

# Just a Note



from **INNOVATIONS in Home Theater**

Oct. 2006

Fourth Quarter

Vol. 8

## Post CEDIA Wrap Up



It's holiday season again. A few weeks ago I came back from our annual CEDIA association Expo held in Denver, Colorado. There were so many new and cool products I would like to introduce to all of you, let me list a few here for your holiday shopping ideas.

First one is the most innovative item, a speaker built into a table lamp; an ultimate hidden speaker; a total recommendation from interior designers. The speakers are built out of acrylic which resembles granite and marble. Lampshades are available in 100% silk or tissue. Please check our website for a cut sheet under "New Items". Better yet, come into our store, we have two different styles set up. These units sound great with solid (they weigh 24lbs. each) build quality.

The other item is the ultimate iPod accessory. It is a very attractive desk top system which consists of an iPod docking/charging station, remote control, bookshelf speakers in piano gloss finish and an integrated tube amplifier. You can hook up a local device to it, even computer audio. The pictures on the web don't do it justice, please visit us to hear and see it. This will make a perfect **HOLIDAY** gift for you, family and friends! (This is also on our website)



TV's of course were lined up wall to wall in the CEDIA Expo. Most exciting was the new 50" plasma model from Pioneer. It still retains the beautiful piano black trim, but the removable speakers now mount on the bottom to cut down on width issues. Also, it no longer requires a separate media box...did I also mention the price came down? Please come in to audition this TV which is mounted above our faux fireplace.

Last but not least, for those of you looking to spice up the look of your theaters as well as improve the sound, there are very attractive acoustical, designer wall panels, with an interactive program which allows you to preview the panels in 35 colors and 12 shapes before you order...also on our website.



## Latest "Home Technology" News

In my last newsletter I wrote about "smart house" technology becoming more feasible/reliable with the increased use of IP (internet protocol) addressed electronics. I would like elaborate on this a little more since I received so many inquiries. By using IP addressable items (or using adapters to make components IP addressable) every item on the network communicates with each other. The security camera communicates with the music server which communicates with your lighting control, and so on. What this means to you is items are no longer being laboriously programmed, they are being configured instead...much like setting up a new printer from your computer. The computer's configuring software drops down a list of printer brands, then specific models. After a few clicks and answers, your printer is ready to use. If the computer is out of ink, it communicates this to your computer with an on-screen prompt...it may even prompt a re-order page. This is exactly how integration of IP based Home Technology works. With a simple IP-based LCD touch screen in your wall, your PDA or web tablet you can view and adjust thermostats, whole house lighting, audio (iPods, music servers etc.), surveillance cameras and more. You can easily configure events such as; when you push the "Good Night" lighting scene, it will turn off some lights and dim others, set back your thermostat, turn on the monitor feature of your baby cam and ramp down the music in the master suite 14% every 5 minutes. This is all the more reason to have a new home wired by a professional HT person. This technology is available now...that is why we say, "Live in the Future NOW!"

## Many Items on Sale



There are still some overstocked Paradigm speakers and a limited supply of Integra HDMI switching THX receivers, regular \$1,399 now \$999. Hurry in on these limited time specials. If you've been looking for a new entertainment cabinet, we are rotating our display models. One unit is in Mahogany and the other in white wash oak. These units are in beautiful shape and of high build quality. You can view these cabinets on our website under "store pictures". If you haven't noticed, I keep mentioning our website. It is because we finally updated our previous site with a much more informative one. It is continuously being updated now, so please check it out periodically...[www.satheater.com](http://www.satheater.com)



## I Want my HDTV "Super-Sized"



**Do you still measure TV's in inches?...how cute.** Why not measure it in feet! The latest DLP front projectors have decreased in price and increased in quality over the last few years. You can get a quality HD capable projector starting at \$2,999 and up to \$19,999 (base models starting at \$999) which can project an image up to 12 foot diagonal. When you add a quality screen to the system, you will spend less than some 61" TV's. These are not your father's projector...DLP technology from Texas Instruments makes them brighter, smaller, higher contrast and more reliable than the projectors of yesteryear. Take that spare bedroom and convert it into your very own personal theater. We can customize it with accessories like themed carpeting, lighting, movie posters and even a classic popcorn popper! Imagine the excitement of all your relatives, friends and neighbors as you push one button and a curtain opens to reveal your screen, lights slowly dim and at the same time your equipment is turning on and the DVD is queuing up. We can even make your projector drop from the ceiling. The final touch could even include a fiber optic star field on the ceiling that twinkles. If you don't necessarily have the ideal room for a front projector, there is good news, 61" and above plasma TV's have come down in price considerably this year.

## Oli's Corner

My previous newsletter column titled "To 1080P or not to 1080P" received the most feedback on any subject I've covered. I appreciate everyone's positive comments on this educational and informative piece. The whole purpose was to cut thru some of the chatter put out by the big box mover stores/internet chat rooms and assist people in understanding this latest technology. Deciding on which TV to invest in is not about price and the number of pixels only. My next newsletter will discuss an even more controversial subject...some TV manufacturer's claim of bogus contrast ratios and how to understand what contrast ratio really means. I address these subjects because I believe our customers deserve the right information. If you have a subject idea, e-mail me.

-Oli Gulyas-  
[oli@satheater.com](mailto:oli@satheater.com)

# i·HT

**INNOVATIONS in Home Theater**



16630 San Pedro Ave San Antonio, TX 78232 210-490-8088