Active noise canceling (ANC) has become a prominent need for today's workforce as people deal with the distractions of the office and home, while trying to stay productive. Anyone who travels on airplanes can relate, understanding the benefit that a pair of noise canceling headphones can provide to that long transatlantic flight—making going to sleep easier or just watching that movie more enjoyable.

**WHAT IS ANC?**

ANC is a technology that uses additional microphones (either inside or outside of the ear cup) to pick up background noise and invert it by 180 degrees. The inverted noise cancels out the unwanted background noise leaving just the original audio the user wants to hear.

There are three different types of ANC available.

**FEEDBACK ANC (FOUND IN BLACKWIRE 7225, VOYAGER FOCUS UC, AND VOYAGER 8200 UC)**

With feedback ANC microphones are placed inside the ear cup and monitor what the user hears.

- Monitors the sound the user hears and therefore can adapt and change to any variations in this sound
- A mispositioned headset will change the sound the user hears—feedback ANC will adapt for this
- Cannot deal with higher frequencies (above 800 Hz)

**How Feedback ANC works**

In theory, the result is NO NOISE. Microphone picks up noise, speaker creates an identical waveform with 180° phase shift.

**FEED-FORWARD ANC**

Feed-forward ANC is rarely used on its own in headsets as the ANC microphones are placed outside the ear cup and monitor the background noise making it sensitive to wind noise etc.

- Works with higher frequency noise (1–2 kHz)
- Does not compensate for differences in wearing position, which may allow additional noise to leak into the ear
- Sidetone (during calls its your own voice you hear in the headset when you speak) comfort is poor
HYBRID ANC (FOUND IN BLACKWIRE 8225 AND VOYAGER FOCUS 2)

ANC microphones are placed both inside and outside the ear cup (requires 2x more microphones compared to feedback ANC) and monitors both what the user hears and the background noise.

- Best of both worlds—combines the benefits of feedback and feed-forward ANC
- Supports wider range of frequencies
- Sidetone is more natural and comfortable

DIGITAL IMPLEMENTATION FOR GREATER PERFORMANCE

With the Blackwire 8225 and the Voyager Focus 2, Poly has taken the performance of the regular feedback ANC technology to the next level with its advanced digital Hybrid ANC optimized workplaces (home, open office etc.) It’s not just the background noises that are different in the office compared to an airplane, but it’s also how it’s being used, most notably for calls.

There’s an art to developing a good ANC headset that does not impact the audio when being used on calls, as well as not causing fatigue for the user. Poly uses its 50-year knowledge to optimize the ANC performance of all its ANC headsets, so they sound natural and cause less fatigue when used on long conference calls. For those users working in the most distracting workplaces (home, open offices, etc.) the benefits offered by the Blackwire 8225 and the Voyager Focus 2 with their advanced digital Hybrid ANC technology provides the best experience to ensure they stay focused and productive.

The Blackwire 8225 and the Voyager Focus 2 include a switch that allows ANC to be set to either Off, Mid, or High, allowing the user to select the best option for their surroundings, current task (e.g., on a call or listening to music), and desired audio comfort level. Even with the ANC set to Off both the Blackwire 8225 and Voyager Focus 2 provide a level of passive isolation - that helps to reduce background noise.

How Hybrid ANC works

In theory, the result is NO NOISE

Microphone picks up ambient noise

Microphone monitors what the user hears

Speaker creates an identical waveform with 180˚ phase shift

To learn more visit poly.com.