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Boost your world with Beltone Boost Max S

Presenter: Laura Schachtel, AuD, FAAA

Welcome everyone to today's course Boost your World with Beltone Boost Max S. We are so pleased to welcome one of our very favorite people at Audiology Online, Dr. Laura Schachtel. And Laura, I'll hand things over to you. Thanks Kimberly. Hi everyone and welcome to our course again on Beltone Boost Max S which is a groundbreaking hearing experience designed specifically for individuals with severe to profound hearing loss. As Kimberly stated, I'm Dr. Laura Schachtel, the Product Training Development Manager for Beltone and today I have the honor of introducing you to this powerful product.

The Beltone Boost Max S is designed for those who know exactly what they want and need from their hearing aids. Throughout the course we'll explore its user friendly design, innovative features and how it enhances the hearing experience for your patients. As Kimberly stated, there are several handouts, so please see that Resources tab on the main menu on the zoom field to go ahead and download all of those. Otherwise if you're unable to find them, most of these handouts are on our University homepage which is beltwin.university.com so let's go on to our learning objectives for the day. So after today's course you should be able to identify the.

Sorry, hang on, I'm having difficulty moving my camera. There we go. Be able to identify three feature differences between the Beltone Boost Max S and our Legacy Boost Ultra product. Be able to list three wireless connectivity options for Beltone Boost Max S and list three updates to our Beltone Solus Max 2.2 fitting software. Just real quickly, these are the risks and limitations of this course, so please review them as needed.

Now, if you haven't already seen, let me introduce you to Beltone Boost Max S. If you're living with severe or profound hearing loss, reconnecting to a world of sound means everything. But what matters most? Amplification, sound clarity, power, connections. It all matters. And with the right hearing solution, you don't have to compromise.

Introducing Beltone Boost Max S Boost your world of sound in the most challenging environments with super small, super powerful hearing aids without the risk of feedback or cutting you off from your surroundings. Enjoy the freedom of all day battery power and all day comfort and experience the clearest streamed sound and endless opportunities to connect with Bluetooth, Low energy audio and AuraCast.

Built on over 85 years of innovation, research and feedback from our patients, Beltone Boost Max S delivers uncompromising quality and clarity in a super small, super powerful solution. Experience it today. Beltone Boost Max S Now you'll notice that our Beltone Boost Max S features a more organic design that seamlessly fits the contours of the ear. This one point touch design enhances comfort perfectly adapting to the ear shape. Now you might remember this design idea as it's the same design process that we've been using with our rics and for the past about five years now Beltone Boost Max S is smaller than our Beltone Boost Ultra but still has the hardware features you've come to expect.

It utilizes our metal ear hook which can now provide a maximum gain of 84db and 140db SPL output. It has an LED light that indicates charging status and this LED function can be configured in Solus Max under Device Controls and at the bottom of the page you will see LED Light Control. This feature assists caregivers by providing notifications of manual control adjustments such as changes in program or volume field exchangeable microphone filters which can be replaced quickly and easily. Also has tap control which offers your patients an easy way to answer phone calls with just a double tap on their hearing aid. Beltone BoostMax S is our first rechargeable superpower and can provide your patients with all day battery even when streaming.

Our 360 chip is the driving force behind the feature set of the Beltone Boost Max S, and I'll discuss those features in detail a little bit later on. And finally, connectivity. As you come to expect, the Beltone Boost Max S offers Bluetooth LE Audio oracast, connects to our accessories and it still has a built in

telecoil. And remember, our Beltone Boost Max S is offered in technology levels 17, 9, 6 and 4. So yes, the Beltone Boost Max S is impressively compact.

Here you have a comparison between the Beltone Boost Max S and the Beltone Boost Ultra, with the Boost max s being approximately 3% smaller. You can also notice that updated housing design. Now let's compare this to the Beltone Serene 86 which is actually 5% larger than the Beltone Boost Max S. So again, yes, this hearing aid is smaller not just for a superpower but for a BTE in general. So when you order a Beltone boostmax S, it comes with the metal ear hook as the default option. This ear hook is available in a size large only, but that is kind of the average size needed for an adult ear.

And that metal ear hook again offers a maximum gain of 84 decibels with a maximum output of 140dB SPL. Now it's important to note that the metal ear hook delivers greater usable gain in the low Frequencies, which is why it's the standard option for this particular product. Now, if necessary, through customer service, you can order a plastic hook which is available in three sizes, small, medium and large. Please note that the plastic hooks do not have an OHMS filter in them. The maximum gain in output when using a plastic hook is 79 decibels with a maximum SPL of 140dB.

Now both of these hook styles are just like what you're used to with our btes which where you pull off the ear hook and then you would snap on a new one, so no twisting at all. The Beltone Boost Max S features field exchangeable microphone filters which is beneficial for you and your patients, especially with this patient population as they rely heavily on their hearing aids so there's very little downtime. So if the microphones do get clogged, the patient can very easily change them at home. No downtime, kind of no repair if you will needed for this. These filters are the identical filters as the ones that you are already using for Beltone and Vision and Beltone Commence RIE Hearing aids.

The color options for Beltone Boost Max S are the same offered for Beltone Envision Ries. So that would be sparkling silver, sand, gold, bronze, warm gray, graphite, espresso, deep black, navy blue

and red. However, it's not just about how the hearing aid looks. These devices are built tough with an all weatherproof IP68 rating. Beltone BoostMax S is built to withstand the elements, ensuring that they can handle anything that your patient throws at them.

And our protective nano coating is on both the inside and the outside of these hearing aids and that just adds an extra layer of resiliency to this product. So with Beltone Boost Max S your patients can I'll use this lightly, relax, knowing that their hearing aids will stay charged throughout the day for all day wearing up to 28 hours and 20 hours when streaming 50% of the time. Beltone Boost Max S will use the desktop charger so it can easily accommodate those ear molds and that associated charging form factor or CFF number is 90 and that will be located in the right charging bay. And it's also a number on the bottom of the charger next to the serial number. So this is a different charger than anyone that you're using for our rechargeable serene btes.

The fast charging feature allows for one hour of use with just a ten minute charge, while a one hour charge provides enough power to for approximately seven hours of use. Additionally, these patients can check their battery status through their HearMax app. So if they're a little nervous they can always check to see how much battery they still have. And just to point out that a full charge that 28 hours will take four hours in the charger. So Beltone Sound philosophy has always been to develop technology that focuses on the needs of the individual, aiming to replicate the natural hearing process so that the brain can perceive sound as it was meant to be heard.

So let's discuss these enhanced features in our Beltone Boost Max S and let's begin with Our favorite crosslink directionality 4, which represents a significant upgrade to patients daily listening experiences compared to the Beltone Boost Ultra and Crosslink Directionality 2. With the BeltOne BoostMax S and Crosslink Directionality 4, patients can take advantage of our advanced 4 microphone beamforming technology, providing improved access to surrounding sounds. In a clinical study we discovered that

90% of participants that specifically were chosen because they had severe to profound hearing loss preferred listening with Crosslink Directionality 4 in a variety of real world situations over Crosslink Directionality 2. I just want to remind you that Crosslink Directionality 4 is exclusively available only in our 17 level technology. We also understand that noisy environments can be particularly challenging for individuals with severe to profound hearing loss, and that's why one of the most significant upgrades for this patient population is Clear Focus, which features the industry's narrowest beamformer.

This technology is designed to enhance speech clarity and improve the listening experience in challenging auditory situations. In a clinical study, again specifically involving those with severe to profound hearing loss, we found a 2.7 dB signal to noise ratio improvement using Clear Focus compared to Smart Gain that was in Beltone Boost Ultra. Now while this might not look like the biggest number, this is an impressive result specifically for people with severe to profound hearing loss who as we all know, generally have poor word understanding in quiet, let alone in noise. In that same study, we found an 8.3 dB signal to noise ratio improvement when using Clear Focus over omnidirectionality, and 93% of those in this study preferred Clear focus for hearing in noise. Now, our environmental classification strategy continues to set us apart, delivering an impressive 91% accuracy which outperforms our competitors in real world listening situations.

And while this technology isn't new, its consistent performance speaks for itself. And a key reason for our success is our deliberate choice not to include yes music classification. Do you remember why we did this? It's because music is personal. So rather than letting the hearing aids make assumptions, we're empowering our patients to decide when and how they want to enjoy music by giving them a specific music program that then we craft together with them.

Our environmental classifier plays a crucial role in how the hearing aids process sound by activating the right features at the right time in the right environment. And behind that precision is AI driven decision

making, ensuring the hearing experience is always optimized. So let's take a moment to spotlight a feature that's not new to, but still unmatched. And that's feedback eraser too. Now, we all know that feedback is a real challenge, especially for those with severe to profound hearing loss.

As again, the higher the gain, the higher the risk of whistling. But here's the difference. Feedback eraser 2 gives patients more stable gain up to 26dB, that 6dB more than any other Superpower system. And it does it without reducing gain. This ensures that your patients receive the appropriate gain for their hearing loss.

So let's look at the result of our feedback study. When we look at our Beltone Boost Max S without running the MSG calibration, but with our safeguard feedback control on, we see a little feedback spike right as we unmute the hearing aids to begin our test. But that feedback spike was quickly eliminated in 46 milliseconds. Then after running our MSG calibration, you can see that there was no feedback for the duration of the test and gain was not reduced to obtain that result. I just want to point out that the MSG calibration or the Feedback Racer 2 setting, I should say, was set to mild, so not whistle stop mild.

And we still had no feedback for the entire test. So let's take a look at how our competitors did. So competitor A without running their feedback control, but with some type of safety net running like our safeguard, there is a little bit of. There is actually, sorry, a lot of whistling. Their hearing aid whistled the entire test.

Once we ran their calibration, there was no whistling. But to obtain that whistle free results, they had to reduce gain by 7 dB. When we look at competitor B again, we see a quick little feedback spike right as that hearing aid was unmuted, very similar to ours, but it was very quickly eliminated in 18 milliseconds. But in order to do that so quickly, this product had to reduce gain by 1.5 dB. After we ran their calibration again, you can see in that lower image there was no feedback.

But just like with brand A, to obtain this whistle free result, they had to reduce gain by 4 dB. And our last competitor, Competitor C, again in that top image you can see that feedback spike right as the hearing aids were unmuted and again their system was able to quickly reduce feedback in 40 milliseconds. But you can see that it didn't fully eliminate the feedback. It's still slightly there for the whole length of that test. Then after running their calibration, just like with all of our other competitors, there is no feedback, but again gain was reduced to obtain that result, but they only needed to reduce gain by 2 dB.

So not only do we offer the most added stable gain, we also don't need to reduce gain to stop feedback from occurring. Now here's just a quick look at the technology differences between our four levels of Belt Tone Boost Max S. So again, crosslink directionality 4 with clear focus in our 17 level, crosslink 3 and ultrafocus 2 in our 9 level, crosslink 3 with ultrafocus in our 6 level and in our 4 we have crosslink directionality 2 with smartbeam and it has that beam steering option as well. This is one of the handouts that you can download. So Beltone Boost Max S is the world's first superpower hearing aid made for Bluetooth LE Audio, allowing Superpower BTE patients the same opportunity to stream and listen anywhere like everybody else. And again we still offer MFI Asha hands free calls, tap control for iPhone, iPad and compatible Android devices.

And again it still has a built in T coil so our TV Streamer plus easily pairs to the beltone Boost Max S with one touch pairing and with auto streaming, patients can select to have the TV streaming start automatically when the TV turns on. From their BeltOne HearMax app, patients can easily adjust the volume of the stream TV sound and surrounding sounds, enhancing listening comfort and clarity. And the TV Streamer plus supports AuraCast, allowing an unlimited number of AuraCast enabled devices to connect for shared listening experiences. And it's also compatible with our Multi Mic. When tested again specifically with severe to profound users, we measured a 9.9 dB signal to noise ratio improvement compared to omnidirectionality and a 6dB signal to noise ratio improvement over just clear focus, highlighting the additional benefit the Multimic plus can provide for speech understanding in

noisy environments even with the best hearing noise technology.

And again, our Multimic plus allows for audio broadcasting to multiple listeners using AuraCast enabled devices. It allows for auto streaming so sounds can automatically be streamed to the hearing aids as soon as the Multimic plus is activated and patients have the flexibility again to adjust that auto streaming setting as well as sound through their multimic through the Beltone HearMax app. And let's not forget that within our Beltone HearMax app, we have the world's first oracast assistant that works with any phone that's compatible with our app. To connect to an AuraCast broadcast, patients click on the Find a Broadcast button, select the stream they want, and that sound is then directly streamed into their hearing aids. It's just that easy.

So a new feature with Beltone boostmax S is something called Multi Connect. With Multiconnect, patients can connect to multiple devices simultaneously, including laptops, tablets, TVs, and both iOS and Android phones. This feature enables patients to effortlessly switch between stream signals, whether it's a phone call or audio from various devices, without needing to disable Bluetooth or repair to a new device. Additionally, you can still connect Beltone boostmax S's to Solus Max without needing to disable the Bluetooth. So let's watch a quick little video showing multiconnect in action.

Hi. Welcome to my baking show. Did you know that with our hearing aids, you can now simultaneously stream between multiple devices, such as tablets, laptops, TVs, and smartphones? This feature is called Multi Connect, and it enables hearing aid users to listen to their favorite tunes, watch their favorite movies, and stay connected to the things that they love, all without needing to disconnect from Bluetooth or reconnect to a new device. Let me show you what that looks like.

First, I can be connected to two personal devices and one wireless accessory at a time. The beauty of Multiconnect is that it requires no setup. All you need to do is connect your hearing aids to your personal devices and it's ready to go. Actually, I wish my ingredient recipe was ready to go. It took me

longer to find these ingredients than it did for me to connect to my tablet.

Now, let's say that I'm a hearing aid user baking in my kitchen. We're going to use my friend Chris here to record the sound from the hearing aids. And if you're anything like me, you probably like to listen to music or watch a movie while you bake. So we're gonna stream some music from this tablet, and I'm gonna set it over here because I'm a messy baker and I don't want it to get dirty. And now I'm just gonna wait for Miguel to call me back because he's supposed to be here.

I don't know where he is. Oh, right on time. Notice how this stream from my tablet has stuck stopped. And you can hear the ringtone from the incoming call. Gonna go ahead and answer this.

Hi Miguel. Hey Chena. I'm five minutes late, but I'll be there as soon as possible to help you baking, okay? Okay, perfect. We'll see you soon.

Bye. As you may have noticed, after ending the phone call from some phones, the streaming on my tablet will automatically begin again. However, on some other phones, I may have to manually restart my stream.

And there you have it. With Multi Connect, I can easily stream between devices without missing a beat. Whether I'm baking cookies or I'm at work, staying connected has never been this convenient. So let's get back to baking.

I don't think this recipe is going to work now. If you want more information on Multiconnect, please take the Multi Connect course on Beltone University. So, just to switch gears a little bit, let's talk about some of the exciting new updates that are within Beltone Solus Max 2.2. So let's begin with the updated design of the Discovery screen, which I'm sure you've all already experienced. So the hearing aids will be displayed on the larger left side of the screen and then when selected, they will appear side by side

on the right side.

And this display is now similar to how things were arranged on that catalog page in previous software builds. The features are also now organized and listed in an order that mirrors the data sheets and product portfolio. Rather than being arranged alphabetically, this change enhances the ability to compare different technology levels more effectively. So for example, you can see a comparison between an Envision 9 on the right ear and a 17 in the left ear. This makes the distinctions clearer when explaining differences to a patient.

Hearing aid firmware updates can now be performed in both hearing aids simultaneously, so this saves you a little bit of time, eliminating the need to update each hearing aid sequentially. So saves you a little bit of time there when there is a firmware update pending for your particular product. A new feature was added when you're fitting a CROs transmitter. So under the CROs Advanced features you will now see a feature called Activate Hearing Aid Microphone or sorry, Active Hearing Aid Microphone. Oh, activate.

I read it right. This allows you to mute the microphones on the hearing aid side so that the patient only receives the cross transmitted signal. This is especially helpful for patients with normal to near normal hearing in that better ear. To prevent the hearing aid microphones from picking up extra distracting noise. Possibly could have been some hair noise.

The hearing aid microphones are set on by default, so showing the green, but by toggling that switch to off you mute the hearing aid microphones. Now, the accessory firmware updates have been streamlined and that process has been brought completely Solus Max 2.2. So to run an accessory update, click on the Accessory Update button from the Update tab from that main screen, and then Solus Max will automatically search for any TV Streamer plus or Multi Mic plus that is powered on. Remember, you need to have a NOAA link wireless connected for this to occur. Also remember, for a

TV Streamer plus that needs to be connected to a power source using a USB cable and multi mic plus must have at least a 10% battery charge to complete an update.

So any accessory needing a firmware update will indicate that an update is available. So then you'll go ahead and click on Assign and that moves the accessory over to the right side of the screen. And to start the update, it's written right there on the software. But because not everyone reads I will say this out loud, you need to press the pairing button on the accessory and then click on the Update button. Also, once the accessory update is in process, do not interrupt it once it has started.

And then when everything is updated, you'll get the green check mark. And then you can either click that blue button on the right to find another accessory to update, or click the button on the left to go back to kind of the main home screen. And then the last major update is the Improve Test Device feature used when completing verification testing using a hearing instrument test box. You can find this feature under the Instrument tab at the very top of the Fitting screen or from the More menu. Improvements allow for the hearing aids to remain connected to Solus Max at all times during testing, meaning that you no longer need to touch the hearing aids once you've placed them in the test box.

So this just gets a little bit more accurate test results from that test device screen. You would simply click on the test that you want to run from that preset list. This includes the ability to mute the hearing aid microphone and allows for feature changes to test directionality. The hearing aid specifications are right there in the software for easier reference to compare to. And finally, the hearing aids will now go back to the patient settings when you exit test device mode.

And this just ensures patient safety, knowing that everything is back to how they walked in and nothing is out of whack or overly loud for the patient. Now, one main update that happened with the Beltone Hearmax app, and this is in version 1.41 that was released about a month ago, is that patients wearing Beltone and Vision 17 micro ries will now be able to control true noise reduction in their hearing noise

program and patients can select from moderate, considerable or strong which are the same options you have in Solus Max. So Beltone Boost Max S is the world's smallest rechargeable superpower hearing aid, providing all day wear for patients and fast charging. It's made for hearing and noise with 93% of participants preferring clear focus over Smartbeam and 90% preferring crosslink directionality 4 over crosslink directionality 2. Beltone Boost Max S has the world's best feedback Manager and Feedback Eraser 2 and is the world's first superpower hearing aid with Bluetooth LE Audio and AuraCast.

So just to summarize again, Beltone Boost Max S hearing aids are offered in four technology levels, all running on our 360 chip. Our 17 level offers Crosslink Directionality 4 and Clear Focus and all of these products offer Feedback Eraser too, which again can provide up to 6dB more stable gain than our competitors. Beltone Boost Max S uses Bluetooth LE Audio, can connect to our streaming accessories or Cast Broadcast and utilizes the new Multi Connect feature while also using MFI and ASHA to stream calls if needed. Depending on the phone your patient has and in Solus Max 2.2 the discovery screen accessory update and catalog listings have a new look. Also, hearing aid firmware updates are faster as they can now be completed simultaneously.

And let's not forget that there is this new functionality under the cross fittings where you excuse me, where you can now mute the hearing aid microphones. So with that I just want to thank you all for taking a quick 30 minutes out of your day to learn about Beltone Boost Max S. I'll stay on if any questions do roll in, but right now none have otherwise. Thank you all for joining me and I hope you come back with me tomorrow as we talk about the complexities of this patient population and the features that they need from us to help them with their hearing loss. So again, no questions have come in. So again thank you everyone and I hope you have a great rest of your day.