considered hearing aid compatible for acoustic coupling if it meets at least an “M3” rating under the ANSI standard. A digital wireless handset is considered hearing aid compatible for inductive coupling if it meets at least a “T3” rating under the ANSI standard.

M-Ratings: Devices rated M3 or M4 meet FCC requirements and are likely to generate less interference with hearing devices than devices that are not labeled. M4 is the superior/higher of the two ratings.

T-Ratings: Devices rated T3 or T4 meet FCC requirements and are likely to be more usable with a hearing device's t-coil than unrated devices. T4 is the superior/higher of the two ratings.

These ratings are not guaranteed. Results will vary depending on the level of immunity of your hearing device and the degree of your hearing loss. If your hearing device happens to be vulnerable to interference, you may not be able to use a rated device successfully. Trying out the device with your hearing device is the best way to evaluate it for your personal needs.

When some wireless devices are used near some hearing devices such as hearing aids and implants, users may detect a buzzing or humming noise. Some hearing devices are more immune than others to this interference noise. Wireless devices may also vary in the amount of interference they generate. The more immune the hearing aid device is, the less likely one is to experience interference noise from the wireless device.

Hearing aid devices may also be rated. Adding the ratings of the hearing aid and the device can predict the usability of the two devices together:

- Any combined rating equal to or greater than six offers the best use.
- Any combined rating equal to five is considered normal use.

These models have been tested and rated for use with hearing aids for some of the wireless technologies that they use. However, there may be some newer wireless technologies used in these devices that have not been tested yet for use with hearing aids. It is important to try the different features of these devices thoroughly and in different locations, using your hearing aid or cochlear implant, to determine if you hear any interfering noise. Consult your service provider or the manufacturer of the device for information on hearing aid compatibility. If you have questions about return or exchange policies, consult your service provider or device retailer.

The following devices are currently offered:

Model Name	HAC Rating	Air-Interface	C63.19 Version
60SLU	M3 / T3	GSM / WCDMA	2007