

QUICK GUIDE

Considerations behind choosing RIC/RITE solutions

This Quick Guide goes through two fitting cases – giving you some examples of what influences the choice of either FUSION or PA models. The suggestions are meant as guidelines on how to choose between a WIDEX CLEAR FS and CLEAR PA hearing aid and the available ear-sets.

The examples refer to the options in the Selection section in Compass V5.3, including the Preconditions window.

WIDEX CLEAR FS and CLEAR PA are both very flexible solutions. This means that you are able to fit a wide range of hearing losses – from mild to severe-profound. You can ‘build’ the hearing aid solution that best suits the client – taking their preferences and wishes into consideration.

To get a relevant starting point for choosing a hearing aid and ear-set solution for your client, you need to consider the client’s needs and wishes, as well as hearing loss, and other physical prerequisites.



Figure 1. Factors influencing the decision about the hearing aid and ear-set selection.

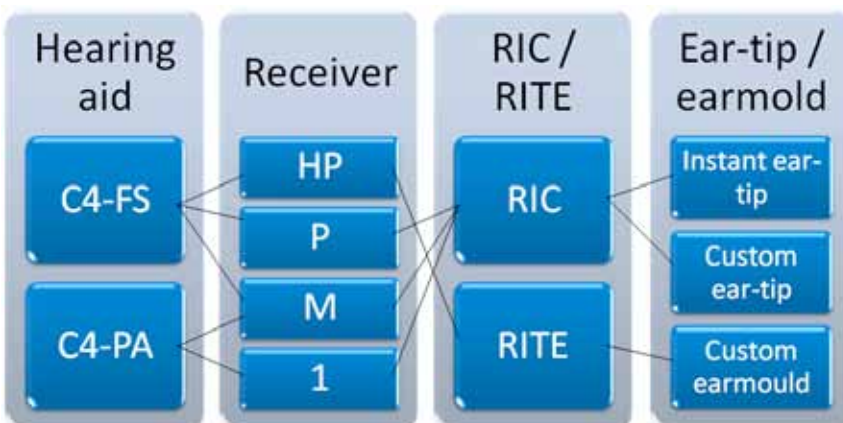
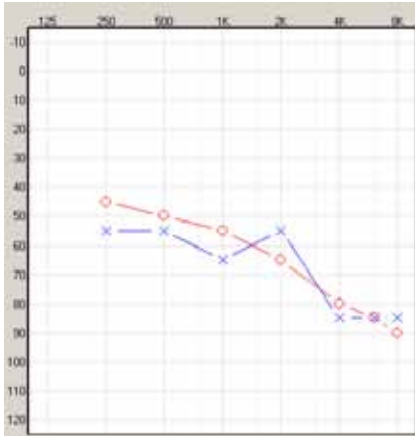


Figure 2. The hearing aids can be combined with several different ear-set solutions.

Based on this knowledge, you can make your decision about the hearing aid and ear-set. In figure 2 you can see the different flexible elements that allow you to tailor the right solution for your client when working with FUSION and PA models.



The following two examples are based on the same audiogram, see figure 3. The examples offer different solutions based on the client's hearing loss and special needs.

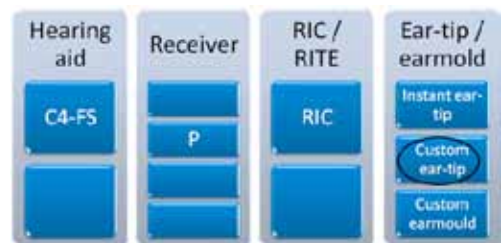
Example 1

The client wishes a small, invisible hearing aid and earmould. He is used to PASSION440 hearing aids with the instant receiver flex ear-tips and is happy about the soft material the ear-tips are made of. Recently, he has found that the Passion hearing aids are too small to handle when changing batteries. He also asks for a program button on the hearing aid. The hearing loss has increased and the client needs an ear-set that fits better.

Figure 3. The audiogram of an example client.

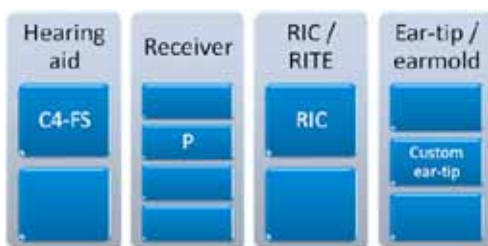


Due to the degree of the hearing loss, the hearing care professional can choose an M or P receiver. The client wishes to have a small hearing aid with a program button which fits his increasing hearing loss. The hearing care professional chooses P receivers and CLEAR FUSION hearing aids. As before, this combination is a RIC solution that also allows for the hearing aid to be very discreet.



To meet the client's wish about an almost invisible ear-tip in a soft material, the hearing care professional uses the RIC solution with a custom receiver soft ear-tip.

The solution chosen for this client:



In the Selection section and Preconditions window in Compass V5.3 the hearing care professional defines the choices.

The screenshot displays the software interface for configuring a Widex CLEAR440 hearing aid. It features two audiogram plots at the top, a central configuration panel, and two side-by-side precondition windows at the bottom.

Audiogram 1 (Left): Shows a red line representing hearing loss. The y-axis is dB HL (20 to 120) and the x-axis is frequency (125 to 8k Hz). The line starts at approximately 45 dB HL at 125 Hz and slopes downward to about 90 dB HL at 8k Hz.

Audiogram 2 (Right): Shows a blue line representing hearing loss. The axes are the same as the first audiogram. The line starts at approximately 55 dB HL at 125 Hz, has a slight dip at 1k Hz, a peak at 2k Hz, and then levels off around 85 dB HL at 8k Hz.

Series: CLEAR440

Model Selection (Left Panel):

None	Receiver	
RIC C4-PA	RIC P	
RIC C4-F5		
BTE C4-m	Acoustic identity	
BTE C4-m-CB	Wire flex	
BTE C4-9		

Recommended vent diameter: Undefined

Model Selection (Right Panel):

None	Receiver	
RIC C4-PA	RIC P	
RIC C4-F5		
BTE C4-m	Acoustic identity	
BTE C4-m-CB	Wire flex	
BTE C4-9		

Recommended vent diameter: Undefined

Assessment of in-situ acoustics (AISA) - Left Panel:

- Include in-situ vent compensation in fitting: [Dropdown]
- RECD: Average RECD [Dropdown]
- Receiver: RIC P [Text]
- Acoustic identity: Wire flex [Text]
- Ear-set tubing: EarWire 1R [Dropdown]
- Ear-set tip: Custom soft [Dropdown]
- Vent diameter: 1,4 * [Dropdown]

Assessment of in-situ acoustics (AISA) - Right Panel:

- Include in-situ vent compensation in fitting: [Dropdown]
- RECD: Average RECD [Dropdown]
- Receiver: RIC P [Text]
- Acoustic identity: Wire flex [Text]
- Ear-set tubing: EarWire 1L [Dropdown]
- Ear-set tip: Custom soft [Dropdown]
- Vent diameter: 1,1 * [Dropdown]

Example 2

The client would like a smaller hearing aid than he is used to. Previously he wore *m* hearing aids with the élan solution. He wishes to continue with the custom hard ear-tips and is interested in a remote control.

The client's audiogram is showed in figure 3.

Due to the degree of the hearing loss, the hearing care professional can to choose an M or P receiver. Taking into account that the client prefers a smaller hearing aid, the hearing care professional chooses M receivers and CLEAR PA hearing aids.



Due to the client's wish, the hearing care professional chooses the custom receiver hard ear-tip and the RIC solution.



The solution chosen for this client:



In the Selection section and Preconditions window in Compass V5.3 the hearing care professional defines the choices.

Series
CLEAR440

Model

None		Receiver		
CIC	C4-CIC	RIC M		
ITE	C4-XP			
RIC	C4-PA			
RIC	C4-F5			
BTE	C4-m	Acoustic identity	Wire flex	
BTE	C4-m-CB			
BTE	C4-9			

Recommended vent diameter: 0,0

Model

None		Receiver		
CIC	C4-CIC	RIC M		
ITE	C4-XP			
RIC	C4-PA			
RIC	C4-F5			
BTE	C4-m	Acoustic identity	Wire flex	
BTE	C4-m-CB			
BTE	C4-9			

Recommended vent diameter: 0,0

Assessment of in-situ acoustics (AISA)
Include in-situ vent compensation in fitting

RECD
Average RECD

Receiver
RIC M

Acoustic identity
Wire flex

Ear-set tubing
EarWire 1R

Ear-set tip
Custom hard

Vent diameter
1,7*

Assessment of in-situ acoustics (AISA)
Include in-situ vent compensation in fitting

RECD
Average RECD

Receiver
RIC M

Acoustic identity
Wire flex

Ear-set tubing
EarWire 1L

Ear-set tip
Custom hard

Vent diameter
1,3*

Summary

With WIDEX CLEAR FS and CLEAR PA you are able to fit a wide range of hearing losses also taking your client's needs and other physical prerequisites into consideration.

The combination possibilities of different hearing aids and ear-sets offer you very flexible solutions. Define your choices in Compass V5.3 or later to ensure a precision fitting.