Tobias Schmitz

When is which imprint material the right one?

Introduction: Precise moulding of the ear canal is essential for the production of perfect earmoulds and customised hearing protection. Imprint materials differ in terms of viscosity and area of application.

This article looks at different types of material, their properties and areas of application, as well as the question of when to use which material.

Relationship of the authors to the topic: Tobias Schmitz is a master hearing aid acoustician and has been working at egger since April 2024. Thanks to egger's expertise in earmoulds and laboratory technology as well as Mr Schmitz's practical experience, the lecture offers a well-founded, practice-oriented perspective.

Precise delimitation of the topic: The paper examines the properties of addition-cured cartridge material and kneadable imprint materials. Viscosity, Shore A hardness and setting time are analysed. The various moulding techniques and their influence on the final result are explained.

Further focal points:

- Material science: viscosity, Shore A hardness
- Handling and accessories: injectors, cannulas, foils
- Safety and disposal, including the influence of temperature and storage conditions

Assessment of the data situation:The properties and applications of the imprint materials are well documented.

The article is based on manufacturer and customer experience.

Open points and future developments in the field: Imprint technologies will continue to evolve in the areas of curing and skin compatibility.