

OTICON | Real

life-changing  
technology

# Real Veterans. Real Comfort.

SuddenSound Stabilizer improves  
comfort while wearing hearing aids



“

With (SSS On) I easily adapt to the sound and after a short while, they don't distract me from the movie – I don't pay attention to them. In the other program (SSS Off) they keep taking my attention away.”

*— Veteran participating in Oticon Real™ study*

Unexpected loud sounds are startling for most of us. But for the veteran population who have experienced combat-related noise exposure and developed a sensitivity to loud noises, these sounds can have a detrimental effect on overall quality of life.

When adjusting hearing instruments due to discomfort with sudden sounds, historically less desired hearing aid adjustments (like decreasing gain) may be necessary.

Oticon's SuddenSound Stabilizer (SSS) was developed with Veterans in mind. SSS instantly attenuates sudden sounds that may otherwise startle the user without compromising on essential speech information in the signal. We recently tested this feature in a study featuring combat Veterans, these are our findings.



**22%\***

Reduction in irritation  
while listening

**18%\***

Increase in comfort  
while listening

**19%\***

Reduction in brain response  
to abrupt sounds

\*Eskelund, et al., 2023 SuddenSound Stabilizer for veterans. Oticon Whitepaper.

SuddenSound Stabilizer (SSS) in Oticon Real is part of MoreSound Amplifier™ 2.0. It is a feature that instantly attenuates sudden sounds ranging from soft to loud while enabling instant and precise balancing of all sounds. Activating SSS even to the High setting does not affect speech understanding (Santurette et al., 2023).

These testimonials represent the opinion of concerned individuals only and may not be representative of the experience of others. The testimonials are not paid and may not be indicative of future performance or success of any individuals.

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## SuddenSound Stabilizer reduces the brain's response to sudden sounds

We investigated whether SuddenSound Stabilizer could help Veterans cope with disturbing sudden sounds by recording the brain responses of 13 Danish Veterans using electroencephalography. Participants all reported combat noise exposure, and after audiologic testing, we found some had hearing loss and some did not. All were fitted with Oticon Real and asked to watch TV while disruptive and unpredictable sudden sounds were presented. During the recording, SSS was alternating between Off and On (set to Max).

We found that the participants' brain responses to sudden sounds were significantly reduced with SSS On. This indicates that SSS could potentially be of benefit to those who are particularly sensitive to disturbing sounds.



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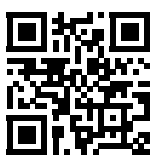
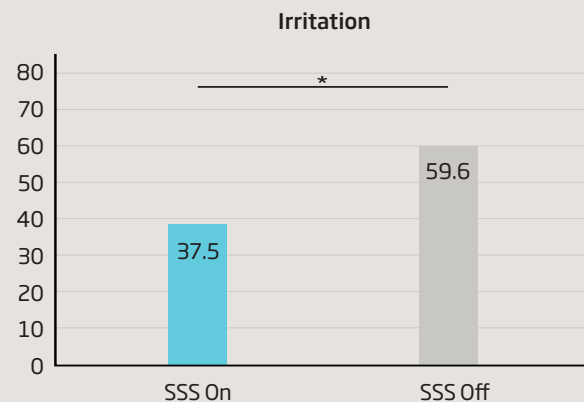
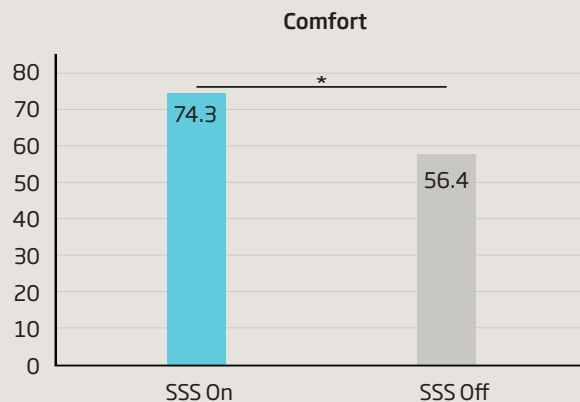
With [SSS On] the sounds are softer, like if they came from a greater distance. With [SSS OFF] they are really in your face.”

*Veteran participating in Oticon Real study*

## SuddenSound Stabilizer increased comfort and decreased irritation

In addition to the electrophysiological measures, we asked the participants to indicate the level of comfort and irritation in the two conditions on a scale from 0 to 100. The participants rated the listening experience

significantly more comfortable and less irritating with SSS On compared to Off, showing a great benefit for this population.\*



To learn more scan this QR code to read the entire SuddenSound Stabilizer for Veterans Whitepaper.