

February 2008

Dear recipient,

We want to share with you the project follow-up information provided during the third “Town Hall Meeting” for C1 users that occurred in January 2008.

Harmony for C1 users

After numerous conversations with C1 users, thoughtful deliberation, and research into all possible short and long term solutions, we have decided to develop **the Harmony platform** for C1 users.

This project will involve a significant investment into the development of new software, which will then require time to test in the laboratory and with patients.

Our current estimation is that this work will be completed by the fourth quarter of 2009. At that time, the system will be ready for submission to the regulatory bodies. The submission process may take six months or longer depending on the agency and any requests for additional testing. Therefore, any estimation on timelines and delivery dates for commercial availability would be irresponsible at the moment.

Improved Connectivity

The new Ear Level processor will use the snap-on earhook system, incorporating the following connectivity options:

T-Mic : the microphone of choice

The T-Mic may already be familiar to C1 users using the Platinum BTE, it fits where nature intended sound to be detected – in the ear, and is the microphone of choice for the majority of users for the range of everyday listening conditions.



Internal T-Coil

The internal T-coil will offer access to loop systems and compatible telephones

Direct Connect: Simple connection to audio devices

Best quality, single cable, direct connection to battery powered audio systems such as MP3 players, CD players, and assistive listening devices



Harmony Processor with iConnect and Phonak MicroMLxS



iConnect: Cable Free FM access

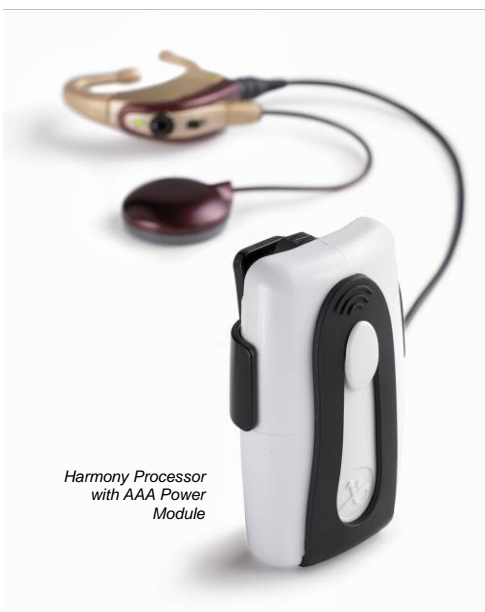
The iConnect provides cable-free connectivity to the most commonly available advanced miniaturized FM receivers.

All these earhooks will be available in standard and small sizes (adults and children)

Improved Power Options

Advanced Bionics continues to investigate efficient rechargeable battery technologies.

The C1 implant, rather than the processor, consumes the vast majority of the battery power. so, making changes to the processor will likely have little effect on improving the battery life. However, the new Harmony Ear Level processor will be compatible with the Auria PowerCel Plus battery and also a range of new off-the-ear power options, which may provide an improvement in battery life for C1 users,



Harmony Processor with AAA Power Module

The PowerPak Plus Provides power for more than one day with the use of AAA/LR3 disposable or rechargeable batteries.

The PSP battery adapter

Provides standard PSP rechargeable battery life for ear level processor

The PowerCel adapter

Allows less weight on the ear with the PowerCel Plus worn on the body

We understand your frustration and disappointment with our delay in delivering you a new Ear Level processor.

We understand that we have lost your trust and will work to regain it as we work on the development of the new C1 Processor.

Our commitment to you is to communicate more regularly, to keep this project as a top priority, and to continue to listen.

We have set up a special email address dedicated to you. It is

c1support@advancedbionics.com

Please feel free to contact Advanced Bionics if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Advanced Bionics