



**Volume 3, Issue 15** - 25 April 2007

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### Industry News

#### Adobe Uses NAB to Launch Video Player

Adobe releases a free, downloadable media-player program. The Adobe Media Player, available later this year, uses RSS to store and play automatically updated online video on the desktop, as well as streaming videos from the internet.

The market for video players is crowded: Forrester Research says 45% of adults use



Microsoft's Windows Media Player for downloading video, while 10% used RealNetworks Real Player and 6% used Apple's iTunes or Quicktime.

With its Flash technology, Adobe powers a growing share of the web's video. Media companies use Flash for their millions of video files should welcome the ability to put them directly onto users' hard drives. Adobe intends to build an ecosystem, creating more opportunities to monetize their "content creation tools."

Adobe will also give content providers new ways to monetize: Its software allows video creators to show advertising in videos, including pre-roll video ads, text ticker ads running along the bottom of the video, and small clips displayed in a corner. The player tracks ads that have been viewed, changing the ad content on repeat viewings.

Free downloads of its Acrobat and Flash software has worked so far: Last quarter the company made \$144 million on revenues of \$650 million

For more info, go to [Adobe Media Player](#)

Adobe also recently offered free public previews of Adobe Premiere Pro CS3, Adobe After Effects CS3 Professional and Adobe Soundbooth CS3 software

For more info, go to [Previews of Pro Video Tools](#)

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## Projection & Screens

### Barco Introduces Display Wall Manager, Shows New iCon Model at NAB

Barco brought its new XDS-1000 external display management system to NAB. This is a manager for multiple projectors and sources used for a display wall. They also demonstrated how users can do collaboration and real-time video conferencing with Barco's new iCon H250 single-chip DLP, native HD (1920x1080) projector.

What makes these products unusual is they each have onboard computers that can store data locally and can also connect to the network and act like any other networked computer. So they can pull data either from the local drive or from the server.



The iCon H250 is specified at 2500 ANSI lumens, includes TI's BrilliantColor technology, and has advanced picture-in-picture functionality (it uses Windows XP so basically, you can project, re-position, and re-size different windows, just as with the original iCon).

For more info, go to [iCon](#)

For more info, go to [XDS-1000](#)

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### Epson Targets ProAV with Three New Projectors

Epson has three new professional projectors, two for the overall ProAV market and one designed specifically for education.

The PowerLite 1810p and 1815p 3LCD projectors are both specified at 3500 lumens and XGA 1024 x 768 resolution, 500:1 or 600:1 contrast ratio, and weigh 6.5 and 6.9 pounds. The 1815p model includes wireless a/b/g, USB Type A connectivity to any PC, as well as RJ-45 wired LAN connectivity for remote monitoring and control.



For control via the IP network, Epson also added a new GUI interface that lets users remotely play and pause presentations as well as adjust images (i.e., e-zoom, keystone correction, volume, color mode, etc.).

Epson touts easy set-up, an A/V Mute Slide function for pausing during presentations, eight color modes, and two brightness levels, among the features of these two new projectors.

The new education-specific projector is the PowerLite 83c (\$899 ESP). This is specified up to 2200 lumens with a seven-watt speaker, a built-in closed captioning decoder, and wired LAN connectivity. Other specifications include XGA resolution and up to 400:1 contrast ratio.

This new projector weighs 6.4 pounds, uses 3LCD technology, has a five-second on/off feature and seven color modes. It also has a sleep timer for prolonging lamp life. Nice specs for the price.

For more info, go to [EPSON](#)

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## Two New Large-Venue 10,000-Lumen Projectors From Panasonic

The newly-formed Panasonic Projector Systems Company introduced two new projectors for large venues. The PT-D10000U (specified at 1400 x 1050 resolution) and PT-DW10000U (1920 x 1080) models target commercial digital cinema, rental and staging, and higher education.

Both these three-chip DLP projectors are specified at 10,000 lumens, 5000:1 contrast ratio with 10-bit video processing. They also have an Auto Cleaning Robot, an automatic filter cleaning system for extending the times between filter maintenance. The PT-D10000U and PT-DW10000U use a new liquid-cooling system that directly cools the DLP chips and allows them to be used in temperatures up to 45°C (113°F). The projectors have built-in multi-screen support so they can project large, multi-screen images with edge blending, without any additional equipment. The result is a seamless image using up to 100 sources (10 ft. x 10 ft.).



Both models are networkable with wired LAN. They are basically identical, except for the PT-DW10000U's higher resolution.

For more info, go to [Panasonic](#)

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## TI Takes New Digital Cinema Chip to ShoWest

Texas Instruments introduced the .98 DLP Cinema chip at ShoWest. The new .98 DLP Cinema chip is comparable to the original 1.2 DLP Cinema chip introduced in 1999, optimized for screen sizes up to 40 feet. The .98 chip, though, is smaller and outputs up to 18,000 lumens.

Digital Cinema is a technology that we've known for years will (eventually) become standard. But it is only now hitting its stride. TI says DLP Cinema adoption increased by more than 350% globally through 2006 and it is currently installed in 3334 screens in commercial theaters worldwide.



For more info, go to [DLP](#)

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## Control & Integrator Solutions

### New Scaler from Kramer

Kramer's new VP-419xl Scaler is designed to be an affordable high quality desktop-sized video to computer graphics video and HD scaler.

The VP-419xl accepts an NTSC video signal in composite video, s-video or component video format and will up convert that signal to one of 8 computer graphics video and HDTV output resolutions. The unit also has a 15-pin HD computer graphics video input that when selected, or when the unit is powered off, will be routed directly to the output. The computer graphics video output resolutions available are VGA (640x480), SVGA (800x600), XGA (1024x768) and SXGA (1280x1024). The HDTV output resolutions are 480p, 576p, 720p and 1080i. All signals are output on a 15-pin HD connector.



The VP-419xl has per-pixel motion compensated de-interlacing for artifact-free images, automatic detection for 3:2 pull-down for 24fps material and a vertical temporal filter to remove jagged artifacts. This scaler will automatically detect NTSC and PAL video sources, can output 4x3 or 16x9 aspect ratios and has on-screen display for setup and adjustment. The VP-419xl has a built-in proc amp for convenient signal adjustment and it can be controlled via front panel buttons or the included IR remote control. It also has non-volatile memory to retain the last settings used prior to powering down.

Two units of the VP-419xl can be rack mounted side by side for professional system use with the optional RK-80N rack mount adapter.

The VP-419xl is shipping for list \$595.

For more info, go to [Kramer VP-419xl Scaler](#)

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### AMX Camera Control with Widescreen Preview

At NAB, AMX showed a new camera control with an unusual widescreen video preview. The NXP-PLV Modero PosiTrack Pilot Camera Controller adds Ethernet connectivity and a 7-inch Modero Widescreen Touch Panel, making it suited for live or recorded broadcast events. AMX points to religious services, local, state and federal government proceedings, classroom lectures and video conferences as typical uses.

The NXP-PLV supports up to six cameras and will be available within 90 days. AMX has also integrated CatPro technology, which transmits high-resolution RGBHV + Stereo Audio over category cable into its line of AutoPatch Optima Series Matrix Switchers. The new 4x8 and 8x8 RGBHV + Stereo to CatPro Boards transmit local computer video signals up to 1,000 feet and at resolutions up to 1600x1200 and 1920x1080. The CatPro Boards support up to eight outputs.



The Optima 8x4 and 8x8 RGBHV + Stereo to CatPro Boards will be available in Q2.

Another product from AMX is the HD-SDI Board for its AutoPatch Optima Series Matrix Switcher line. The Optima HD-SDI Board provides routing in a smaller footprint and is designed for broadcast, post-production or medical applications using HD-SDI cameras, playback equipment or other sources.

For more info, go to [AMX](#)

## New Tabletop Touch Panel, Multimedia System from Crestron

Crestron's new Isys i/O TPMC-8T is an 8.4-inch tabletop touch panel with embedded Windows XP and 802.11a/b/g wireless or wired LAN. This is the new fixed tabletop version of the TPMC-8X WiFi touch panel.

The fixed-tilt design has a 37-degree angle for use on a lectern, table or counter, and you can add the optional SMK-8T swivel mount accessory to permanently mount the TPMC-8T to a flat surface with a 330-degree rotation. Cables can be routed through the center of the swivel mechanism for a completely hidden solution.



The embedded PC in the TPMC-8T allows for Web access via Internet Explorer, streaming media using WindowsMedia, and PC application viewers for MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Acrobat, meetings with NetMeeting and Skype and, of course, AV distribution, lighting, climate, and security control.

Crestron is also talking about its MPS-200 is a Multimedia Presentation System, designed for classrooms, meeting rooms and boardrooms. It integrates a control system, multimedia switcher, audio processor, and amplifier into a single 2-space rackmount package.

It uses a 2-Series control engine, e-Control webserver, internal power supply and, according to Crestron, out-of-the-box switching and audio control.

For more info, go to [Crestron](#)



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## Displays

### Sony OLED to Ship by Year End: Reuters

While no official announcement was yet made in Europe, Reuters reports Sony announced in Tokyo they will be selling the ultra-thin OLED displays by the year end.

The biggest news coming from Japan's FPD Expo event, Sony announced plans to commercialize an 11" OLED TV while Toshiba Matsushita Display says it will launch a 20.8-inch OLED TV in 2009.

The first public commitments to offer OLED TVs, Reuters says the OLED display was the most popular attraction at the event, "At a display forum in Tokyo, customers, suppliers and even rival TV makers turned their backs on 50-inch and bigger TVs to throng before Sony's tiny 11-inch OLED TVs." Apparently, the image was far more vivid than any of the LCD or plasmas anywhere near it.

The drawback is that OLED displays are still very expensive. Reuters says other companies developing OLED include Seiko Epson, Canon, Samsung and a JV between Toshiba and Matsushita Electric.

For the whole story, go to [Reuters on Sony OLED](#)



## Conferencing

### Google Buys Videoconferencing Tech from Sweden

Google buys video conferencing software from Sweden's Marratech and also takes on the Swedish-based tech team.



Marratech technology comes from research at the Centre for Distance-Spanning Technology (CDT) at Lulea University of Technology. It was initially developed for distance learning but turned into e-meeting and web collaboration software.

The deal "will enable from-the-desktop participation for Googlers in videoconference meetings wherever there's an Internet connection," notes Douglas Merrill, VP engineering. "It will be used in combination with our current videoconferencing equipment."

If Google offers this as a free service, this could hit Cisco (who just acquired WebEx), Microsoft LiveMeeting and Adobe Connect.

For more info, go to [Google Blog on Marratech](#)

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## ClearOne Announces Chat 150 for Cisco Telephones

ClearOne has a new way for you to add high-quality full-duplex speaker phones to Cisco handsets. The new Chat 150 for Cisco lets users continue to use the functionality built into the handsets, including access to company directory, voicemail, audio bridge functions, call transfer, etc., but adds conferencing quality and features. Users initiate these functions and dial calls with the keypad of the Cisco phone, but the audio is delivered through the Chat 150. The product has been tested with Cisco 7940, 7960, and 7970 phone models.

The Chat 150 connects directly to the headset port of the Cisco phone so there is no need to pull additional phone lines. Also, users can switch between headset mode and speaker phone mode.

Chat 150 for Cisco ships this month.

For more info, go to [ClearOne Chat 150](#)



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## Presentation Products

### World's Smallest. Portable Interactive Whiteboard System?

Attach an ideaBOARD sensor to your writing board, connect your laptop via Bluetooth or USB, and slip your dry erase markers into an electronic sleeve.

Now your pen strokes can be recognized and transferred to your computer: notes, drawings can be saved, printed, emailed and shared.

The sensor weighs 100 grams and measures 15 x 15 cm. When in action, it triangulates the position of the stylus or marker sleeve via ultra sound and infra red and transmits it via Bluetooth or USB to your laptop, creating the interactive effect. The Singapore maker debuted this at CeBIT.



It is a small and light-weight portable device that can be attached to any surface to facilitate any class lessons, training programs, business meetings and sales presentations.

For more info, go to [Ideaboard](#)

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## Digital Signage

### Wincomm Offers Large-scale Signage Solution

More and more large-scale LCD displays are deployed in digital signage applications; Wincomm Corp. is a provider of display engine solutions and services, it announces the availability of a series of industrial grade 16:9 LCD displays for digital signage applications.

The slim design of the cabinet allows it to be mounted on a wall, suspended from the ceiling or placed on a floor pedestal. All displays listed below can be remotely controlled by Wincomm's engine boxes.

Display sizes available:

- a. Open-frame: 26", 32", 37", 42", 47"
- b. Open-frame w/ Touch: 32", 42"
- c. All-in-one monitor: 32", 42"
- d. All-in-one monitor w/ Touch: 32", 42"

32" and 42" series are integrated with IR touch screen.



The all-in-one digital signage LCD monitors from Wincomm with metal housing can be integrated with Wincomm industrial grade display engines designed for high performance graphic application in supporting video content. What more important is Wincomm display engines can drive monitors to show the native/optimum pixel to pixel video quality effects. Open-frame series are available for system builder or integrators.

Wincomm delivers standard & custom-made XPe image, too. Wincomm offers support for Microsoft Windows XPe solution, in languages such as English, Francais, Deutsch, Japanese, Italiano, Svenska, and Espanol.

For more info, go to [Wincomm](#)

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Well, that's it for this edition of rAVe Europe! Thank you for spending time with us as we follow the industry happenings.

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**A little about Gary Kayye, CTS, founder of Kayye Consulting:** Gary Kayye, an audiovisual veteran and columnist, began the widely-read KNews, a premier industry newsletter, in the late 1990s, and created the model for and was co-founder of AV Avenue - which later became InfoComm IQ. Kayye Consulting is a company that is committed to furthering the interests and success of dealers, manufacturers, and other companies within the professional audiovisual industry. Gary Kayye's rAVe was first launched in America in February 2003.

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