

Good for the long haul: Sennheiser's new HME 26 / HMEC 26 pilot's headset for jets and propeller planes

Wedemark, 26. February 2009 – Optimum speech intelligibility on long flights: with its state-of-the-art technology, the HME 26 pilot's headset from Sennheiser guarantees reliable voice transmission in the cockpits of jets and propeller planes. The lightweight headset features outstanding wearing comfort. Extra-soft ear pads and Sennheiser's patented automatically adjusting two-piece headband ensure a perfect fit even on long flights. The new pilot's headset in a closed design is also available with NoiseGard™ technology as HMEC 26.



“The HME 26 combines the very latest technology with excellent wearing comfort,” said Jörg Buchberger, Industry Team Manager Aviation and Professional Headsets at Sennheiser. Reliable voice transmission in enhanced quality is guaranteed by a noise-

compensating condenser microphone. Its adjustable sensitivity allows it to optimally compensate for differences in the volume of voices and ambient noise. The flexible microphone boom can be easily adjusted with one hand and can be turned through 300 degrees.

Excellent sound and hearing protection

The headphones of the HME 26 not only offer outstanding sound quality but also provide hearing protection. Radio communication is often subject to strong variations in volume that in extreme cases can be damaging to hearing. Sennheiser's peak level protection system automatically reduces volume peaks that exceed the sensitive level of 110 dB. In this way, the HME 26 fulfils the current EC Directives on noise at work.

Even more relaxed flying in jet and propeller planes is provided by the HMEC 26: in this model, engine and wind noise is cancelled out by anti-noise. While the closed design of the headphones already minimises mid- to high-frequency noise in the cockpit, Sennheiser's NoiseGard™ technology actively reduces low-frequency continuous noise by up to 25 dB. "To ensure that pilots can still benefit from this comfort feature when they speak to their co-pilots or the flight crew without intercom, the HMEC 26 is also available as a version with a talk-through function," explained Jörg Buchberger. "At the push of a button, two microphones fitted to the headphones filter out the voices from the ambient noise and transmit their sound to the ears." As a result, pilots hear only what that want to hear.



Light and comfortable

In spite of its rugged design, the HME 26 is a genuine lightweight. Weighing just 200 grams, the headset is still comfortable to wear even after long periods of use. Soft ear pads and Sennheiser's patented automatically adjusting two-piece headband guarantee a secure and comfortable fit. Swivelling "flip-away" ear cups allow single-sided listening: when necessary, one of the ear cups can simply be folded backwards away from the ear.



The HME 26 will be available from March onwards in different versions and the HMEC 26 with Sennheiser NoiseGard™ technology will be available in April. Both sets include a windshield for the microphone, a one-sided 1.85 metre long cable and a cable clip. The cables with different function

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ranges and plugs can be freely selected from Sennheiser's aviation product range when ordering.

Sennheiser Aviation: many years of experience in the cockpit and control tower

Ever since the mid-1980s, Sennheiser systems have been guaranteeing optimum speech intelligibility in the cockpit and control tower. Innovations such as the NoiseGard™ active noise compensation system and ActiveGard™ to protect against potentially harmful volume surges form the basis for the success of Sennheiser headsets. With their top-quality acoustics, high wearing comfort and rugged design, Sennheiser's aviation products are optimally suited to the needs of pilots and air traffic controllers. Safety and reliability are always the top priority.

The Sennheiser Group, with its headquarters in Wedemark near Hanover, Germany, is one of the world's leading manufacturers of microphones, headphones and wireless transmission systems. The family-owned company, which was established in 1945, recorded sales of over €395 million in 2007, 83% of which were generated abroad. Sennheiser employs almost 2,000 people worldwide, around 55% of whom are in Germany. Sennheiser has manufacturing plants in Germany, Ireland and the USA, and is represented worldwide by subsidiaries in France, Great Britain, Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, Denmark (Nordic), Russia, Hong Kong, India, Singapore, Japan, China, Canada, Mexico and the USA, as well as by long-term trading partners in many other countries. Also part of the Sennheiser Group are Georg Neumann GmbH, Berlin (studio microphones), K + H Vertriebs- und Entwicklungsgesellschaft mbH (Klein + Hummel studio monitors, installed sound) and the joint venture Sennheiser Communications A/S (headsets for PCs, offices and call centres).

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