

THE INDEPENDENT
★★★★
BT admits ear damage
BRITISH Telecom will have to pay out thousands of pounds in compensation after admitting it was to blame for ear damage suffered by some of its employees, a solicitor claimed yesterday. The most affected of the 20 telephone operators, who received acoustic shock from piercing noises coming through their headsets, could get up to £100,000 each.



**Danger
Acoustic Shock**

Over £2 Million in out-of-court settlements paid in the UK alone

Health and Safety Manager
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Acoustic Shock has hit the headlines, as many of the UK's largest companies are dealing with **hundreds of legal claims** for "acoustic shock" caused by exposure to the noise from wearing headsets.

Household names such as BT, Orange and Alliance & Leicester have already received employee **claims for acoustic shock with over £2 Million** in out-of-court settlements having been paid in the UK alone.

The **number of cases has escalated** over recent years with the CWU, TUC, Simpson Miller Solicitors and PCS handling **over 700 cases** alone. The HSE described acoustic shock as **"The industrial injury of the 21st century"**.



There is, however, a solution which helps you meet these challenges and at the same time enhancing speech quality which improves communication with your customer.

Voice Active have developed a digital signal processor that **reduces the risk of acoustic shock** and helps you meet the EU directive 2003/10/EC that became law on 6th April 2006.) The **Guardian acoustic shock attenuator** uses complex imbedded algorithms to **remove dangerous shocks** such as shrieks, whistles, and bangs whilst enhancing voice quality.

By constantly monitoring the incoming signal **Guardian** is able to differentiate between speech, single and dual frequency tones and speech. These are then processed accordingly so as to offer enhanced protection from acoustic shock and enhanced hearing comfort.



Introducing Guardian

Guardian incorporates the latest Digital Signal Processing technology, utilising sophisticated algorithms, designed to protect the user and to enhance speech quality.

The device is stylish, small and unobtrusive, which makes it easy to use and install.

NOW COMPATIBLE WITH ALL MAJOR HEADSET BRANDS

Call **0870 950 2533** or visit **www.voiceactive.com** for a demonstration and to find out more information

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Please specify telephone the headset is being used with:
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- Please send me further information
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