Lencore Acoustics Corp. Proud USA Manufacturer of quality goods

For Immediate Release

NEW SOUND MASKING DIAGNOSTIC PROGRAM INTRODUCED BY LENCORE ACOUSTICS CORP.

Merrick, NY (November 24, 2003) -- Lencore Acoustics Corp., a leading provider of sound masking technology and equipment, announces the availability of the ***Sound and Privacy Evaluation and Criteria™ (SPEC) software program***, a new tool for ensuring optimal sound masking for speech privacy comfort levels for new or existing commercial facilities.

The new SPEC software serves as a diagnostic and planning tool for sound masking and paging systems designed and installed by Lencore. The software enables a fact-based approach to analyzing and predicting spatial and temporal uniformity of sound for sound masking. It also predicts the improvement of privacy levels in a space both before and after the proposed masking system is installed.

"It is important for facility managers to be able to show hard data about their investment in any sound masking system," says Jonathan Leonard, vice president, Lencore. The indexes created by the software detail how much the system will improve the environment's acoustics – something that was previously difficult to determine.

In creating this software program, Lencore ensures users that the sound masking system that is installed meets industry standards for speech and privacy, and will help meet legal standards for oral privacy (HIPAA, GLBA, etc.). In addition, the program will enable healthcare and financial facilities to document the reasonable safeguards they have undertaken to protect health and financial information.

Just as important as meeting privacy requirements, Leonard adds, is the critical question: Will the sound masking system provide a comfortable sound, and an improved sound environment, throughout the space?

How SPEC Software Works

Planning optimal sound masking using the new software tool is straightforward. Lencore measures the ambient background sound and uses a variety of other measurements in the space to determine the existing speech privacy and articulation indexes. Next, physical characteristics of the space, such as plenum and ceiling measurements, and ceiling materials, are programmed into the software.

After determining the desired sound masking level for the space, the software draws on a range of sound masking and paging system components to calculate a number of specifications, including:

- Placement of sound masking generators and speakers for optimum temporal and spatial uniformity
- Tuning levels of sound masking units and speakers
- Configuration of paging speakers to ensure speech intelligibility
- Electrical specifications (transformer power; total number of transformers; number of speakers per transformer, etc.)

From these specifications, the software then generates a ***Privacy Index Report*™** – at no cost – that includes details about how the sound masking and/or paging system will perform, including:

- Decibel levels and variances at speakers, and between speakers, floor and ceiling
- Speech privacy levels after installation
- Articulation index after installation
- Sound masking coverage

"The new software gives us an accurate formula to follow to help companies meet privacy and articulation standards for any space. It then tells us a great deal about what is happening with the sound we are creating," says Leonard. Understanding the sound characteristics being created in a space permits installers to fine-tune the components efficiently. "As sound masking has grown, we needed better tools to enable more precise designs and installations," Leonard notes.

The diagnostic capabilities of SPEC software also make it useful for troubleshooting problem spaces, and for comparing sound masking systems.

Lencore Acoustics Corp. is headquartered in Merrick, New York. Its principals have installed more than 100-million square feet of sound solutions nationwide.

For more information about Lencore's Sound and Privacy Evaluation and Criteria software program or Privacy Index Report, contact Lencore Acoustics Corp., 2220 Hewlett Avenue, Merrick, NY 11566. Telephone: (516) 223-4747. Or, visit www.lencore.com.

# # #

Editors: For more information, contact:

Jodi Jacobs, Lencore Acoustics Corp.
516-223-4747
e-mail: jjacobs@lencore.com
or
Susan Duensing, CBC, XSTO Group
(847) 639-8300
e-mail: stdassoc@mc.net