# How to use myControl App 2.0

## Introduction

The myControl<sup>TM</sup> App provides the wearer with a convenient way to control their *Bluetooth*® hearing aids as well as to monitor their hearing performance closely.

The myControl App 2.0 is available for Apple® (iOS 9.3 and onwards) and certain Android<sup>TM</sup> (version 6.0 and onwards ) mobile devices, and can be downloaded free of charge from the Apple App or Google Play<sup>TM</sup> stores.



#### myControl App icon

This app serves three primary functions. It is an easy-to-use remote control for Signia Bluetooth hearing aids. It creates a connection between the wearer's hearing instruments and the smartphone's motion sensors. This additional motion sensor data further improves the automatic steering of the hearing aids. The app also keeps track of daily sound exposure, voice activity, listening environment, and wearing time to help the user better understand their individual acoustic environments.

For the app to fully communicate with the hearing aids, a Bluetooth connection needs to be maintained. This means the hearing aids need to be within approximately 10m (30 ft) of the mobile device. If appears at the upper left hand corner of the screen, the Bluetooth connection has been lost. In this case, most remote control functions are still maintained but the following functions will no longer be available:

- Sound exposure
- Motion sensor
- Remote microphone
- System sound
- Listening situation
- Low battery interval
- Most of the streaming control

On the start page of the app, if the ring around the hearing program icon shimmers, this indicates that the myControl App motion sensor is active.



myControl App start page

Left: Bluetooth connection has been lost. Right: The hearing program icon shimmers to indicate the motion sensor is active.

The myControl App 2.0 home screen will also display hearing aid status notifications. Notifications include:

- Airplane or acoustic mode
- Demo mode
- Remote microphone
- Left or right hearing aid battery running low
- Left or right hearing aid lost communication



Hearing aid status notifications will be visible on the app home screen

### Remote Control

The start page of the myControl app allows the user to change volume, programs, and adjust the Spatial Configurator.

#### Program change

The hearing programs will be shown at the top portion of the myControl App home page. Tap on this portion of the screen to change programs.



#### Left: Tap on top portion of the home page to change programs. Right: List of available *Programs* and *Listening Situations*.

#### **Listening Situations**

In addition to the pre-set hearing aid programs, you may also find the new *Listening Situations* preconfigured programs convenient to use for certain common listening situations.

Three such preconfigured programs are available in the App. Use these in the same way as traditional programs. Once a preconfigured program is selected, it will stay active until it is deactivated by the user, the program is changed, or the hearing aid is restarted.

The extra Listening Situations have programs where the hearing aid features have been optimized for a *Café* setting, the *Cinema & Theater* and *Group Conversation*.

#### **Spatial Configurator**

In the default hearing aid setting, *Spatial Configurator* is disabled and the hearing aids automatically steer themselves. When activated, *Spatial Configurator* lets you adjust the focus area that you want to listen to.

On the *Spatial Configurator* page, simply tap the direction of interest, with the top quadrant of the "circle" being the front of you. When the desired focus area is towards the front, you can further adjust the width, or span, of the focus beam via the slider along the bottom of the screen.

To manually return to the automatic mode, tap the *Auto* button. Otherwise, this setting will be retained until you deactivate it, the program is changed or the hearing aid is restarted.

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Left: Adjust volume on the myControl App start page.

Right: Swipe across the middle of the screen to adjust volume for tinnitus therapy volume.

#### Volume control

By tapping  $\infty$ , you can also adjust the volume of the two hearing aids independently via two separate volume control bars.



#### Spatial Configurator page

# Streaming

Signia Bluetooth hearing aids allow direct streaming from the paired iOS mobile device, whether it be a phone call or anything else. The streamed signal is sent to the hearing aids without delays or noticeable interruptions. Because you do not need to switch programs, a seamless user-experience is ensured.

When receiving a call, simply accept the call on the phone, and it is automatically streamed to the current hearing program. The Made-for-iPhone nature of this product means that streaming via iPhone happens seamlessly.

The system gives priority to phone calls. If you are streaming music from your phone and another person calls you, the music stream is automatically paused and you will hear the phone's ringtone via your hearing aids. The music will not restart until you either decline or finishe the call. The switching behavior occurs quickly and seamlessly, so that long pauses between different streaming events are avoided.

#### iOS Accessibility Shortcut

Since Signia Bluetooth hearing aids are Made-foriPhone, the iPhone is also able to directly communicate with the hearing aids outside of the myHearing app. Triple-click the home button to access the iOS Accessibility Shortcut which allows you to control the paired hearing aids. This screen displays basic hearing aid characteristics, battery status, volume settings, and the activated program.

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"Fitness Tracker" for Hearing & Communication

Another major function of the myControl app is to document your acoustic environment and communication activity.

#### Sound Exposure

The **Sound Exposure** page can be accessed by tapping on the **b** icon on the bottom of the start page. This page displays the sound level around you throughout the day, usage time, and projections regarding the probable speech understanding difficulty for different listening situations. This can help you obtain a better understanding of their acoustic world and why some days are more tiring than others.

Under the date at the top of the screen, the first number is the average loudness of the sound exposure in the day, while the second number indicates the volume of the loudest sound detected that day.

iOS Accessibility Shortcut

In the middle of the screen, the app displays sound exposure in color bars throughout the day. The numbers under the bars indicate the hours of the day, and each bar represents the last 30 minutes. By tapping on an individual bar, a tool tip appears to show the dB exposure during that time period.

The three percentages underneath the graph summarize the percentage of the day you have spent in *low*, *moderate*, and *high* noise levels. Finally, the bottom of the page displays the total time the hearings aids have been in use (turned on) this day, and the estimated difficulty of the listening environment over the day.

The (i) icon at the top right of the screen leads you to the "legend" page where all the data and information displayed on the *Sound Exposure* page is clarified in more detail.

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Left: The Sound Exposure Page. Tap the info icon to access the legend page. Center and Right: The information Legend page

#### **Voice Activity**

The new *Voice Activity* tracking also visualizes how you have been participating in conversation. One of the primary goals of amplification is to encourage conversation and social engagement. This feature tracks your speech and documents how much you are engaging socially.



Left: To access the Voice Activity page, tap on the tracking icon on the Sound Exposure page. Right: The Voice Activity Page

# Settings

Further controls and settings can be adjusted under the *Settings* page of the app.

- **SoundBalance** allows you to make simple tonal adjustments to the hearing aid. Tapping along the slider adjusts the treble versus bass emphasis of the sound.
- Separate **Battery Status** for each of the hearing aids is also displayed here.
- Hearing Aid Airplane Mode allows you to switch off Bluetooth transmission during air travel.
- Activation/de-activation of **Sound Exposure** data collection.
- Adaptive Streaming Volume automatically adapts the volume of the streamed signal in relation to changes in the loudness of environmental sounds. When enabled, this feature ensures that the streamed signal volume remains audible regardless of the noise levels in the environment.
- Activation/de-activation of Motion Sensor data collection. When enabled, motion sensor information from the smartphone is incorporated into the automatic steering of the hearing aids. As a result, improved signal processing decisions can be made and executed for directionality to yield a better listening experience for you throughout the day.
- The new Remote Microphone feature turns the iOS mobile device into a remote microphone. You can place your smartphone towards your conversational partner and the speaker's voice is then streamed directly into your hearing aids. You may find this feature particularly useful in more challenging listening situations such as conference meetings or noisy restaurants.
- System Sounds allows the set-up of alert tones such as program change and low battery. Enabling you to play back, select, enable/disable these sounds according to your preferences.
- Broadcast Level controls the strength of the ultrahigh frequency control signal from the app to the hearing aids. Adjust the broadcast level if the hearing aids are not as responsive as they should be or if the control signal is too loud.
- Low Battery Interval allows you to change the time interval between alert tones.
- Choose from 6, 12, or 18 seconds for the Power-on Delay.
- Choose app Language options.
- Setup shows step-by-step instructions on how to pair the app with the hearing aids.

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Check Battery Status when in Airplane Mode, Remote Microphone Function, and System Sounds

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