
Wolfson myZone™ Ambient Noise Cancellation Technology

The world around us can be a noisy place and it is getting noisier all the time with traffic, aircraft and other people all contributing to the problem. In this busy world we increasingly want to listen and enjoy music and make phone calls in locations where we can't control the amount of noise around us.

Wolfson's myZone™ ambient noise cancellation technology uses patented acoustic design and ultra-fast signal processing technology to capture the ambient noise, generate an anti-noise signal and drive the headset speaker at precisely the right moment to ensure the unwanted ambient noise is cancelled before it hits the ear-drum of the listener.

Anti-noise is an identical copy of the ambient noise around the ears of the listener that is inverted 180 degrees and sent by the signal processing unit to drive the speaker. The anti-noise signal is timed precisely so that it meets the ambient noise waveforms in the ear of the listener and they cancel each other out in a process known as destructive interference. The result is a dramatic reduction in the amount of ambient noise that the listener experiences.

Compared with competitive products, Wolfson myZone™ technology cancels more noise over a wider spectrum of the audible frequency range, resulting in the removal of more ambient noise, so that users can enjoy their music or clearly hear a call even in noisy environments. Wolfson myZone™ also ensures the maintenance of the quality of the original audio signal, as it cancels only the ambient noise and doesn't interfere with music playback or call audio quality, or cause 'hiss' during quiet audio.

Additionally because the technology is effective over a wider frequency range this removes need for bulky sound insulating foams, which are often used to passively reduce ambient noise at higher frequencies, allowing designers to create products more suited for mobile lifestyles. Wolfson myZone™ ambient noise cancellation technology enables products that provide highly effective noise cancellation in a small, compact form factor.

Wolfson's myZone™ ambient noise cancellation technology can be used on any product that uses a mono or stereo headphone or headset for AV playback. What the user will experience is music that retains its purity and clarity even when the headset is actively cancelling over 20 decibels of ambient noise. The user won't have to adjust the volume when the ambient noise around them rises and falls, and on telephone calls they will effortlessly be able to hear and concentrate on what is being said.

About Wolfson Microelectronics:

Wolfson Microelectronics plc is a leading global provider of high performance, mixed-signal semiconductors to the consumer electronics market. Renowned for its high performance audio and ultra low power consumption, Wolfson devices can be found at the heart of many high profile consumer electronics products, including mobile phones, mp3 players, flat panel TVs and in-car infotainment systems. For more information about Wolfson and the Wolfson myZone™ ambient noise cancellation technology, please visit: www.wolfsonmicro.com/myzone or sign up for Wolfson eNews at: www.wolfsonmicro.com/enews