

ECOPHON

# LEARNING PROGRAMME

DISCOVER LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES - 2023





In this document you will find our latest learning opportunities. We cater to all types of learning suited to work around you, from in person, to online seminars and podcasts.

**04 ABOUT ECOPHON**

**06 GOOD ACOUSTICS MATTER EVERYWHERE**

**08 ECOPHON PODCAST**

**10 GUEST PODCASTS & VIRTUAL PROJECTS**

**12 CPD OFFERING**

- 12 - 15 Healthcare
- 16 - 17 Education
- 18 - 20 Office
- 21 - Other

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# A SOUND EFFECT

## ON PEOPLE

Saint-Gobain Ecophon contributes to good indoor environments for working, healing and learning. We do this by developing, manufacturing and delivering acoustic products and systems designed around the natural evolution of human hearing – replicating the outdoor sound experience indoors, because that’s just better for people.

Having a sound effect on people, in every way we can, is what we do proudly. That promise makes every one of us a passionate advocate for the importance of room acoustics to people’s wellbeing – whatever the space, activity or need.



# GOOD ACOUSTICS MATTER EVERYWHERE

06

The importance of acoustics is underappreciated. Sound impacts us in daily life, and the scientific support for improving our indoor sound environments is well-documented.

And what exactly is an ideal indoor sound environment for people? One based on how we experience sound outside. The human auditory sense is naturally adapted to an outdoor environment where there is not any sound reflections from ceilings and walls.

That's why most of what we do at Ecophon is about replicating the acoustic qualities found in nature for indoor environments. We want to optimise indoor spaces to our natural way of hearing, so that speech and sound is easy to hear and understand, when needed, improving performance and wellbeing.

Usually that starts with the ceiling. A wall-to-wall acoustic ceiling is the easiest way to get a large sound-absorbing surface area into a space, and is usually the best way to reduce sound strength, shorten reverberation times, and increase speech clarity and overall hearing comfort.



07



# ECOPHON PODCAST

## A SOUND EFFECT ON PEOPLE

This RIBA approved podcast series, presented by former ITN News presenter Salma Cranefield, explores how we're all affected by sound, or to use a technical term, by acoustics. We'll investigate how poor acoustics can be disruptive or even harmful, while good acoustics can help us learn, work productively, even heal. We'll discover that our responses to sound are both psychological as well as physiological, and we'll learn that people with different personalities react in different ways to the same sounds.

- Episode 1 - Sound Matters
- Episode 2 - Sound Education
- Episode 3 - Sound Workplace
- Episode 4 - Sound Health Part One
- Episode 5 - Silence
- Episode 6 - Sense & Space
- Episode 7 - The future of acoustics in healthcare and education
- Episode 8 - Office design: Putting the people first

- Episode 9 - Creativity & Technology
- Episode 10 - Wellness & Biophilia\*
- Episode 11 - Acoustics & Offsite Construction
- Episode 12 - The healing office & workplace productivity
- Episode 13 - Thought from ILETC providing learning environments
- Episode 14 - More from ILETC

You can listen to the Ecophon podcast series on the go via the Apple Podcast app. Just search "A Sound Effect on People" or Click the Logo.

LISTEN HERE



Apple  
Podcasts

# GUEST PODCAST

## THE QUIET MARK

Episode 4: Acoustics in education

Guest: Shane Cryer - Ecophon Concept Developer Education

Synopsis: Shane explains to the Quiet Mark host, Simon Gosling, how good acoustics in schools can reduce absenteeism, improve exam results and increase wellbeing for students and teachers.

## JOURNAL OF BIOPHILIC DESIGN

Sound without Walls - Essential improved acoustics in Healthcare

Guest: Andrea Harman - Ecophon Concept Developer Healthcare

Synopsis: Much of our time is now spent inside, and for patients in hospital their stay is often an indoor environment with unnaturally high levels of artificial noise from which there is no escape, not even in sleep, and which are out of their control.

# VIRTUAL PROJECTS

## WINCHESTER SCIENCE CENTRE

Fly around Winchester Science Centre & Planetarium with us as we take you on a tour of our acoustic installation.

Working alongside Sustainable Acoustics, our challenge was to improve the visitor experience by creating an environment where acoustic levels have been improved, allowing visitors to enjoy the different areas of the exhibit.

Collaborating together we successfully enhanced the visitor experience as well as created a really good acoustic environment. [Click here to view the video.](#)

## “I CAN’T WAIT TO GET TO THE OFFICE” CREATING A WORKPLACE TO LOVE

Hosted in 2021 this event looked into aspects of the working office environment, with a focus on: the latest ISO 22955 Acoustic Quality of Open Office Spaces, humanising the office environment, what an office needs to offer for job satisfaction and a case study look into neurodiversity in the workplace.

Videos from the event can be found in three ways:

- [www.ecophon.com/uk](http://www.ecophon.com/uk)
- [www.youtube.com/ecophontv](https://www.youtube.com/ecophontv)
- <https://ecophon.events/> - Just register and you have full access to the lobby (shown on the right)



## CPD'S AVAILABLE HEALTHCARE

### FORMATS AVAILABLE



On demand online training



Short format online in teams



Face to face training



RIBA approved



### DESIGNING FOR DEMENTIA AND AGEING



Exploring the effects of ageing and dementia on memory, sight and hearing and what this means for design. It looks at examples of good and poor design and how to change or amend existing interiors to make them easier to use for those affected by ageing and those with dementia.



### IMPACT OF ACOUSTICS ON HOSPITAL CARE AND RECOVERY



Hospitals are noisy spaces, this seminar looks at the effect of sound on people in hospital and design solutions to solve acoustic challenges. It will help you to understand the sources of noise in hospital, the effect of noise on patients and their recovery, with emphasis on vulnerable patient groups and how this impacts staff. to be validated by the Science-Based Targets initiative.





## ✓ NOISE IS A HEALTH ISSUE - SUSPENDED CEILINGS IN HOSPITALS



Discussing key considerations for providing a hospital with a suspended ceiling. This session will cover:

- Why we may use a suspended ceiling
- Room acoustic requirements
- Complying with HBN/HTM ceiling requirements
- Features – what makes a difference

## ✓ HEALTH AND WELLBEING, AN ACOUSTIC PERSPECTIVE



This informative presentation discusses how sound and noise affects us both physically and psychologically. Investigating our hearing evolution, psychoacoustics, mental health and neurodiversity with our response to the sound environment and the impacts of biophilic design.

## ✓ NOISE IS A HEALTH ISSUE - ACOUSTIC DESIGN FOR AGEING AND DEMENTIA



Look into how our hearing is affected by ageing and the links between hearing loss and cognitive decline. It shows how the design of a space and finishes used can either aid or impede accessibility for people with hearing loss or dementia, noting the standards and advice available

## ✓ NOISE IS A HEALTH ISSUE - SOUND IN MENTAL HEALTH ENVIRONMENTS



Design has a huge impact on our mental health, we make subjective decisions about a space based upon how it looks, sounds and feels, and how this can then affect our mood, stress levels and behaviour. This presentation focuses on how to provide good room acoustics as an aspect of therapeutic design.

## ✓ DESIGN FOR THE MIND - NEURODIVERSITY AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT (ACOUSTICS)



Over 15% of the UK population have neuro differences that mean their brain functions, learns and processes information in a different way to the accepted “typical”. This presentation focuses on our sensory response to sound and the acoustic aspects of PAS 6463 (Designing for the mind) including room acoustic guidance and solutions.

## ✓ ACOUSTICS IMPROVE PRODUCTIVITY AND WELLBEING IN THE PHARMACEUTICAL SECTOR



A further look into how to improve the working environment using acoustic solutions. This session will cover:

- Cognitive change and sensory decline
- Space and place, accessibility challenges
- Positive design features





# CPD'S AVAILABLE EDUCATION

## ACOUSTICS FOR SEN TEACHING



Looking at the relevant acoustic standards for Special Education Needs (SEN) teaching. It provides a summary of the changes to Department for Education document BB93: Acoustic Design for Schools, focusing on SEN room acoustics. Biophilia in design and human responses to nature and the sounds of nature.

## ACOUSTICS IN EDUCATION



Understanding the implications and contribution noise has on educational environments. It covers the latest standards and research including the Heriot-Watt University research, BB93 and Bremen University research study.

## ACOUSTICS FOR FURTHER AND HIGHER EDUCATION



From Glasgow College, the number one destination for F&HE students in Scotland, to MECD, Manchester, the largest integrated engineering university building in the UK, what makes for a great acoustic environment in such large and challenging spaces. This seminar looks at acoustic modelling (with Arup Acoustics) and Ecophon design solutions, to create optimal acoustics in large atria, circulation spaces, lecture theatres and sports halls, utilising guidance from BB93: Acoustic Design of Schools.

## FORMATS AVAILABLE



On demand online training



Short format online in teams



Face to face training




RIBA approved



# CPD'S AVAILABLE OFFICE

18


## ROOM ACOUSTICS CONNECTING TO DESIGN

 Focusing on the relationship between good room acoustics and the comfort of people who use the space. The presentation discusses how room acoustic challenges can be avoided or solved in design and how different acoustic solutions can be used to as part of the aesthetic design of a space.

## OFFICE ACOUSTIC DESIGN WITH AN INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOACOUSTICS

This presentation discusses the important subject of the science behind psychophysics and psychoacoustics and how it can be used to solve acoustic problems in office environments. We will look at some of today's office drivers, both during and post Covid, as well as practical applications.

## PSYCHOACOUSTICS IN THE WORKPLACE - MUST COMPLETE THE INTRODUCTION FIRST

 A more in-depth look at the subject of psychoacoustics and how humans process auditory information, both psychologically and physiologically, in the context of an office setting. With an emphasis on health, well-being and performance, the subject matter also addresses the importance of acoustic biophilia in design. We'll look at acoustic modelling (with Arup Acoustics) and Ecophon design solutions, to create optimal acoustics in large atria, circulation spaces, lecture theatres and sports halls, utilising guidance from BB93: Acoustic Design of Schools.



19

## FORMATS AVAILABLE



On demand online training



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RIBA approved



## ✓ MANAGING AUDITORY SENSITIVITY IN THE WORKPLACE

There is significant evidence that noisy environments adversely affect the performance, health and well-being of autistic individuals. This understanding can inform organisational culture, policies, workplace design and inclusion strategies. This presentation is based on an ongoing study which explores how noise management can help not only neurodiverse workers, but all employees,

## ✓ OFFICE ACOUSTIC DESIGN: PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS

This presentation addresses the physical challenges of solving office acoustic issues utilising the foundation of the new ISO 22955: Acoustic Quality of Open Office Spaces. Practical acoustic solutions will be presented and explained, including acoustic treatment, room geometry and space layout in relation to workplace activity and their particular acoustic characteristics.

## CPD'S AVAILABLE **OTHER**

### ROOM ACOUSTICS CONNECTING TO DESIGN

Focusing on the relationship between good room acoustics and the comfort of people who use the space. The presentation discusses how room acoustic challenges can be avoided or solved in design and how different acoustic solutions can be used to as part of the aesthetic design of a space.

### ACOUSTICS IN RETAIL AND HOSPITALITY

Exploring sound levels within retail and leisure establishments and how they affect consumer behaviour. This session will give a general overview of sound levels in restaurants and coffee shops, as well as looking at the contributing factors to the noise levels in retail environments.







Ecophon is the leading supplier of indoor acoustic solutions that improve working performance and quality of life. We believe in the difference sound can make to our everyday lives, and are passionate advocates for the importance of room acoustics to people's wellbeing - whatever the space, activity or need.

Having a sound effect on people is the principle that guides all we do. We're proud of the Swedish heritage and human approach that promise is founded on. Our uncompromising commitment to transparent sustainable practice. And, as members of the Saint-Gobain Group, to be doing our part in making the world a better home.