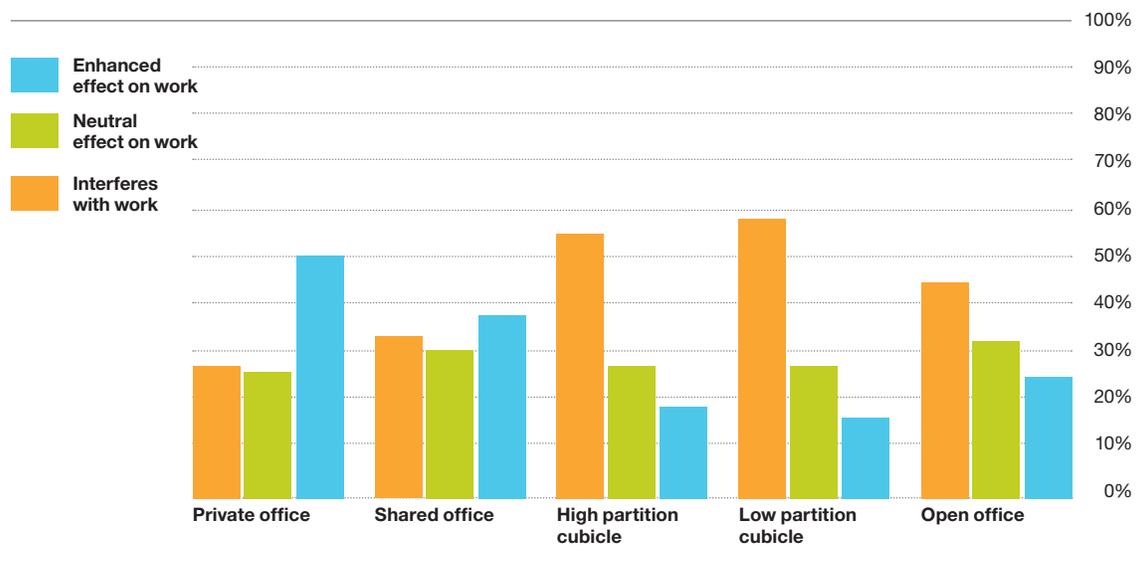**Qt PRO™ and Confidante®** Sound Masking

steelcase

There's a problem with noise in the workplace.

It's not a new problem, just a persistent one. Recent studies demonstrate that noise and speech privacy (even more than noise) top worker's lists of complaints. Studies also indicate that **workers feel their productivity would improve if their office was less noisy** and offered improved speech privacy.*
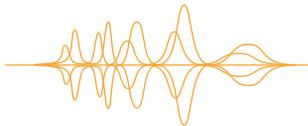
How would you respond?
Overall, does the acoustic quality in your workspace enhance or interfere with your ability to get your job done?

The Center for The Built Environment asked the same question of 23,450 respondents in different office types. This chart shows the responses that highlight the problem with noise in the workplace.

Legend:
- Enhanced effect on work
- Neutral effect on work
- Interferes with work

Categories: Private office, Shared office, High partition cubicle, Low partition cubicle, Open office

* KL Jensen, E Arens and L Zagreus: *Acoustical Quality in Office Workstations*, 2005

Meetings happen everywhere, even in personal workspaces—often at the expense of coworkers.

The social nature of work is critical to building strong relationships in the office—though it can often interfere with others' needs to do focused work.

Recent trends are amplifying the problem.

Work is changing. The ability to easily connect, collaborate and share with others in the workplace is vital to getting work done.

It impacts how and where people work. They work in new and different ways. Alone, in pairs and in groups. In person and over HD video-conferencing. And the persistence of mobile technology means they can work anywhere within the office.

The design of the workplace is also changing.
Shrinking footprints pack more people into smaller spaces. The open plan continues to replace the private office. And collaborative areas are integrated into the open plan.

Architectural trends are impacting acoustics.
Open plenum facilities without finished acoustical ceilings absorb less sound. Panel heights are lower and block less sound. Increased use of hard surfaces on floors and walls reflect more sound. And quieter HVAC systems don't cover as much sound.

Without Sound Masking
Noise and lack of speech privacy can create a workplace full of distraction.

Sound masking can help.

[This is where we tell you there's also a solution to the noise in your workplace.] **The addition of sound masking to a workplace can help reduce distraction and improve speech privacy.** Both important to improving the productivity of workers in the workplace, according to studies.

With Sound Masking
Background sound is added to the environment, reducing noise and improving speech privacy.

Making sound choices.

Qt PRO™ and Confidante are two sound masking solutions available from Steelcase. Designed and built by the acoustics professionals at Cambridge Sound Management and based on their patented Qt Quiet Technology™, **both systems are engineered to provide exceptional sound masking in today's changing workplace.** In the open plan and the private office.

There's a lot that goes into creating an effective sound masking system. But the science doesn't need to add complexity. **Qt PRO™ and Confidante are simple to install, simple to operate and simple to understand.**

Qt PRO™ is a complete enterprise solution supporting multiple zones appropriate for offices from thousands of square feet to hundreds of thousands of square feet. In addition to sound masking, Qt PRO™ supports music and paging. Network control provides the ability to adjust volume levels and access advanced features over a local area network.

Confidante is a simple system appropriate for providing sound masking for smaller workplaces or small "problem" areas within a large workplace.
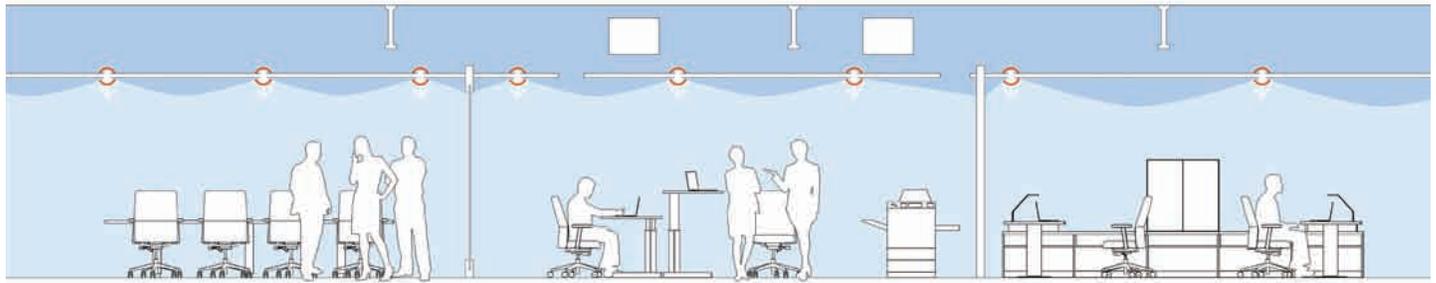
Qt PRO™

Confidante

	Confidante 30P	Confidante 300P	Qt PRO™ 900	Qt PRO™ 1500
GENERAL INFORMATION				
Number of zones	1	1	Up to 3	Up to 5
Maximum number of emitters per zone	30	300	360	360
Maximum number of emitters per control module	30	300	1080	1800
Approximate square foot coverage per control module	3,000 sq. ft.	30,000 sq. ft.	108,000 sq. ft.	180,000 sq. ft.
Ability to accommodate music/paging	No	No	Yes	Yes
Number of paging inputs (3-pin terminal connector)	n/a	n/a	2	2
Number of music inputs (Dual RCA or 1/8" mini)	n/a	n/a	1	1
SYSTEM CONTROL				
Front panel LCD	n/a	n/a	Yes	Yes
Networked, browser based software	n/a	n/a	Yes	Yes
Wireless, infrared remote control	Yes	Yes	n/a	n/a
Volume adjustments	By zone	By zone	By zone	By zone
Volume adjustment increment	2 dB	2 dB	1 dB	1 dB
Introductory volume ramping	n/a	n/a	At system level	At system level
Day/night volume level & ramping	n/a	n/a	At system level	At system level
Input sensitivity adjustments	n/a	n/a	At system level	At system level
Spectrum tuning	n/a	n/a	By zone	By zone
SECURITY				
Front panel lock	n/a	n/a	Physical key	Physical key
Software access	n/a	n/a	Multiple passwords	Multiple passwords
OTHER FEATURES				
Email notification of errors	n/a	n/a	1 address	1 address
Integrated instruction manual	n/a	n/a	Yes	Yes
PHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES				
Unit size	7.5" x 8" x 1.5"	7.5" x 8" x 1.5"	12" x 14" x 4"	12" x 14" x 4"
Mounting options	Wall	Wall	Wall	Wall
Power supply	12 Watt 110 VAC/12VDC CE/UL/CUL-rated	12 Watt 110 VAC/12VDC CE/UL/CUL-rated	100-240 VAC 50/60HZ 1.5 A input 15 VDC 4A output CE/UL/CUL-rated	100-240 VAC 50/60HZ 1.5 A input 15 VDC 4A output CE/UL/CUL-rated

Making a sound comparison.

Qt PRO™ and Confidante are direct-field sound masking systems that are more efficient and effective than the older, traditional in-plenum systems. The following diagrams highlight the differences in a hypothetical workspace.

The Direct-Field Difference

Qt PRO™ and Confidante uniformly disperse a pre-tuned sound masking signal directly into the workspace. **The result is a consistent sound throughout the space that is easily achievable** without the complex tuning required by competitive indirect systems.

- ○ Miniature emitters
- ● Optimal sound masking level
- ● Lower sound masking level

Why In-Plenum Systems Fall Short

In comparison, competing plenum-based (indirect) sound masking systems use speakers above the ceiling to project sound upwards. Obstructions in the plenum (above the ceiling), like beams and HVAC components, affect how and where the sound filters back into the workspace. The result is an inconsistent and unpredictable sound field that requires tedious tuning to achieve even coverage.

- ■ In-Plenum loudspeaker
- ● Optimal sound masking level
- ● Lower sound masking level
- ● Louder volume for same masking
- ● Lowest sound masking level

People. Planet. Profit.

Steelcase aspires to create enduring value for people, planet and global economies by fully leveraging all our assets, relationships and resources.

People

We think about the communities where we work, live and do business—which is nearly everywhere in the world. By aligning our goals for people with our planet and profit aspirations, we're building the foundation for gains that we hope will be far-reaching and enduring.

Planet

By rethinking our business systems and designing our products to avoid negative impacts on humans and the environment, we contribute to a sustainable future for the planet and its people. We commit to advance our practices through continuous learning and building partnerships with our customers, business partners and environmental thought leaders to optimize our performance and contribute to the science and practice of sustainability.

Profit

First and foremost, we aim to bring value by working together with our customers to create workplaces where their people love to work. It is also our responsibility to provide value to our shareholders so we can continue to reinvest in the business and generate new solutions to address customer business challenges.

Qt PRO™ and Confidante Environmental Features:
Both systems consume minimal amounts of power. Qt PRO™ uses less than 8 watts per zone or 40 watts per control module. Confidante uses less than 8 watts per control module and is GreenSpec Listed.

As part of our commitment to sustainability, this brochure was created using an on-demand printing process, enabling us to digitally print materials only when necessary.

For high resolution images of these products and more, contact our local workplace consultant or dealer representative.
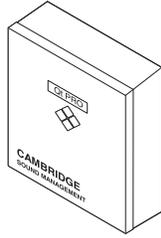
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CONTROL MODULES

Qt PRO™ 900
Length: 12", width: 14", depth: 4"
Weight: 6 lbs.
Three Zone Control Module. Supports up to
1,080 emitters on three sound masking zones,
covering up to 108,000 square feet.

Qt PRO™ 1500
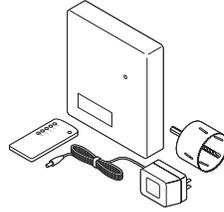Length: 12", width: 14", depth: 4"
Weight: 6 lbs.
Five Zone Control Module. Supports up to
1,800 emitters on five sound masking zones,
covering up to 180,000 square feet

Confidante 30P
Length: 8.25", width: 7.5", depth: 1.5"
Single zone control module supports up to
30 emitters, covering up to 3,000 square feet.
Controlled by infrared remote.

Confidante 300P
Length: 8.25", width: 7.5", depth: 1.5"
Single zone control module supports up to
300 emitters, covering up to 30,000 square feet.
Controlled by infrared remote.

EMITTERS

Width: 3.5", height: 2.5".
Emitters are used to project sound masking, paging and
music. Each emitter includes a 16' cable used to connect
to adjacent emitters; Four pack emitter and forty-eight
pack emitters are available.

MOUNTING COMPONENTS

Include external mounting bracket, external
mounting clamp and drywall mounting bracket.

CABLING AND COMPONENTS

Cables are plenum-rated with RJ-45 jacks on both
ends; available in 10', 25', 50', 75' and 100' lengths
Components include splitters and couplers.

Steelcase®

Whether you design them, manage them or work in them, we can help you create high performance, sustainable work environments. We study how work gets done and how great spaces can help. Those insights are embedded into every product and service we offer. Our interior architecture, furniture and technology solutions help organizations build their business, reflect their brand and support their culture.

We're unique from everyone else in our industry, in that we offer products and services founded in a research methodology that focuses on the user, and how they really work.

We are committed to maintaining our leadership role in terms of sustainable responsibility, and we are equally committed to the customers and designers that we work with. Our job is to make your job easier. **Our passion is helping you Love How You Work®**.

Global Dealer Network

With a network of over 800 experienced dealers, we can help you create high performance, sustainable workspaces, anywhere in the world. Our network offers you local expertise with global reach. Whether your project is across town, across the country, or across the ocean, our dealer network will coordinate the logistics so you don't have to. It's local expertise with a global reach.

Steelcase and Dealer Services

Our extensive range of services can help you through all of the phases that a high performance environment evolves through: Measure. Explore. Plan. Provide. Manage.

Measure—helping you know if your workplace is keeping pace.
Explore—helping you link your business goals with the best workplace strategy.
Plan—helping you find a solution that addresses your needs.
Provide—helping you every step of the way, from project management to move management.
Manage—helping you maintain an effective space for today and tomorrow.

Warranty

Steelcase and your Steelcase Dealer are totally committed to providing you a great experience and great products. We back that up with one of the industry's best warranties and problem resolution process that ensure that any problems that arise get addressed quickly.

Love how you work.

Steelcase®