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Ear impression meets artificial intelligence – a glimpse into the future

For hearing aid acousticians, custom products around the ear are part of everyday life and a matter of course. However, this area is largely unknown for the vast majority of the population. Due to the necessity of making an ear impression or an ear scan, hearing aid acousticians are currently unavoidable and the first point of contact to do so.

In the future, new technologies, neural networks, and digital production will enable, and open up, entirely new possibilities and paths in this product category. For example, combining smartphones and artificial intelligence will open up the possibility of creating 3D data of the pinna and ear canal, ultimately without silicone or expensive ear scanners, and using this to manufacture individually tailored products.

The presentation provides an overview of current approaches and solutions. It discusses how hearing aid acousticians can continue to be specialists in all aspects of customised products in the ear, and which product categories the emerging technologies will enable.