### Saramonic® Sound.Remarkable.



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Saramonic WiTalk9 Special Edition 2025

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# PARTI BIG NEWS

# Saramonic Unveils WiTalk9 at IBC 2024 for Enhanced Team Talk Experience

Saramonic, a leading power in professional audio solutions, launched its next-gen wireless intercom headset system, the WiTalk9 Series, at IBC 2024. With ClearTalk™, hub-free design, remote intercom, and many more, this all-new wireless intercom headset system was nominated by CineD's Best-of-Show Awards at the event. The introduction of WiTalk9 provided teams of filmmaking, drone shows, live performance, and sports events a new option to elevate their team talk experience and teamwork efficiency.



#### **Highlight 1**

## ClearTalk™ Technology for Clear Comm

ClearTalk™ is Saramonic's trademarked technology that comprises a three-mic array and a noise cancellation algorithm. It reduces ambient noise at 360° and enhances voice pickup in noisy environments, so production teams can get their messages across clearly even in loud contexts.



#### **Dual Antennas for Enhanced Range**

Engineered with an internal and external antenna, WiTalk9 covers up to 500 meters in transmission, giving teams an incredible range. DECT-based, the headsets transmit signals on a less crowded frequency band with 128-bit encryption, so team talks are less likely to be interfered with, even in an RF-cluttered environment.



## **Expandable with No Hub Design**

The WiTalk9 supports up to 9 users' full-duplex communication without a hub, which is a great leap from its previous generation. With wired cascading, up to 4 systems can be connected to support as many as 30 users at once. This allows a large team to scale up their intercom effort without investing in a hub.



Guests at the launch event.

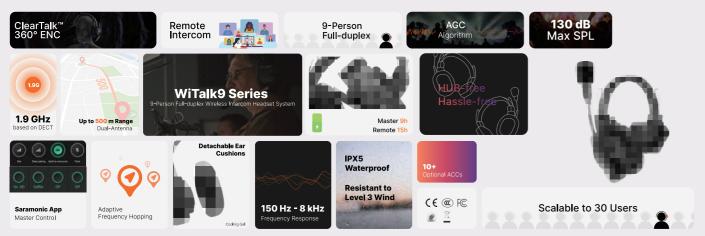


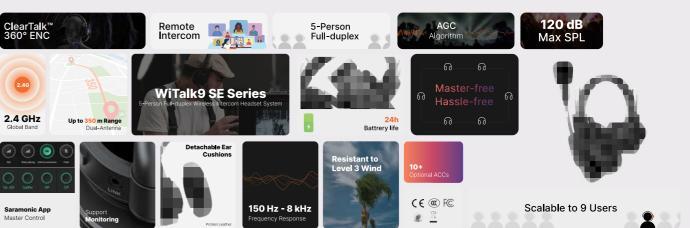
## Other Essential Features

Push to Talk (PTT), selectable side tone, IPX5, Bluetooth connectivity, app control, 2 alternative ear cushions, 2 modes of noise cancellation, and much more — these essential features are also built into the lightweight headsets, so users of the first generation of WiTalk and intercom systems of other brands can get started with a short learning curve.









# PARTII Why WiTalk 9?

# Industrial Trends and Pain Points

The overall market size of wireless intercom systems is valued at 7.71 billion in 2024, up from 7.29 billion in 2023 at a compound annual rate of 5.7%. The niche is expected to grow to 10.11 billion in 2028 with a 7% CAGR<sup>1</sup>.

The growing professional content creation economy and advancements in technology are two of the key drivers behind the growth.

As of mid-2022, the global film production and distribution industry comprised over 57,000 businesses employing nearly 389,000 individuals<sup>2</sup>. In the United States alone, there were 39,405 movie and video production businesses in 2023, which saw a 1.7% increase from 2022<sup>3</sup>.

Over the years, advancements in connectivity and miniaturization have allowed tech companies to integrate technologies like DECT to provide long-range, low-latency communication, enhancing reliability in complex environments. The rise of Al-powered noise cancellation and adaptive sound optimization has addressed the demand for clearer audio in noisy conditions. Additionally, the industry has shifted toward compact, lightweight designs with extended battery life, catering to diverse use cases, from live events to film production.

#### Top 6 Intercom Challenges Faced by Pros



#### Challenge 1

#### **Range and Connectivity**

- · Limited range: Insufficient range for covering large production areas, especially in outdoor or multilocation setups.
- · Signal interference: Urban environments or areas with heavy RF traffic can disrupt communication, leading to dropped signals or poor audio quality.

#### **Challenge 2**

#### **Audio Quality & Latency**

- Noise interference: On-site productions often involve noisy environments, such as construction sites, busy streets, or loud filming locations, making clear communication difficult.
- · Low volume: Low volumes found in some of the wireless intercom headset systems make it hard for users to hear messages, especially in places with a high sound pressure level.
- $\cdot$  Latency issues: Delayed communication can hinder real-time coordination, particularly for drone teams and live productions.

#### **Challenge 3**

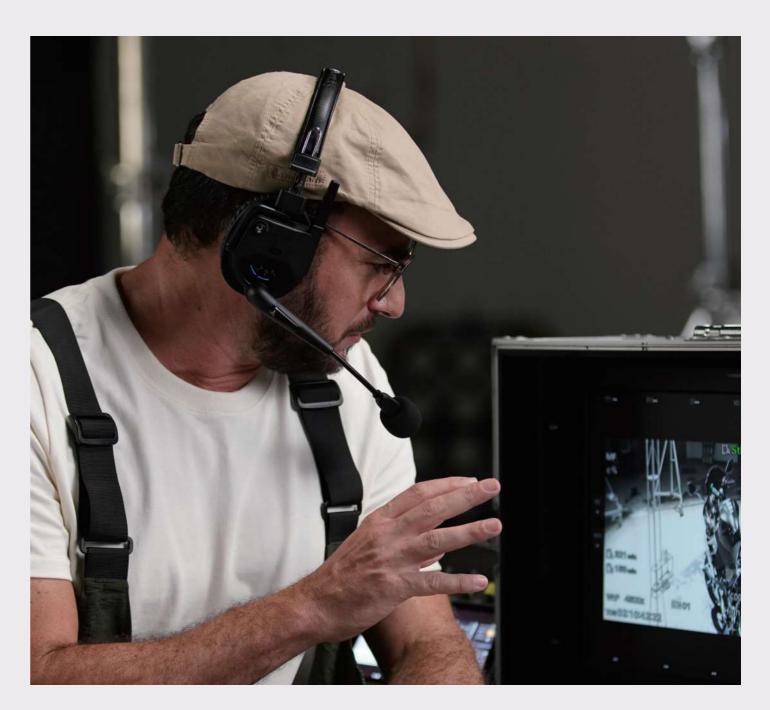
#### **Ease of Use and Portability**

· Complex setups: Traditional intercom systems often require extensive setup with cables, base stations, or complex configurations, which can slow down production. · Portability: Smaller teams need lightweight, easy-to-carry systems, especially when shooting in remote locations or moving frequently between sites.

#### **Challenge 4**

#### **Scalability**

· Limited capacity: Some intercom systems cannot handle scaling up when more team members need to be added, making them unsuitable for dynamic teams.



#### Challenge 5

#### **Power and Battery Life**

- · Insufficient battery life: Continuous operation during long shoots, live streams, or drone flights can deplete batteries, especially for wireless systems.
- · Inconsistent charging solutions: Not all systems support universal or fast charging, leading to downtime.

#### **Challenge 6**

#### **Cost Constraints**

- · High initial investment: Many professional intercom systems are priced beyond the budget of small-to-medium production teams.
- · Maintenance costs: Repairs, updates, or accessory replacements add to operational costs.

<sup>1</sup>Data sourced from the Business Resource Company in December 2024. <sup>2</sup>Data sourced from Statista. <sup>3</sup>Data sourced from IBS.

#### Why WiTalk9?

# Saramonic Insights

We Tackled Challenges and More

Looking back at the 14 months it took us to develop WiTalk9, we were brutally honest with the market trends and customer feedback. So our goal was to build a solution on the foundation of the first generation of WiTalk and tackle the 6 challenges as effectively as we could — extending the transmission range, strengthening the signal, improving communication clarity, increasing volume, simplifying operation, enhancing scalability, boosting battery life, reducing weight, and making it more budget-friendly.

Now, with the WiTalk9, we've made a significant leap forward from the previous generation.

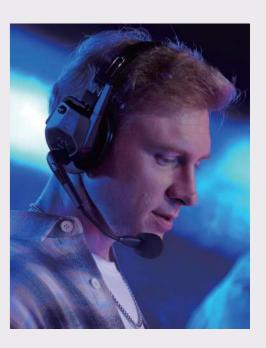
The line-of-sight transmission range has increased to 500 meters, up from 400 meters. Signals are now stronger and more resistant to interference, thanks to DECT technology and dual antennas.

Communication is clearer with our proprietary ClearTalk™ technology, which cancels noise at 360°. Volume is 1.5 times that of the WiTalk5, ensuring users no longer strain to hear.

Operation has been simplified with large, intuitive icons displayed on the Saramonic app. Scalability has been improved, allowing up to 30 users to connect without the need for a hub.

Battery life is now four hours longer than the 1st-gen of WiTalk, thanks to a more efficient chip. The headset weighs 228g now, 122 grams down from last generation. Additionally, wear-resistant ear cushions make this solution even more cost-effective in the long term.





### Taking a Step Further

At Saramonic, we see it as our responsibility to think ahead and lead users to places they have not been. So we innovated WiTalk9 with the Link Port, a portal that connects 2 independent systems with a cascading cable, allowing users to scale up their intercom efforts without investing in a hub. For cross-region team talks, we engineered Remote Intercom, a function that enables connectivity via the Link Port or Bluetooth, so users can talk to teams from different regions through meeting platforms.

## Advancing with Pros

At Saramonic, we actively listen to what people have to say — either it's feedbacks from our after-sales support, online comments, or professionals we meet at film sets or exhibitions. We care about the wants of users and think about what we can do to elevate their experience and the industry as a whole.

# Rising Influence

25+ industrial applications36+ countries & regions10,000+ users worldwide

#### Media Spotlight

With wired cascading, it's possible to connect four systems to support as many as 30 users at once.

— Mark Sparrow from Forbes

I simulated situations like a noisy dance floor or shooting near a busy road and had no problems hearing or being heard.

— Alex Coleman from Fstoppers

They are comfortable to wear, and they work over large distances.

- Matthew Allard ACS from Newsshooter

The system incorporates various current technologies to create the clearest internal transmission.

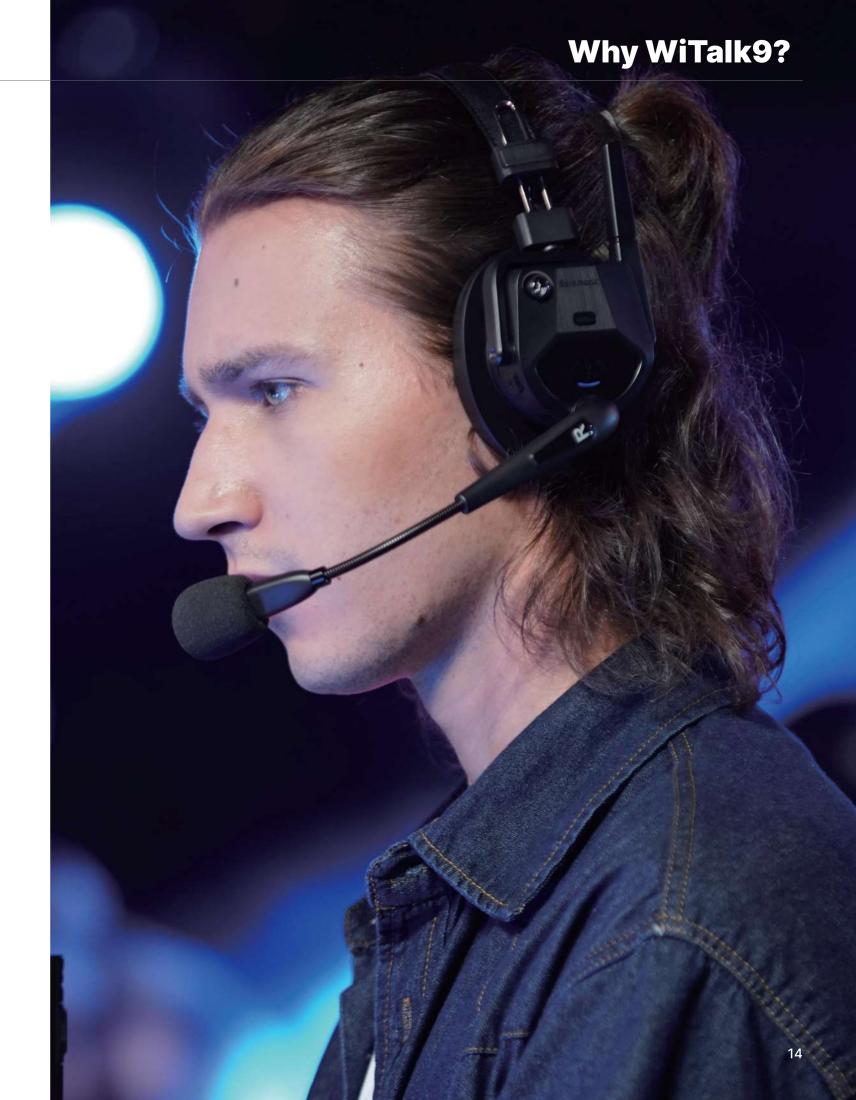
— Omri Keren Lapidot from CineD

Everyone on the crew could hear instructions clearly, even as the music blared through the venue's speakers.

— Otto Beck from Hayot Films

It has the same range and offers 2-9 people sets, giving small crews full-duplex communication between them. And it does it without a hub.

— John Aldred from DIY Photography



#### Why WiTalk9?



The WiTalk9 system has a number of key advantages that set it apart from its major competitor: a wider range, IPX5 water resistance, it does not require a hub to expand or connect to meeting apps or phone calls, and the system can go up to 9 people before expanding.

— Saramonic US Partner

Due to the affordable price and excellent performance of Saramonic WiTalk series, we have a lot of customers who continue to choose Saramonic throughout the years. Similar to the previous version of WiTalk, WiTalk9 9S and 8S are the most marketable ones according to our sales data.

- Saramonic Phillipine Partner

The development is growing at a nice pace for the Chilean market. We are receiving inquiries from heavy industries (such as mining and recycle companies) & music live shows, and rental companies.

Saramonic Chilean Partner

The signal is more stable compared to our competing products. Those models can have signal dropout in big shows, but WiTalk9 don't have issue. WiTalk9's ear cushion is easy to clean and comfortable. Clear sound even in noisy environments.

Saramonic Malaysian Partner

Overall, the response from dealers, rentals, and end users is very positive, but also from all feedback that we get range, no hub usage, noise cancelling, waterproof and app control features are the ones that got people's attention.

Saramonic Indonesian Partner

#### Pro Users

Using this system is really going to speed up your workflow, enhance your communication and make your shoot a better experience for all.

— Crimson Engine, Filmmaker

Over the last few weeks, we've never had any breakup. We've never had the system fall off the network at all.

 John E Fry, Award-winning Director of Photography

The Saramonic WiTalk9 is an ambitious piece of technology with substantial sound quality, ENC and stable signal, but also advanced build quality and comfort without being too heavy.

— Fenchel & Janisch, Filmmaker

Saramonic's WiTalk9 made communicating with camera operators on different boats possible for me

— Sebastiaan Hofman, Videographer and YouTuber

I think the noise reduction is probably the best I've ever used. Weddings are super loud, and the fact that your voice still transfers very clearly to the other headsets is a miracle!

Mohammad Rezaie Jafarabady,
 Cinematographer and Director of Photography

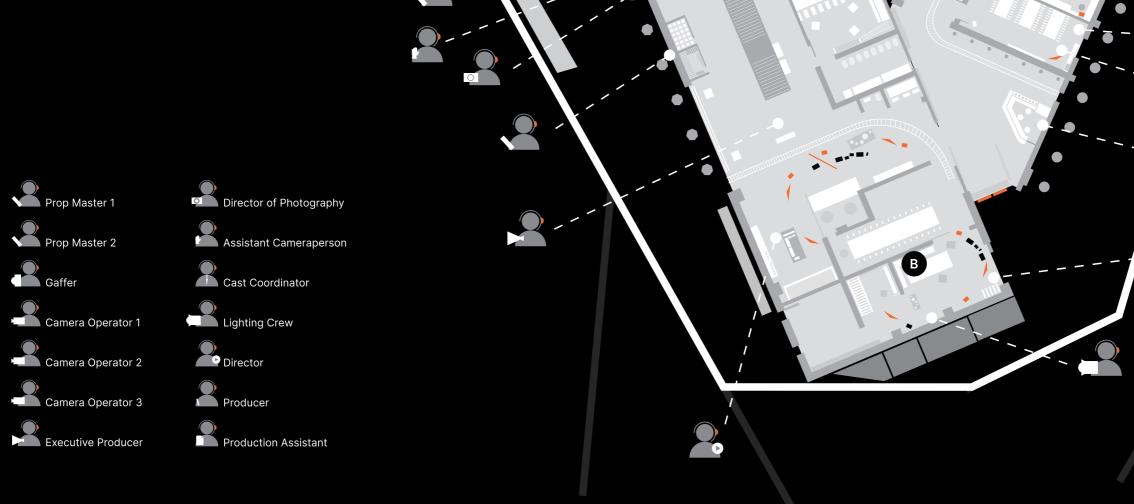
# Saramonic's Focus

# Industrial Solutions

WiTalk9 was designed for optimized team talk experience across industries, be it filmmaking, live performance, drone show coordination, sports events, and many more.

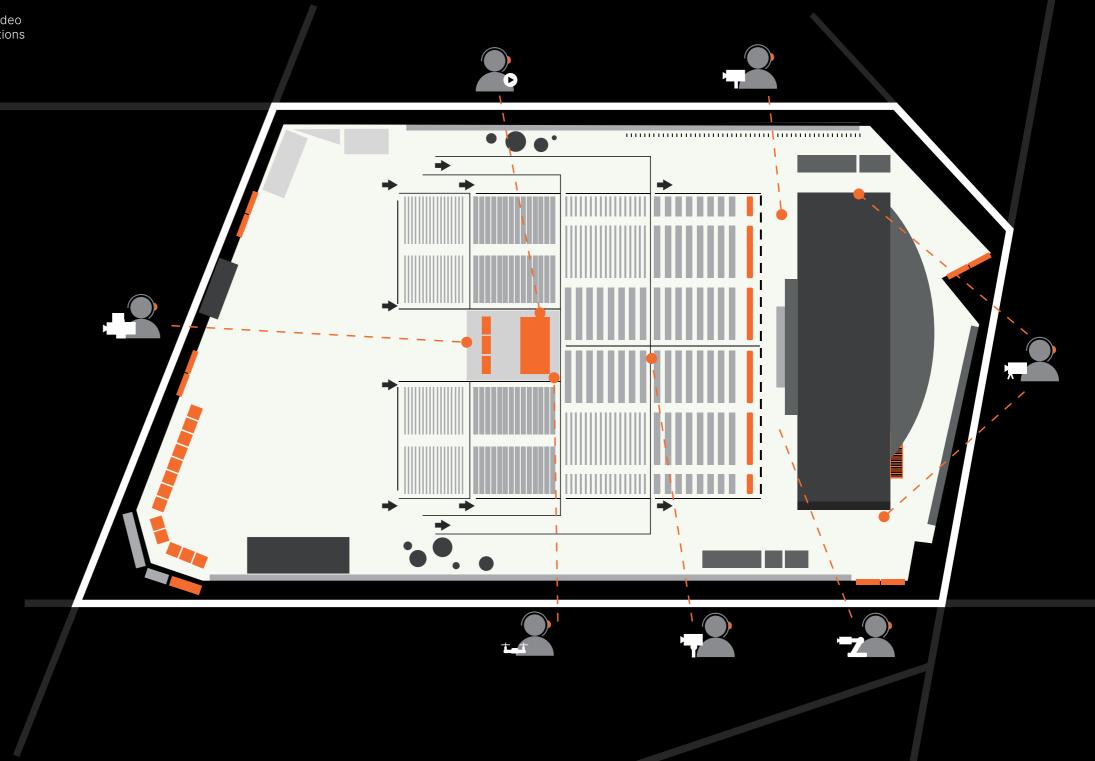
#### **Filmmaking**

On set, the production team can seamlessly communicate with the camera operators and lighting crew to coordinate shots and capture perfect takes in real-time.



# Live Performance

During a live performance, the stage director can instantly relay cues to video board operators and different camera positions, ensuring seamless transitions between camera feeds and capturing every angle of the performance.



Stage Director

Drone Camera Position

Wide-Angle Camera Position

Mid-Range Camera Position

(Master Headset Location)

Fixed Camera Position

Mobile Field Camera Position

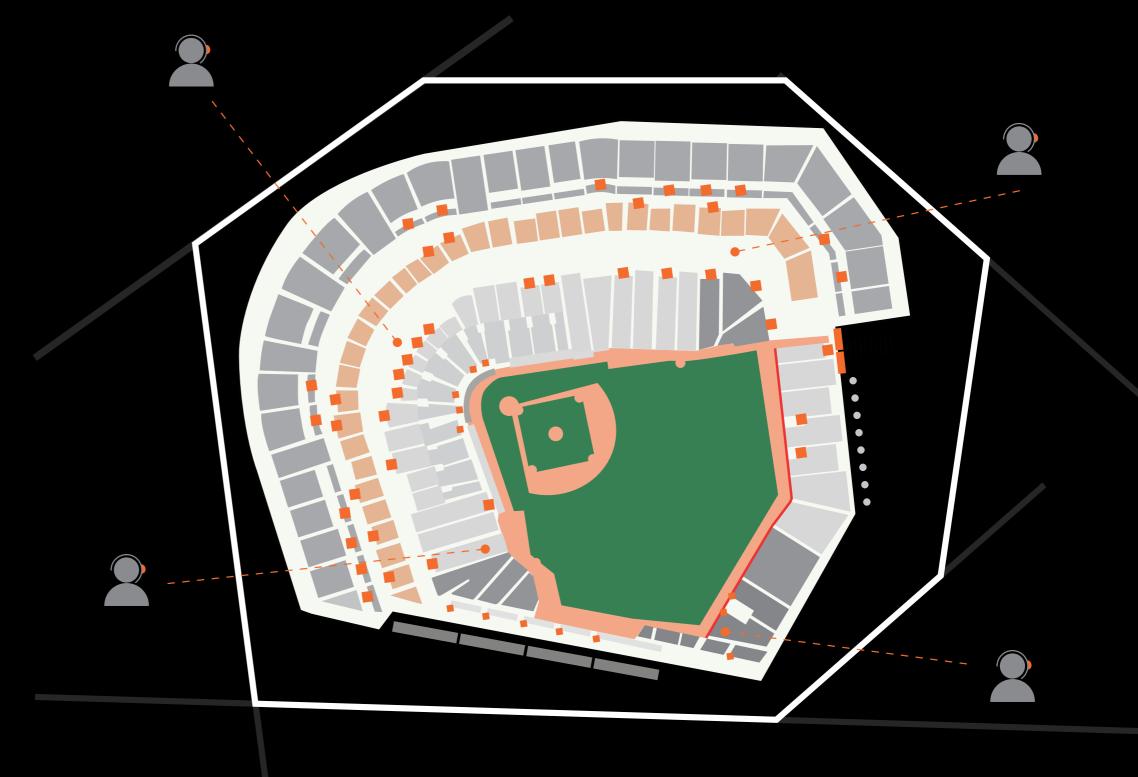
Jib Camera Position

Technical Support Personnel

**Drone Show** During a drone light show, the director can communicate with the drone operators to adjust formations, while coordinating with the ground crew to ensure that live broadcast footage is perfectly synchronized, creating a stunning visual spectacle. Technical Director Professional Drone Operator Site Setup Crew Ground Fixed Camera Position Ground Fixed Jib Camera Position

### **Sports Event**

At a major sports event, the event manager can seamlessly communicate with coaches and referees, ensuring efficient coordination and quick decision-making to optimize athlete performance and safety during high-pressure moments.



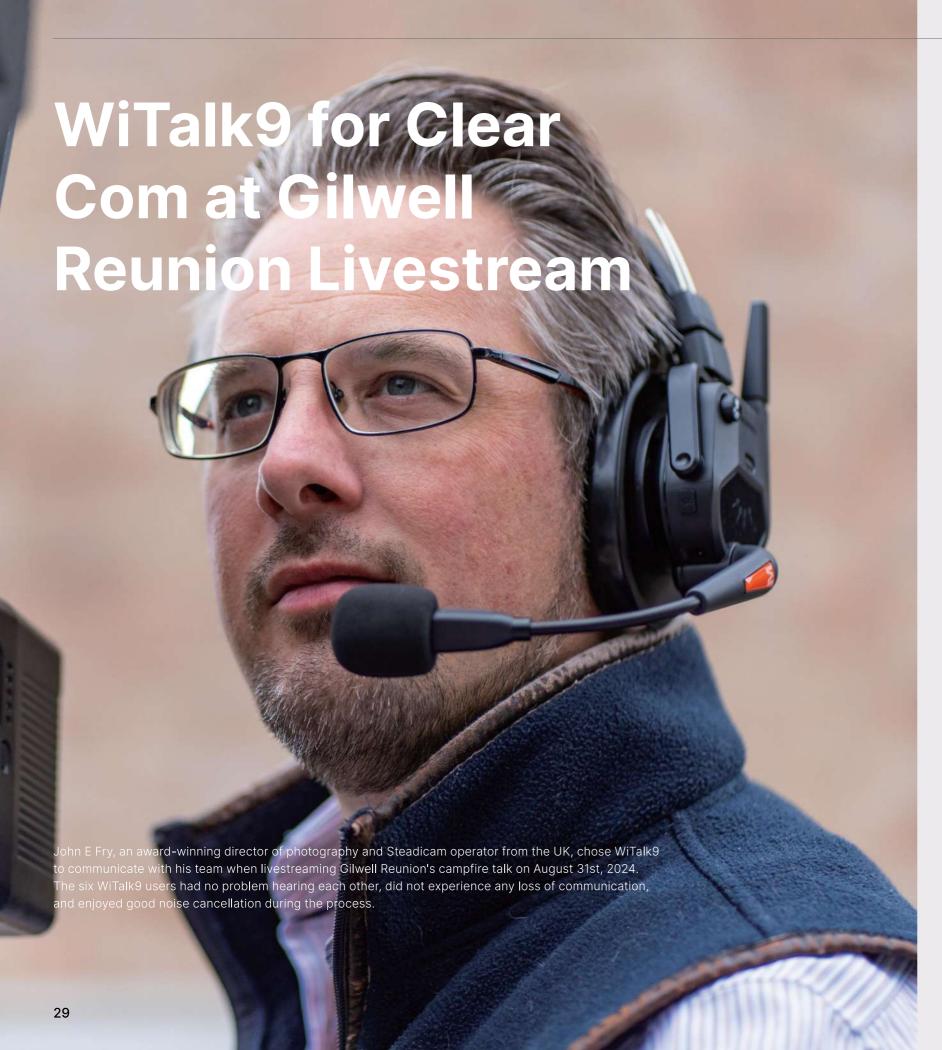
4 sets via cascading connect staff throughout the stadium

# Global Cases

This section is dedicated to the filmmakers, cinematographers, photographers, and creators who generously shared their experiences with us.

We deeply value their professionalism, transparency, and dedication.

#### Saramonic's Focus



#### **About Gilwell Reunion**

Gilwell Reunion is an annual event that took place from August 30 to September 1 this year, and gathers Scouters from across the world to London's Gilwell Park for a mix of workshops, talks, adventurous activities, and social opportunities. Scouters can be adult participants, helpers, leaders and mentors who oversee Scouting activities for young people who join The Scout Movement for personal development, outdoor skills gaining, and community services. There are now over 50 million Scouts around the globe, and 2024 marks this Reunion's 98th edition.





#### **The Challenges**

"Thousands of volunteers attend every year, and many more participate online and watch our livestream of the campfire on Saturday evening," introduces John.

To live broadcast the campfire talk of that evening to online viewers, clear communication within the crew is key. As John shares his version of concerns.

"The top three concerns are always cameras missing what the director is saying, which can result in them adjusting their camera while live, doing the same shot as someone else, or not knowing when they are live. Camera operators also need to communicate back to me with any ideas they have for shots, or issues with their camera. We also need to know when the presenters or campfire leaders are changing so we have a camera ready for them."

## "We had no problem hearing each other"

To keep every user on the same page, WiTalk9 is DECT-based, so it transmits signals on a less crowded frequency band, reducing chances of interference from the likes of Wi-Fi and Bluetooth. The full-duplex system is also engineered with two antennas — an external and an internal, consolidating its 500 meter line-of-sight transmission range and contributing to the no-any-loss-of-communication experience during the live stream.

"We had no problem hearing each other even with camera operators in the middle of the crowd. Several hundred people were between us, and not once did we experience any loss of communication. The volume is good and the noise cancelling is excellent," comments John on WiTalk9's performance.

Also contributing to the clear messaging among the 6 crew members is ClearTalk™, a proprietary technology by Saramonic that features a three-microphone array and a noise cancellation algorithm that effectively filter out background noise and keeps human voice front and center.





The crew responsible for livestreaming Gilwell Reunion wearing WiTalk9.

# WiTalk9 Enhances Com at Escape Halloween

Jef Callen, a versatile artist who's steeped in video jockey, videography, art directing, and many more, chose WiTalk9 to coordinate VJ efforts with three other team members for Escape Halloween on October 25th and 26th, 2024. Noise cancellation and the easy up-and-down mic boom movement are his two major impressions of the full-duplex wireless intercom system.

#### "Great noise cancellation"

Debuting in 2011, Escape Halloween is an annual event that takes place in California on the weekend prior to Halloween. As southern California's biggest Halloween fest, approximately 125,000 people showed up at the event on Oct. 25 and 26.

"My tent fits about 30,000 people in one go," says Jef. "Background noise is definitely an issue. We had a lot of hardstyle and heavy bass. The noise reduction (cancellation) worked pretty well."

WiTalk9 features a three-microphone array and a noise cancellation algorithm — two microphones on the two sides of the headset for collecting ambient sounds and one in the boom arm for capturing human voice. With the help of the algorithm, the ambient noise gets canceled and human voice transmitted.

On top of the noise cancellation, weak and strong modes are available for users to choose from, the former of which is activated by default when the system is turned on.



The tent Jef is responsible for.





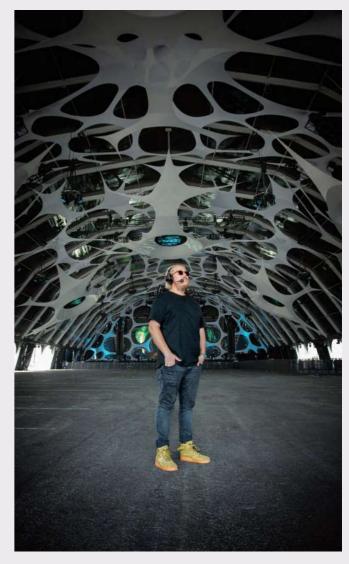
The tent Jef and his team were VJing for at Escape
Halloween

# "Mic's up and down movement works like a charm"

"It is often a problem when too many people forget to mute their mics — so there is a lot of background noise because the mics don't pick up their voice but the noise of the music or the background," says Jef about another pain point he used to experience.

WiTalk9 offers three methods of muting oneself — by engaging the dedicated button at the underside of the headset, tapping the mute icon on the Saramonic app, or simply pulling up the boom arm — the last one of which is more intuitive and more often used.

"The mic's up and down movement works like a charm — my team was pretty happy with that feature. Quick and easy," comments Jef.



Jef at the venue of Escape Halloween.

#### Saramonic's Focus

# WiTalk9 for No-Clipping Com at China's National Stadium

The 11th Longines Beijing Masters drew to a close on October 13th, 2024 at China's National Stadium. Tasked with videographing the competitions, CatalkStudios, an 8-person team from China, chose WiTalk9 for their intercom efforts during the 4-day event. Reliable transmission, long battery life, and comfortable wearing experience impressed the team the most.

#### **No Clippings or Drops**

"Looking back, we found ourselves facing challenges for sure. If we had to name one that stood out in our mind, that would be responding to last-minute changes or requests from the organizer," says Jiang, the director of CatalkStudios. "They often came up with short video ideas on the spot when a special guest or celebrity showed up. Then we had to re-distrib ute our cameramen immediately to get that shot. We used to do this with walkie-talkies. The awkward thing about them is that they operate on public channels, so interference occurred from time to time — people from other teams heard our conversations and we theirs. The whole conversation could become very confusing. In critical moments when immediate

action is required, you don't want that to happen."
To reduce interference, Catalkstudio had also been using rented intercom headsets. But they had some second thoughts because they feared their signal stability in the National Stadium would suffer — The Bird's Nest is a steel structure built with a total of 42,000 tons of steel, the property of which is likely to cause signal attenuation and reduced range.

"We didn't experience clippings or drops with WiTalk9 when we were shooting. We are satisfied with the range as it got us covered within the stadium," says Jiang about the enhanced signal strength, which is made possible with the dual antennas built in the headsets.

#### **Long Battery Life**

The battery life of a gear can sometimes make or break a shoot, or according to Jiang, "become a source of anxiety."

"There is also this second reason why we didn't rent a comm system this time. It's that those for-rent headsets have been in use for quite a long time and their battery health is in poor condition. Whenever we are in the middle of a shoot, the last thing you want to do is stop to swap batteries — you don't have opportunities for retaking moments in a live event. When they are gone, they are gone."

The Catalkstudios team shot around 10 hours a day. Though they were not communicating over the system the entire time, they didn't stop to swap batteries mid-shoot. "We are very satisfied with the battery life," comments Jiang.

Every headset of WiTalk9 is supplied with 2 batteries, each of which provides 9 hours of runtime for the master and 15 hours for the remote, giving teams ample uptime.

"If there is ever a chance we can contribute to the betterment of the system, we think it would be a great idea to add a battery indicator to the headset, so we can know how many more hours it can sustain."



At backstage

#### **Comfortable Wearing**

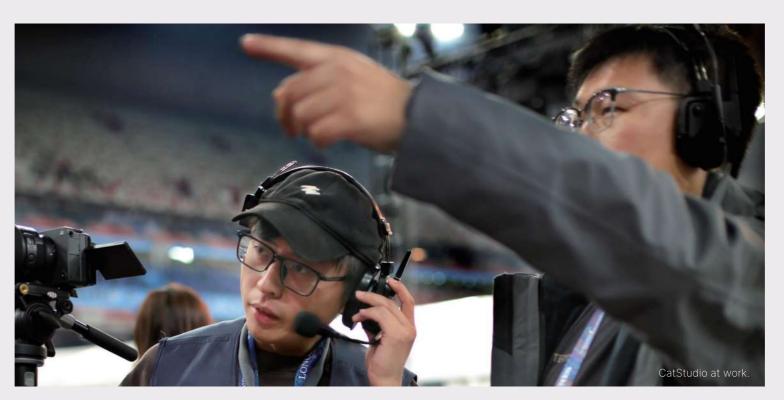
Situated in the northern part of China, Beijing is among the first cities to enter the fall season in the country. Early October is the intersection of summer and fall when the temperature in the day can go up as high as 20°C and drop as low as 8°C in the night.

"We are happy with the fact that the headsets are equipped with replaceable ear cushions — The foam cover was great for the day because it was efficient in dissipating the heat around our heads, while the over-the-ears worked wonder at night as it acted as a shield against the cold wind," says the director.

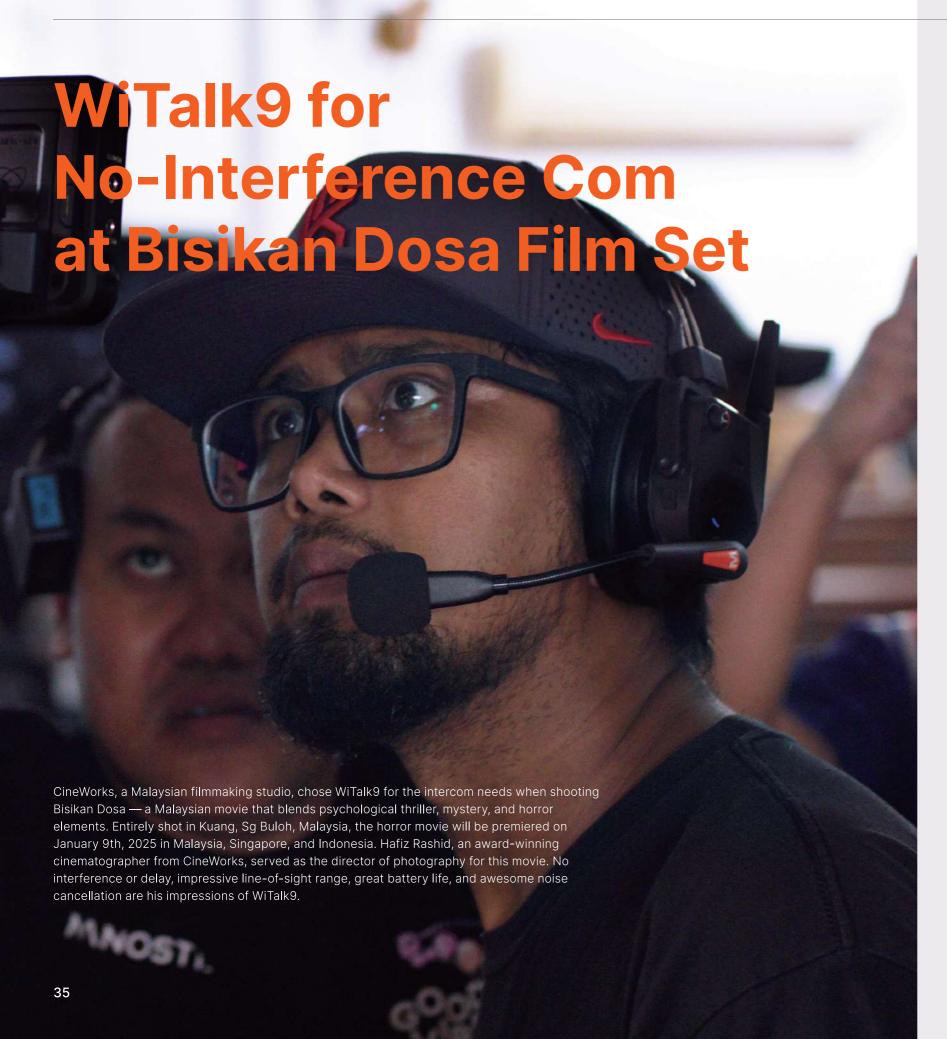


The competition ground viewed from the upper deck of the stadium.





#### Saramonic's Focus



## No Interference or Delay

"We shot in a huge bungalow in Kuang, so during the setup, my camera team and lighting team were scattered around the huge place in and out of the building," says Hafiz about the challenge this time.

"So it helps when there is no interference or delay, especially on such a big set."

With the frequent use of the crane setup, the cues between crews need to be synchronized as well. "With WiTalk9, I can give precise cues to my crane operator. And the director can also listen to the live dialogue while giving cues to me and other crews."

DECT-based, WiTalk9 operates on a less crowded frequency band compared to the 2.4 GHz that we find in Wi-Fi and other everyday digital devices. With the internal and external antennas, the signal strength is only consolidated and strengthened.

When comparing WiTalk9 to walkie-talkies that he used to use, Hafiz thinks the shooting set "is now more peaceful. No more people shouting at the walkie-talkie. And no more line crossing between signals. And the best part, I guess, is no interference with wireless video transmission."

## **Impressive Line-of-Sight Range**

It's also thanks to the consolidated signal strength that crews can take the 500 m line-of-sight range even further when a master unit is positioned between two remotes that are moving away from each other. In one of the many scenes, Hafiz and the team registered a 900-meter range.

"We were shooting a car scene with a drone. I was wearing the master unit and the driver remote. With the system, I could instruct and give him cues regarding speed and movement. When I looked at the distance on the drone monitor, it said almost 1 km and the signal was still strong. It started breaking only when going beyond 1 km."



#### **Noise Cancellation**

WiTalk9 features weak and strong levels of noise cancellation, which can be switched by engaging the dedicated button on the microphone boom arm.

Satisfied with this feature, Hafiz says, "Intercoms of other brands that have no noise cancellation capture the ambient sounds as well, which make communication hectic when we enter a big location with a big crowd. Sometimes we miss cues because of the loudness. I would be very annoyed with that. With WiTalk9's noise cancellation, it is not an issue anymore."

#### **Great Battery Life**

Also a user of the first generation of WiTalk and intercom headsets of other brands, Hafiz was impressed by the long battery life of this new system.

"I own the 1st-gen WiTalk as well. The last time I was using it, we changed the battery 3 times a day for the master headset. This issue is the same with other brands. But with WiTalk9, we only change the battery when the shoot almost comes to an end. So for me, it's really impressive, because when we are filming, there are a ton of batteries we need to take care of, i.e. cameras, drones, lights, monitors, etc. So it helps to reduce our burden with charging."

WiTalk9 offers 9 hours of battery life for the master headset and 15 for each remote, allowing filmmaking teams to proceed with their work with less downtime and focus on what matters the most — the making of the film.









Hafiz Rashid, on the right, and his crew wearing WiTalk9 for their intercom efforts when shooting Bisikan Dosa.

Bisikan Dosa crew during the shoot.

# WiTalk9 for "Game-Changing" Performance at Joyland Fest

Oneglove, Imam, Axel, and the rest of their 10-person team chose WiTalk9 to seamlessly and wirelessly communicate during Joyland Fest, a music festival that took place from Nov. 22 to 24 in Jakarta, Indonesia. Responsible for capturing aerial footage for broadcasting and post edits, the team had to get their messages across the whole stadium and over the excited crowd. Great range and impressive noise cancellation are their major impressions of the wireless intercom headset system.

#### **Great Range**

This year, the 3-day music event took place in Jakarta's GBK stadium, one of the largest stadiums in South East Asia that is capable of hosting 88,000 spectators.

For this event, the organizer set up two stages on one side of the stadium and the control room on the opposite. The drone team and the camera crew operate in between.

"Yesterday, we flew drones from the base. And there were four cameramen in front of the stage coordinating with us. We get instructions very clearly from the control room, where Pidi, the program director, can see all the video inputs from us and decide which one goes onto the big screen," says Imam in a YouTube video, recapping the whole event.

Our communication needs to be in real-time and everyone on the same page," adds Oneglove. "Drones must be on standby anytime. If the communication is bad, and our drone footage projected on the screen is ugly, we will be ashamed."

Featuring a low latency of ≤ 83 ms, WiTalk9 makes real-time communication a possibility. To consolidate transmission across long ranges, WiTalk9's transmission is DECT-based, meaning all signals travel on a less crowded frequency band, so team talks are less likely to be influenced by 2.4 GHz-based signals such as Wi-Fi and Bluetooth.

"The range is really great. Approximately 400 meters per our test. We went from the backstage to the front and then to the end of the event venue. We remained connected from start to finish," says Axel.



The drone team: Oneglove; Imam.



The drone team: Axel.

#### **Great Noise Cancellation**

With cameramen shooting off the stage in the front, the loud music and excited fans pose another challenge for the broadcasting crew — getting their voices across, not the noise.

"I am more into noise cancellation," says Axel when talking about his impression of WiTalk9.

"I really like the audio quality, as we know in a music event, the environment is definitely very loud. WiTalk9 helped us communicate over the loud music," continues Axel

"Yesterday, we went from the left side of the stage to the right. For some moments, we were in front of the speaker. We used the strong noise cancellation mode. And it really reduced the noise. Our communication became more fluent." adds Oneglove.

With ClearTalk™, Saramonic's proprietary technology, WiTalk9 is engineered to cancel noise at 360° and keep human voice front and

center, so users can get their messages across clearly.

On top of noise cancellation, weak and strong modes are optional for users to engage depending on their preference. The weak mode is activated by default when the system is turned on and strong for occasions where the ambient noise is overwhelming.

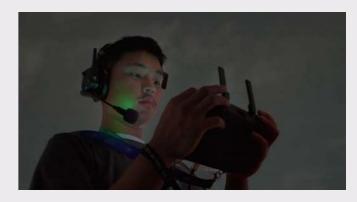




Imam, Oneglove, and Axel recapping their WiTalk9 exprience.



The drone team at Joyland Fest 2024.



Axel operating a drone during Joyland Fest 2024.

#### Saramonic's Focus

"I think the best punch line for the system will be that most of the crew asked when we will have more intercoms," says Kuba when asked about his team's reaction toward the WiTalk9 intercom headset system.

Kuba Obuch, a filmmaker at the Warsaw-based Verus Studio and Paradox Media, has been creating content for Red Bull, Harley-Davidson, KFC, and many other international brands with his team since 2014. For the last couple of months, they have been using WiTalk9 for the filming of Red Bull Rap & Mat, their daily studio work, and an excursion to Albania.

## **Quieter Team Talk During Livestream**

For the last 2 years, Verus Studio has been producing the Red Bull Rap & Mat. This show combines the dynamic worlds of freestyle rap and competitive sports. Participants face off in a unique format where rappers showcase their lyrical skills while engaging in various athletic challenges.

"On the set of the Red Bull show, we work with 14 cameras, from which the director and director of photography have a preview. When we go live, it is very useful that the headset amplifies our voices - so you can speak more quietly and not create noise," says Kuba.

WiTalk9 is engineered with an AGC algorithm, a.k.a. Automatic Gain Control. It increases or lowers microphone gain (volume) automatically depending on the speaker's volume, ensuring a consistent audio level and intelligibility during the team talk. Since the crew doesn't have to manually turn knobs or press buttons to adjust the gain level in the middle of the live stream, they can focus on the production 100%, delivering a smooth viewing experience for the audience.



Kuba and his team navigating their cars through rugged mountains using WiTalk9.

WiTalk9 Boosts

Filmmaking Efficiency

and Safety on Road

#### **Accelerated Response**

"The intercom definitely accelerated the response to situations on the set and made communication with the client during the program smooth, even though the crew was distributed in several rooms. Recently on the set of a large music video, where most of the lights were positioned outside the building. Thanks to the efficient communication, everything went much faster. Also, the information between the operator and the focus puller was more precise. I think the best punch line for this system will be that most of the crew asked when we will have more intercoms," says Kuba.

The fact that the Verus team can communicate across rooms and walls exemplifies WiTalk9's strong signal and stability. The DECT-based system transmits team talks on a less crowded band, resulting in lower interference from devices such as Bluetooth devices, Wi-Fi routers, and microwaves. And thanks to its better range and stronger penetration, the system is suitable for large venues and complex environments.

#### **Comfortable Navigation**

3 cars and 6 people. Across "cursed mountains". Away from civilization. No room for mistakes.

Combined, these phrases paint a picture that you can hardly associate an intercom system with. However, the Verus team got creative and used WiTalk9 on their recent trip to Albania.

"Intercoms are a completely different comfort of navigation. Constant communication without the need to press buttons allows you to react quickly when you need to avoid a protruding stone or prevent the cars from falling into an abyss, which are quite a few in the mountains," shares Kuba.

On the trip, Kuba and drivers outfitted themselves with a WiTalk9 headset. With Kuba out there providing instructions and drivers carefully navigating the rugged terrain, they made their way through the unfriendly mountains safe and sound.

WiTalk9 inherits popular traits of its previous generation and the industry: push to talk, pull up to mute and pull down to talk, volume knob, mute button, and many more. The minimum and single-hand operation makes the system easy and intuitive to use. With WiTalk9, the design team upgraded protein leather to cooling gel as the cushion material, lending the system a better wearing experience and enhanced sweatproof capability.







Verus Studio at the backstage of Rap & Mat.

#### Saramonic's Focus



One of the cameramen capturing an artist's on-stage moments.

Com at Poland's New

**Year's Eve Party** 

2,500 party goers, 3 stages, and 20 artists from Poland and abroad. These 3 numbers sum up the Festivaland by The M, a New Year's Eve party that took place on the last day of 2024 in Poland. Piotr Tymosiak, head of video production for this project, chose WiTalk9 to coordinate his team across the large venue in real-time, make quick decisions, and locate cameramen in a fast fashion.

#### **The Challenges**

#### **Coordination Needed to be Real-time**

With 20 artists to shoot on and off the 3 stages, the 4 cameramen (including Piotr himself) had to be on the same page in real-time. "One operator was supposed to cover a specific stage, but without a communication system, we wouldn't have known that they had moved to a different location," says Piotr, giving us an example.

#### **Decision-making Needed to be Quick**

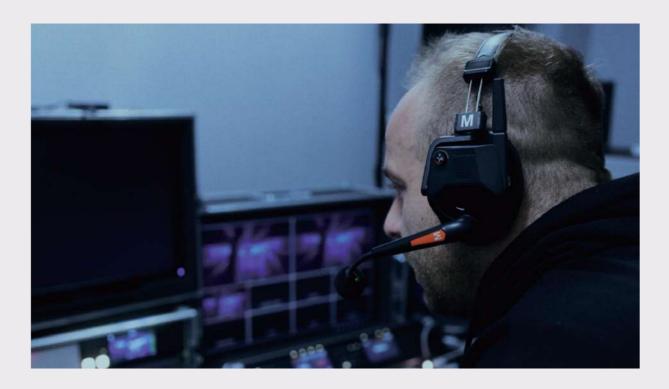
Things change fast at a live event, so teams have to adapt. Or according to Piotr, "You need to quickly communicate changes in the plan, adjust camera settings, or decide on specific shots."

#### **Locating Team Members Needed to be Easy**

With dim lights, loud music in the background, and 2,500 people jostling at the event, finding a specific cameraman would prove hectic, should he be urgently needed.

To tackle all the challenges above and beyond, Piotr used to turn to WhatsApp and walkie-talkies for help, but neither of them fully met the demands of team coordination — Internet issues might occur to WhatsApp at an event of such a

big scale, making it hard to get prompts or make calls; Walkie-talkies were great for immediate communication, but interference could be an issue. In addition, cameramen needed to operate hands-free. Holding a walkie-talkie in hand while operating the gimbal would prove difficult and distracting.



#### The WiTalk9 Experiences

#### **Real-time Coordination**

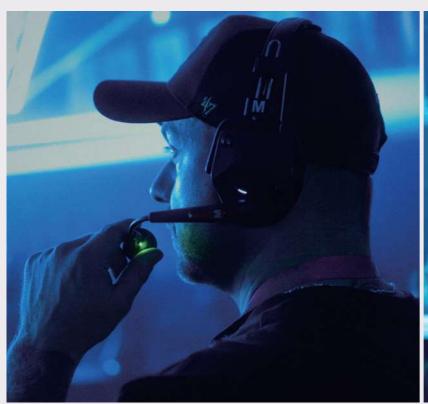
Built on DECT that features ≤83 ms latency and a less crowded frequency band, WiTalk9 was designed for team's real-time communication. "Before the event, the system was incredibly helpful for camera checks, tests, and team briefings. On the day of the event, it gave us consistent communication, helping us manage operators on each stage and coordinate with artists. The system made it easier to manage time efficiently and organize shots. For instance, one operator was focused on the DJ on stage, while another captured the same scene from within the crowd," shares Piotr.

#### **Quick Decision-making**

Also included in the team were an FPV drone operator and an on-site editor who coordinated to produce social media content for the artists. "During a live event, you need to quickly communicate changes in the plan, adjust camera settings, or decide on specific shots. WiTalk9 let us react immediately to artist needs and deliver materials to the on-site editor without delay," says Piotr the filmmaker.

#### **Easy Location of Team Members**

To move cameramen around the event venue as things change, the camera operators had to stay in the know where everyone was. So the ability to locate team members became crucial for the head of team. "With such a large event space, finding a specific operator in the crowd would have been nearly impossible without real-time communication. WiTalk9 allowed us to pinpoint where everyone was and manage tasks more effectively," says Piotr in a WhatsApp interview.







The FPV drone pilot operating his drone during the event.

# WiTalk9 for a Smooth Commercial Shoot in Nigeria The Challenges

Shooting commercials indoors was no easy feat as the team may have to deal with ambient noise, cross-room communication, and real-time cue-giving. With these challenges to tackle in a beer commercial shoot, Shedrack Salami, a Nigerian filmmaker/ cinematographer/editor/visual artist, chose WiTalk9 to streamline his on-set communication, contributing to the smooth shooting experience for a local beer brand.

#### Noisy Bar

Set in an an Irish bar in Lagos, the film set was a noisy place in its nature — it was filled with music, chatter, and ambient sounds. "Communicating effectively in such an environment is a huge challenge," says Shedrack, who was the director of photography for this project.

#### **Messaging Within A Spread-out Team**

The beer commercial was shot with the effort of an 8-person team, covering lighting, camera operation, production assistants, and the director. "With lighting, camera setups, and props spread out across the location, it's hard to coordinate everyone, especially when they're in different parts of the set."

#### **Timing Needs to Be Perfect**

Included in the commercial are scenes where beer needs to be poured from the container and people cheer and toast together at the right moment. Coordination between the camera crew and the rest of the departments means the make or break of the scenes

To tackle the challenges mentioned above, Shedrack's team used to rely on walkie-talkies and WhatsApp for coordinated teamwork. Though proved to be effective to some extent, there were less than ideal for team talks at a film set — WhatsApp needs to operate on a data subscription. In areas where the network is poor, communication suffers. Walkie-talkies provide instant communication but are prone to interferences, resulting in unclear message delivery.



Shedrack Salami in the middle of the commercial shoot.



The actors, actresses, and the film crew at the bar.

#### The WiTalk9 Experiences

#### "Clear audio and strong connection"

Out of the 8 people involved in the commercial shoot, 5 were using WiTalk9 — the director, DOP, assistant director, gaffer, and camera assistant. When talking about shooting the commercial in the noisy bar, Shedrack says: "WiTalk9's clear audio and strong connection, even in the noisy bar, made a big difference. It allowed us to stay focused, avoid delays, and deliver a polished commercial on time. It really helped us overcome all these challenges."

#### "Kept everything moving smoothly"

Spread out in and out of the bar are departments of the filmmaking crew. The production assistant, who was in the staging area outdoors, used WiTalk9 to let the rest of the team know when additional props and equipment were ready to be brought in. "...which kept everything moving smoothly," says Shedrack.

#### "Everyone was ready on cue"

In the commercial, there are scenes that require coordinated efforts to make. "While setting up the hero shot of the draught beer being poured, the gaffer needed to fine-tune the backlighting to highlight the golden liquid. With WiTalk9, I could give precise instructions instantly, saving us time and ensuring the shot was perfect. For the last toast scene, extras needed to cheer and toast their glasses at the exact moment the camera rolled. The assistant director used WiTalk9 to communicate with me and other key crew members, ensuring that everyone was ready and on cue."





Shedrack Salami and his team shooting the beer commercial at a local Irish bar.



# WiTalk9's No-failure Performance at a Brazilian Music Festival

At a Brazilian music festival with 15,000 attendees, filmmaker Elias Junior and his team used WiTalk9 to manage communications during the live event. From battery life lasting five days to maintaining clear communication in noisy conditions, the system played an essential role in helping the professional team stay coordinated throughout the event.

#### **The Event and Challenges**

Responsible for transmitting the video to the LED screen and broadcasting the event, Elias and his team had to communicate reliably among the RF clutter, get their messages across despite the noise, and intercom throughout the event.

"3 of us were in the center, 2 on the side, 1 on the stage, and 1 in front of the stage," says Elias about how their team was distributed then

#### How WiTalk9 Helped?

DECT-based and operating on dual antennas, WiTalk9 is designed to get messages across with a stronger signal coverage. With broadcasting devices and thousands of smartphones present, the enhanced signal coverage cut through the clutter and did not let the team down.

"There was no failure when we were using WiTalk9," says Elias of its performance.

With the excited crowd who cheered at the presence of their beloved singers, anyone could find it challenging to get themselves heard over the noise.

"On the days I was working, approximately 15,000 came and went," says Elias. "It's a top experience for communicating with the team when we heard everything with excellent quality even with the environment being very noisy."

Battery life matters as a live event may go on for hours. A dead battery in the middle of a live show may jeopardize the whole team's efforts.

"(The) two batteries lasted us five days," says Elias.

"Did you use them for five days without charging and just swapped the batteries once?"

"Yes," confirms Elias in a WhatsApp conversation.

With a more efficient chip and a large battery capacity, WiTalk9's master headset can last 9 hours and remote 15, giving teams ample uptime.

# WiTalk9 for Instant Com at a Dubai Wedding

"WiTalk9 helped tremendously! It's instant, so we can communicate as things happen on the spot," says Mohammad Rezaie, a veteran videographer who's in his 7th year in the wedding videography/-photography business. Along with 4 photographers, Mohammad has been using WiTalk9 to coordinate their intercom efforts at many Dubai weddings for the last 3 months, with the one he talks about taking place just 3 days before Christmas 2024. Instant communication and noise cancellation are the 2 aspects he appreciates most about the wireless intercom headset system.



Mohammad Rezaie and the team of Photos by Zara, a wedding photography studio co-founded by Mohammad and his wife, Zara (3rd from left).



#### **The Event and Challenges**

For events as personal and private as weddings, capturing precious moments requires a level of effective communication no less demanding than that of live streams — there are no repeatable moments. Or according to Mohammad, "...weddings are super fast-paced and you need to be able to communicate with your teammates instantly to be on top of things."

To respond effectively, Mohammad used to try phones and walkie-talkies, but they proved less than ideal for weddings. "We used a walkie-talkie system once, but having to take it out and hold it near your mouth to talk was cumbersome. It was too much of a hassle, especially when you're holding a gimbal and camera. The phone is not instant. Sometimes you don't even realize you're being called because the weddings are too loud and hectic," says the seasoned videographer.

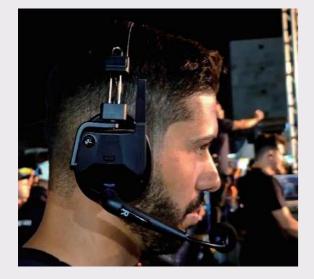
#### **How WiTalk9 Helped?**

DECT-based, WiTalk9 operates with low latency (≤ 83 ms), which is even faster than the 2.4 GHz devices (≤ 140 ms) we use daily. So Mohammad and his team could experience "instant" communication as the wedding unfolded.

"During the bride and groom's entrance, there was a live music band playing around the couple. There were 4 of us, so we had to maneuver very meticulously to capture everything to make sure not to be in one another's shot. I used WiTalk9 to instruct each team member where to go and what to shoot. WiTalk9 helped tremendously! It's instant."

"I think the noise cancellation is probably the best I've ever used. Weddings are super loud, and the fact that your voice still transfers very clearly to the other headsets is a miracle!" says Mohammad when talking about his favorite feature of WiTalk9.

When designing WiTalk9, the engineering team considered as many common yet challenging scenarios as possible. So the wireless intercom system is equipped with ClearTalk $^{\text{M}}$ , a trade marked technology by Saramonic that cancels noise 360° and transmits human voice clearly.



## The Upgrade

Saramonic released WiTalk5S, its previous generation of full-duplex wireless intercom system back in 2022.

The all-new WiTalk9 sees an upgrade in essential features, which are examplified as the longer transmission range, the added noise cancellation, the reduced weight, and much more.







WiTalk9

WiTalk9 SE

WiTalk (1st-Gen)

	Wilano	Wilaiko GE	William (16t 66ti)
Frequency Band	1.9 GHz	2.4 GHz	1.9 GHz
ystem) Transmission Range	500 meters	350 meters	400 meters
Number of Channels	9	5	5
Cascading	No HUB needed. Scalable for up to 30-person use.	No HUB needed. Scalable for up to 9-person use.	HUB needed. Scalable for up to 25-person use.
Noise Cancellation	Three-mic array and noise cancellation algorithm, optional with Weak/Strong mode.	Three-mic array and noise cancellation algorithm, optional with Weak/Strong mode.	0
Frequency Response	150 Hz - 8 kHz	150 Hz - 8 kHz	150 Hz - 8 kHz
Latency	≤ 83 ms	≤ 140 ms	≤ 83 ms
Waterproof / Windproof	IPX5 Waterproof Resistant to Level 3 Wind	Resistant to Level 3 Wind	0
Remote Communication	Via a wireless or wired link.	Via a wired link.	Needs a HUB.
App Control	•	•	0
Adaptive Frequency Hopping	•	•	0
Pull Up Mic Boom to Mute	•	•	•
One-click to Broadcast or PTT	•	•	0
Monitoring	•	•	0
Charging while Using	•	•	•
Decentralized Grouping	0	•	0
Weight	228 g (with battery)	226.5 g (with battery)	350 g (with battery)
Material for Headset's Frame	PC+30GF	PC+30GF	ABS
Ear Cushions	Quick detach. Over-ear aviation-grade cooling gel ear cushions + On-ear form cushions	Quick detach. Over-ear protein leather ear cushions + On-ear form c	Not quick detach.  Over-ear protein leather ear cushions
Battery Life	Master: 9 hours Remote: 15 hours	24 hours	Master: 5 hours Remote: 18 hours

# Get a Demo

As of December 2024, the WiTalk9 and WiTalk9 SE are available in 36 countries and regions worldwide, with their availability continuing to expand.

Whether you're a film crew, an event planner, an enterprise, a rental house, or simply someone curious about the WiTalk9 series, we're excited to offer you the opportunity to try a demo for free.

Additionally, we'll provide valuable support, including product training and exclusive discounts.

Head to www.saramonic.com to find your local distributor, book your demo today, and explore the benefits firsthand.



Scan to Learn More

# PART V About Saramonic

At Saramonic, we're more than just a global audio brand – we're your ultimate sound partner. Since our inception in 2012, we've been committed to delivering remarkable sound experiences through our professional, durable, and reliable audio products equipped with cutting-edge technology and innovation.

Welcome to Saramonic, where passion meets professionalism.

Feel the difference. Hear remarkable sound.

#### **Our Journey**

Our journey began in 2012 with an ambitious R&D team built from the ground up. Over the past decade, we've consistently delivered top-tier acoustic equipment and solutions to our valued customers and partners. Staying true to our mission, we're passionate about our R&D team's unwavering ability to innovate, creating groundbreaking technologies and products that elevate sound experiences.

#### **Trust and Excellence**

We have earned the trust of professionals across broadcasting, podcasting, musical performance, and social media by offering products that exceed expectations. We see sound not as an aspect of life but as a powerful contributor to its richness and joy. Every note played, every conversation shared, and every beat felt adds meaning to the world of content creation.

#### Crafting Immersive Experiences

We strive to craft premier products that empower professionals to create immersive experiences where everysound wave resonates with authenticity, energy, and depth. With unwavering dedication, we're proud of the significant milestones we've achieved: securing over 400 international patents, winning more than 15 prestigious design awards, and introducing over six pioneering innovations. Today, our state-of-the-art audio labs and dedicated team of 100+ experts are devoted to bringing joy to consumers in 132 countries worldwide.

#### Join Us

As we continue our journey to become a leading audio brand, we eagerly invite every professional user to join us in shaping the future of auditory excellence.