

Institute of **Acoustics**

The UK's professional body for those working in
Acoustics, Noise and **Vibration**

www.ioa.org.uk



INTRODUCTORY GUIDE TO:

what the institute does
the **benefits** of becoming a member

What is Acoustics?

Acoustics is the science of sound, its production, transmission and effects. It is a fascinating subject which contributes to every aspect of our lives.

Acoustics covers a wide range of subjects including architectural acoustics, noise and vibration control, music, audio engineering, hearing conservation, speech recognition, ultrasonics and sonar.

What is the Institute of Acoustics?

Overview

The IOA is the UK's professional body for those working in acoustics, noise and vibration. Formed in 1974, the IOA has over 3,000 members working in a diverse range of research, educational, environmental, governmental and industrial organisations.



Membership

A range of classes and grades of membership.

Education and Training Programme

The Institute offers a range of professionally recognised courses for those involved in architectural and building acoustics and in the management, regulation and control of noise and vibration in the workplace and in the environment.

Meetings programme and events

The IOA has particular strengths in the organisation of subject specialist meetings to keep members and non members up to date with rapidly changing technology and regulatory issues. Its Specialist Interest Groups cover Building Acoustics, Electroacoustics, Environmental Noise, Measurement and Instrumentation, Musical Acoustics, Noise and Vibration Engineering, Physical Acoustics, Speech and Underwater Acoustics.

Local activities are promoted by a number of regional branches.

For a full programme of meetings visit - www.ioa.org.uk/viewupcoming.asp

Engineering qualifications

The Institute is licensed by the Engineering Council, offering registration at Chartered and Incorporated Engineer levels. Enquiries to engineering@ioa.org.uk

Why should I become a **member**?

Joining a professional body such as the Institute of Acoustics is a great way to get involved, make some useful contacts, give yourself the best professional opportunities and make an impact on your career.



Photograph courtesy of Casella CEL

Membership of the Institute of Acoustics includes many benefits:

- An internationally recognised professional qualification
- A route to achieving Chartered Engineer and Incorporated Engineer Status
- Workshops, conferences and meetings including high quality published Proceedings
- Membership of an active Institute
- Nine Specialist Acoustic Interest Groups
- The Acoustics Bulletin published 6 times a year covering technical issues and general articles on a wide range of acoustics from industry to academia
- Website listing - a reference and referral tool for potential clients
- Register of Members published annually
- Professional Development encouragement and support
- Local and national opportunities for networking
- Access to a wide range of technical information from a well-stocked library
- Involvement in the development of the profession
- Preferential rates for delegate fees and proceedings
- Technical reports/Codes of Practice/publications

Acoustics is a multidisciplinary subject and by belonging to the Institute you will be able to enjoy a culture which provides a productive environment for cross-fertilisation of ideas and initiatives offering personal contacts with colleagues engaged in related areas of acoustics.

Who is eligible for membership?

There are several grades within the Institute and eligibility depends upon the qualifications and experience of the applicant (**please see the range of grades of membership opposite**).



Photograph courtesy of Brüel & Kjær

Many of our members work in architectural and engineering consultancies on projects as diverse as opera houses, stadia, schools, the automotive industry, sonar and many other fields and have qualifications in electrical or mechanical engineering, physics or mathematics.

The multi-disciplinary nature of the Institute is seen as one of its major strengths, bringing together people from a wide range of educational backgrounds. For example, workers in the acoustics of Speech and Hearing may have obtained their higher education in medicine, linguistics or psychology.



Vision and Aims

It is our objective to see members across all disciplines recognised as professionals of the highest integrity and competence. It is our aim to promote this vision through the advancement of the art, science, engineering and technology of acoustics. Diploma and Competence Certificate courses, supported by the Institute, safeguard standards for the future.

Requirements of Membership

In general the following requirements will be acceptable:

- Recognised educational qualifications at a sufficient level from the wide range of relevant disciplines;
- Evidence that the candidate has been applying his or her knowledge to some branch of acoustics;
- A period of relevant work experience in addition to the academic qualifications.

If you are applying for Fellow, Member or Associate grade you will require some formal education in acoustics prior to setting out on your career. For Affiliate membership you do not need formal education but would be encouraged to join the CPD scheme to increase your knowledge and professionalism. More detailed information can be found at www.ioa.org.uk/GuidanceNote.pdf

What type of individual membership is available?

CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP	MEMBERSHIP GRADES
Corporate	Honorary Fellow HonFIOA Fellow FIOA Member MIOA
Non-Corporate	Associate Member AMIOA Technician Member TechIOA Affiliate Student

Only Corporate members are entitled to vote at General Meetings of the Institute.



The Institute offers Sponsor Membership to organisations and companies involved in acoustics.

A separate leaflet can be obtained from the Institute of Acoustics or log on to www.ioa.org.uk

Members Profiles



Toby Cambray **Student Member**

Toby has just completed a BEng in Acoustics at the University of Southampton. IOA information helped in finding a summer placement as part of his studies, and will be useful when starting a career in Acoustics.



Robin Dibble **TechIOA**

Robin is an audio systems engineer. Acoustics is an important part of his job as a sound system designer. Technician membership of the IOA means he is kept up to date with all relevant developments in this field. He is working towards full membership.



Simon Jackson **AMIOA**

Simon's interest in Acoustics developed during his undergraduate degree in Music Technology and was furthered through studying for an MSc at the ISVR, Southampton University. His work includes architectural acoustics and electroacoustics projects.



Dr Bernadette McKell **MIOA**

Bernadette was introduced to acoustics as part of her Environmental Health degree at Strathclyde University. She has an MSc and PhD in Acoustics. She now runs her own consultancy and says "The work is varied and interesting and generally the people we meet in acoustics are great".



Prof Jian Kang **FIOA**

Jian Kang obtained his MSc in Acoustics from Tsinghua University in Beijing and his PhD at Cambridge University. He is currently Professor of Acoustics at the School of Architecture, University of Sheffield. His main fields are architectural and environmental acoustics.

Education & Training in Acoustics & Noise

What does the Institute's Education Programme offer?

A range of courses for those involved in the control of architectural and building acoustics and in the management, regulation and control of noise and vibration in the workplace and in the environment.

What courses and qualifications are available?

- Diploma in Acoustics and Noise Control - also available as a distance learning option
- Certificate of Competence in Workplace Noise Risk Assessment
- Certificate of Competence in Environmental Noise Measurement
- Certificate in the Management of Occupational Exposure to Hand Arm Vibration
- Certificate of Proficiency in Antisocial Behaviour etc. (Scotland) Act 2004 Noise Measurements

Certificate courses are held over five days, with an examination normally on the last day. They take place twice a year usually in April/May and October/November.

Email education@ioa.org.uk for more information.

Examination dates

Please consult our website at www.ioa.org.uk/education.asp

Professional Development

As a significant benefit of membership the IOA encourages all members to participate in its CPD scheme. The scheme provides you with appropriate advice, guidance and support services. You will be issued with a certificate for attending conferences and seminars which you may use for personal record keeping and may count towards other professional bodies' CPD schemes.

To learn more about our CPD scheme log onto: www.ioa.org.uk/profdev.asp



For the latest information on any aspect of the
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