



# AWVT Audio Training Standards

## Proposed Grade 1-8 framework for volunteer church and venue audio technicians

The Association of Worship & Venue Technicians CIC is developing a graded training and assessment framework for volunteer technicians working in Houses of Worship and amateur arts venues. The purpose is to create a commonly understood measure of competence: what a learner should know, be able to do, and demonstrate in behaviour at each grade.

AWVT is not seeking to replace existing trainers or manufacturer learning material. It provides the standards-and-recognition layer so that training can be mapped to clear outcomes and volunteers can receive meaningful recognition.

### 1 Why this matters

Church and venue audio training is often informal and fragmented. A volunteer may be excellent practically but have no recognised way of showing competence; a highly qualified technical person may still need assessment in live worship or venue operation. Churches need a shared language for deciding what responsibility a volunteer is ready to carry.

### 2 Proposed grade pathway

Grade	Working description	What it means in practice
1	Safe helper	Follows instructions, handles equipment safely, recognises basic system elements and reports problems.
2	Basic operator	Operates a known system using checklists, mutes/unmutes safely, sets simple levels under guidance.
3	Small service operator	Runs a simple service using gain, faders, mutes, playback and basic fault checks.
4	Developing mixer	Applies basic EQ, feedback awareness, microphone positioning and simple monitor control.
5	Confident service technician	Runs a fuller worship/service mix, manages contributors and supports livestream/broadcast feeds.
6	Advanced volunteer / team lead	Diagnoses routine faults, manages wireless/IEM basics, supports junior operators and improves consistency.
7	Senior technician	Manages routing, zones, delays, system optimisation concepts and more complex events.
8	Pre-professional bridge	Evaluates systems, reads specifications, leads technical planning and prepares for professional progression.

### 3 How to get involved

AWVT is looking for experienced church sound people, educators, trainers, manufacturers and venue technicians to help review and populate the Grade 1-8 audio standards. Contribution roles include Grade Committee member, grade reviewer, assessment reviewer, training resource contributor, pilot church or manufacturer liaison.

### 4 Document access

Proposed download location: [www.awvt.org/standards](http://www.awvt.org/standards)  
Contact: [info@awvt.org](mailto:info@awvt.org) Website: [www.awvt.org](http://www.awvt.org)