

From the Editors of **residential**
systems

TouchPanel *Innovations* 2008



FEATURING

AMX | **Control4** | **Crestron** | **ELAN Home Systems** | **HAI**
Niles Audio | **Remote Technologies Inc.** | **SAVANT Systems** | **Vantage**

Touching Technology for Smarter Homes

NEXT-GENERATION TOUCHPANELS ARE MORE INTUITIVE AND FLEXIBLE THAN EVER BEFORE

"The way people interact with computers is going to change dramatically," Microsoft chairman Bill Gates predicted in his 2008 CES keynote speech this past January. Gates echoed the sentiments of many in the consumer technology industry: in the next few years, interactive and natural technologies like touch control, vision, and speech recognition will slowly replace traditional keyboards, hard buttons, and the mouse.

It's an inevitable evolution—one with a trickle-down influence on other lifestyle products. Americans love the convenience of touch-surface technology, from ATMs to voting machines, and are including "touch" into their buying decisions for the home. Touch control is now a common feature in hardware developments in 2008, and the CEDIA community is at the heart of this exciting trend.

FRINGE AND MAINSTREAM DEVELOPMENTS

The computing and gaming industries are bringing sophisticated convergence products to market that emphasize "touch" in the modern home.

The Nintendo Wii has changed the paradigm for user interaction. Instead of playing with handheld controllers, gamers just wave their hands or make faces at devices with



SAVANT Systems' ROSIE Touch 20 and 24

embedded video readers. The Wii and *Guitar Hero* let users move the controller in various ways, and the device responds; it's a genuine two-way relationship.

Panasonic also has visual recognition technology for the digital living room. Its Life Wall prototype caused a stir at CES in Las Vegas. The colossal interactive display with embedded proprietary facial recognition technology tracks a person's movement and alters its display size automatically, depending on the viewer's position and location in the room.

Sony, Canon, and other notable CE manufacturers are using facial recognition for real-time feedback. Sony plans include TVs that instantly sense and activate parental controls if a child is viewing the set. How the TV would know the viewer was indeed a child is uncertain, but it is an interesting goal nonetheless. Many 3G smart

phones like the iPhone operate with touchscreens, and their multi-touch interfaces are getting more robust. Rapid response time and higher-power processing allows for nimble touch control. Users can zoom in or out quickly, scroll through data, or find images in vast libraries of information.

Microsoft's Windows Vista, the firm's often-criticized operating system, has sold more than 100 million licenses since it launched in 2007. Its significant criticism has been countered with promises for future downloads and an improved upgrade later this year. Hewlett-Packard and Microsoft collaborated on a touch-sensitive PC named TouchSmart launched last year as a complement to Vista.

Arguably the most influential force in the touch revolution is Apple, with its popular touchy-feely products like the iTouch, iPhone, and myriad computers. In fact, Apple has seen profits top \$1 billion in the third quarter, up 31 percent from last year. The company shipped 2.5 million Macs this past quarter, and iPod shipments rose 12 percent.

CEDIA-focused manufacturers like SAVANT are wise to create products



Niles Audio's iRemote TS

Contents

Crestron	4
Niles Audio	6
RTI	8
SAVANT Systems	10
Vantage	12
AMX	14
ELAN Home Systems	16
Control4	18
HAI	20

systems

**NewBay
Media**

Jeremy J. Glowacki
Editorial Director

Llanor Alleyne
Managing Editor

Margot Douaihy
Contributing Editor

Phil Holtberg
Group Publisher

Eileen Gaske
Associate Publisher

Gene Kinsella
Midwest Sales

Zahra Majma
Classified Advertising Sales

Deborah Rosenthal
Specialty Sales

Steve Palm
President

Adam Goldstein
VP, Group Publishing Director

Nicole Cobban
Senior Art Director

Michelle Henning
Graphic Artist

Fred Vega
Production Manager

Ariel Steinberg
Assistant Production Manager

Published by
NewBay Media L.L.C.
810 Seventh Avenue, 27th Floor
New York, NY 10019
Tel: 212.378.0400
www.nbmedia.com

All names, trademarks, or brand names used herein are the property of their respective owners.

that dovetail with the iPhone and Apple suite. "The sophistication of the applications you can develop for the iPhone is in a class of its own," stated SAVANT's director of product management, Victor Saverino. "We're looking forward to delivering novel and entertaining applications that will shake up the market, and will take advantage of the iPhone's large display, multi-touch user interface, fast hardware-accelerated 3D graphics, built-in accelerometer, and location-based technology."

NEW INNOVATIONS

Whether the products are Apple-friendly or not, custom integrators have more opportunities than ever to introduce new clients to touchpanels. Jay McLellan, president of HAI, headquartered in Louisiana, said touchpanels are becoming increasingly attractive to consumers because of how well they simplify and synthesize the home's electronics.

"It's just so much fun to walk up to a touchscreen and tap which album you want to listen to," McLellan said. "It's one touch, right off the screen after you turn off the security—no



Crestron's
TPS-6X



HAI's
OmniTouch
5.7 requires no additional programming, and can be mounted in the wall or used as a tabletop panel.

more searching through piles of DVDs. It's one of the more enhancing elements of the home."

In terms of enhancement, New Jersey-based Crestron is promoting its versatile new touchpanel, the TPS-6X that delivers improved performance, power, and mobility without the hiccups of Wi-Fi.

When it is docked the TPS-6X displays full-motion video and communicates via Cresnet or Ethernet. It is also capable of displaying full-motion video in any size window, and is also equipped with a Synapse Image Rendering Algorithm and high-speed 2.4 GHz RF wireless technology for a wider range of movement.

Frank Sterns, president of Miami-based Niles Audio said that his CEDIA offerings will include a host of new products including a new hybrid touchpanel with fixed buttons that recently debuted. "The iRemote TS is a hybrid product that controls the whole-house system and the home theater with two-way feedback for the metadata," he explained.

"Now you don't have to learn two different systems or

(continued on page 22)



TPS-6X

As the global leader of home automation and AV solutions, Crestron provides the broadest range of touchpanels. With over 100 models to choose from, it offers distinctive touchpanels for every application.

TPS-6X

The Crestron TPS-6X is a new achievement in touchpanel design and functionality. Built for speed, style, and extraordinary versatility, the TPS-6X streamlines the Crestron family of touchpanels, blending the attributes of nine other models.

A wired panel while docked, the TPS-6X communicates via Cresnet or Ethernet and is capable of displaying full-motion video in any size window.

The TPS-6X can rest on the docking station for fast charging and removal, or latch to the base to enable tilt functions. An optional security key can permanently lock the panel on the dock so it cannot be removed.

Lifting the TPS-6X off the dock instantly transforms the panel into a high-powered wireless device, communicating via two-way RF up to 200

feet (1-way IR is also built in). As a slim, lightweight wireless controller, TPS-6X provides exceptional graphical performance and communication speed without the challenges of WiFi.

TPS-6L

The Isys TPS-6L wall mount touch-panel delivers a great new choice for small flush mount touchpanel applications. It has an innovative new front bezel design that provides 12 push-buttons with illuminated button separators and optional backlit text, and a no-button front bezel version.

Available in textured almond, black or white finishes, this 5.7-inch touch-panel is slightly smaller than the 3100L and slightly larger than the 2000L.

The first small video touchpanel by Crestron with high-speed Ethernet, the TPS-6L significantly reduces graphic load times especially in larger installations. A built-in sensor automatically adjusts the display and button backlights for optimal visibility in dark and bright light conditions. High-quality laser-engraving enables customized text to appear crisp and legible at all times.

TPMC-8X

WiFi touchpanel features an embedded Windows XP OS for secure onboard PC functionality including 802.11a/b/g wireless capabilities. Access other computers using VNC, while Skype enables VoIP directly from the panel. Supports wireless

MJPEG video from IP cameras and servers. The onboard biometric scanner automatically identifies users for added security and presenting personalized interfaces.

TPS-6X

- High-speed 2.4 GHz RF wireless technology
- Wired Ethernet, Cresnet, and Crestron Home CAT5 connectivity
- Tabletop tilt docking station included

TPS-6L

- High-speed Ethernet & Cresnet communications
- Single full-motion, fully-scalable video window
- Solid or backlit text button engraving

TPMC-8X

- 802.11a/b/g Wi-Fi 2-way wireless communications
- Windows XP Embedded operating system
- Onboard PC applications for Web browsing, streaming media, conferencing, VoIP, and remote computer access



top: TPMC-8X
bottom: TPS-6L



Contact



www.crestron.com

6 **Niles Audio** TOTAL CONTROL, NO COMPLEX PROGRAMMING

Niles' award-winning IntelliControl ICS lineup boasts an impressive array of touchscreens, which includes the iRemoteTS, Contact and Contact TT. Unlike other touchscreens featuring metadata display capabilities, these touchpanels require no complex connections or complicated programming. Each can be easily installed and simultaneously configured to control and operate the whole-house audio/video system, all in a matter of minutes.

The IntelliControl ICS system accommodates all of today's popular sources including satellite radio, HD Radio, iPod, IP-based music sources, AM/FM, and legacy audio sources such as CD players and media servers.

The iRemote TS is a wireless user interface that provides elegant operation of the IntelliControl ICS system and sophisticated home theater systems. It employs reliable ZigBee two-way wireless technology to provide users with all the necessary metadata to scan, select and play program material from menu-based media sources. It also integrates with the Niles HT-MSU to manage and automate all components in a home theater system including the television, home theater receiver and up to 14 additional sources such as digital video recorders, DVD players and cable/satellite receivers.

The Contact is a wall-mount color



Remote TS

Remote TS

Handheld color touchscreen remote; controls multi-zone and home theater applications and displays all the metadata.

Contact

Wall-mounted color touchscreen; metadata, favorite presets and menus are displayed.

Contact TT

Tabletop color touchscreen; displays all of the metadata from sources as well as system status.

touchscreen that displays source metadata and allows total system operation from a remote location. It features a high-resolution 3.5-inch display along with accessible LED backlit hard keys for commonly used functions. It features plug-and-play integration with the IntelliControl ICS GXR2 MultiZone Receiver. Metadata, favorites, presets, and menus are displayed from both audio and video sources. The Contact also features pre-defined control screens for all sources and favorites that configure quickly and easily. The Contact has the ability to turn off other zones around the home from its fixed location.

A table-top version of the Contact, the Contact TT, is designed for customers who want the flexibility of a tabletop touch panel display for use in dens, offices, on nightstands, or for use in areas where wall-

mounting is either impossible or undesirable. Similar to the Contact, the Contact TT displays all of the metadata from sources as well as system status. It allows total control of any source and any zone within the home from a remote location and utilizes a high-resolution 3.5-inch color touchscreen display. Preset control screens for each source provide intuitive control for the user. In addition, the "Party" mode feature allows all zones or select zones to turn on which a single button press, which is great for entertaining.

For more information, visit www.nilesaudio.com.

Contact



www.nilesaudio.com



right: Contact
left: Contact TT

Remote Technologies Incorporated (RTI)

INNOVATIVE, INTUITIVE CONTROL

Remote Technologies Incorporated (RTI) is the leading manufacturer of innovative and intuitive control devices for professionally installed electronic systems. The company's design philosophy emphasizes an easy, enjoyable experience when using any of their system controllers, central processors, or accessories. All RTI products, including the award winning T3-V, T4, and K4 Universal System Controllers, are programmed with their renowned Integration Designer software.

The RTI T3-V is designed to seamlessly integrate into any system both in function and design. It features a contemporary, cutting-edge design with a sizzling, 3.5-inch color VGA touchscreen display, which enables the device to showcase graphics, photos, and web pages in vivid detail. Additionally the remote is equipped with a large capacity battery to maximize uninterrupted use over long periods. This controller also features wireless Ethernet and a built-in web browser.

When used with other RTI accessories it is capable of RF transmission through walls and cabinets, power sensing, and RS-232 communications for advanced control.

Contact



www.rticorp.com



top: RTI's K4 features a 6.4-inch TFT
left: T3-V Universal Controller

When it comes to control, the T4 has it all: direct IR control for stand-alone operation, RF output for control processor operation, Wi-Fi for IP control and Internet access.

The T4 design maintains the perfect balance between display size and resolution. At 6.4 inches, the LCD is small enough to be a truly handheld device, yet provides the full VGA resolution necessary for displaying (MJPEG) video and web pages. In addition to the limitless software customization, additional RTI accessory devices provide the T4 with power sensing for reliable operation, and RS-232 communications for advanced control.

For additional information on RTI, please visit www.rticorp.com or call 952.253.3100.

T4 Universal
Controller



K4 In-Wall Controller

RTI's K4 features a 6.4-inch TFT LCD touchscreen with full VGA resolution, powerful 32-bit processor, and infrared receiver which provides users complete and precise control over all audio/video components, lights, or other electronic systems. Its touchscreen is small enough to blend into a room's interior while providing the detail necessary for displaying video sources and web pages. In addition, the built-in Ethernet port allows the K4 to access the Internet. Four built-in video inputs provides the ability to view composite video full screen or in a scalable viewing. Video sources could include security cameras or a music library stored on a hard drive music server.

T3-V Universal Controller

The T3-V is a powerhouse of control wrapped in a stylish, ergonomic design. It builds on the original award-winning concept with improved aesthetics, button layout, graphics, and communication options.

T4 Universal Controller

The T4 is RTI's flagship wireless controller, a culmination of many years engineering and design experience. It provides the ideal solution for those that require the very best in wireless touch-panel control.



(Above) Control components and sub-systems directly from an iPhone or iPod touch with ROSIE Mobile Devices.
(Left) SAVANT's ROSIE nine-inch in-wall widescreen touch panel

"We're thrilled with our new and diverse touchpanel line-up for 2008," said Victor Saverino, director of product management. SAVANT touchpanels provide a stylish and entertaining interface delivering a multitude of options to enhance the user experience. SAVANT touchpanels are available in a variety of form factors and capabilities, from the ROSIE Surface to the ROSIE Touch TV to a family of ROSIE Mobile Devices. In addition, traditional wired and wireless touchpanels are available in popular sizes ranging from 5 to 24 inches with stunning and easy to use graphical interfaces.

The entire line of touchpanels support full motion video playback, and are configured and customized using RacePoint Blueprint design tool without writing a single line of code. Moreover, with Blueprint touch screens are auto-generated and also offered with vivid animated backgrounds—It's all part of the SAVANT vision.

The following products are currently available or will be shipping in 2008.

IN-WALL TOUCHPANELS

ROSIE In-Wall widescreen touchpan-

Contact

savant

www.savantav.com

ROSIE TOUCH TV AND ROSIE SURFACE

The family of ROSIE Touch TV user interfaces is the ideal multipurpose solution for viewing HD video content, while simultaneously functioning as a large display whole-house control interface. They are available in 24-, 32-, and 40 inch HD LCD displays.

The first Apple®-based surface product, the ROSIE Surface brings the converged functionality and capabilities of SAVANT's touchpanels to a surface technology that is practical on the one hand, entertaining and exciting to use on the other.

ROSIE TOUCH 20 AND 24

The perfect dual-purpose solution—elegant all-in-one desktop computer and whole-house control interface, stated Saverino. The ROSIE Touch 20 and 24 supports all the control capabilities of SAVANT's suite of touchpanels. You won't want to hide your iMac®-based The ROSIE Touch 20 and 24 in a corner of the den. With their anodized aluminum frame and glass cover, they're striking to behold.



Interactive products like the ROSIE Touch TV exemplify how SAVANT is changing the residential touch screen market.



TPT1210-1

How do you manage a luxury home? A truly luxurious home is a unique animal in the world of residential buildings. Many of these structures have large footprints that can exceed twenty, thirty, or even forty thousand square feet. Home theaters surpass the private screening rooms of even the most powerful Hollywood moguls. Extensive use of distributed audio and video provide instant access to multiple forms of digital entertainment media throughout the home. With powerful climate control, security systems and many other feature-rich subsystems, these homes rival moderately sized commercial buildings for their scope and complexity. So, how do you manage such a complicated home?

Vantage, a pioneer in luxury home systems, has been in the business of managing luxury homes for more than 20 years. Known as the innova-

tion leader in the world of home control systems, Vantage long ago realized that today's luxury home requires a powerful automation system and equally powerful touchscreen interfaces to effectively manage the complexities of a modern luxury home. Recently Vantage has increased its line of touchscreens to include the TPT650 in-wall mounted touchscreen and newly upgraded TPT1210-1 web tablet to the Vantage portfolio so the luxury homeowners now have an even broader range of stylish solutions from which to choose.

Designed with the needs of the luxury homeowner in mind, the TPT650 is a 6.5-inch touchscreen that provides total intuitive control of the Vantage InFusion™ system. Utilizing the simple drag and drop programming of Vantage's powerful Design Center software the TPT650 can be infinitely personalized to cater to the homeowner individual taste and needs. Using preprogrammed libraries, widgets as well as other design elements, the Vantage dealer can quickly create complex and attractive touchscreen solutions.

The TPT1210-1 is the upgraded ver-

sion of Vantage's award-winning TPT1210. Featuring more memory, a faster processor, redesigned bezels, and a new charging pedestal mount, the new TPT1210-1 wireless touchscreen has improved an already popular Vantage offering. This touchscreen not only allows for full control of a Vantage system, but also has the complete functionality native to a web tablet (email, web browsing, etc). Whether the 1210-1 is undocked and communicating to the system wirelessly or docked to an in-wall, on-wall, or pedestal mount, homeowners can conveniently enjoy complete interaction with their Vantage home control system from anywhere within the home.

With Vantage's InFusion Media and TPT Designer software the dealer can easily customize any Vantage touchscreen and provide the homeowner with the ability to interface with home theaters or digital music to provide them with easy playback and control of their entire media library.

The complete TPT line of Vantage touchscreens vary in size, function and capabilities; for in-wall mounted solutions, this would include the 10.4-inch TPT1040 (releasing in September 2008), the TPT650 and the 5.5-inch TPT550. For wireless control, Vantage offers the TPT1210-1 and the 7-inch TPT700 portable touchscreens. Vantage has a touchscreen that is perfect for any room, style or taste.



TPT650

Contact

 **VANTAGE**
www.vantagecontrols.com

A NEW, FULLY PROGRAMMABLE THERMOSTAT

The ENV-VST-C ViewStat Color Communicating Thermostat is a convenient solution for managing the comfort levels in a home, business, or any other heated and cooled environment.

With a unique 3.5-inch color active TFT display and paintable exterior the ENV-VST-C complements any decor.

The ViewStat Color Communicating Thermostat is fully programmable for automatic scheduling, automatic temperature and relative humidity adjustments, and power-outage protection. It also communicates with your existing AMX control system, for convenient, centralized management of temperature information from your touch panel.

The ViewStat Color Communicating Thermostat Key Features:

- 3.5-inch (320x240) color active display provides clear bright images
- Humidity display and control
- 7/1 programmable settings with four set points per day
- Energy Star and California Title 24-compliant
- 5-day weather forecast optional (through subscription service)
- Current date and time
- Communicates with AMX NetLinX control system for system-level control and scheduling

Contact



www.amx.com/amxhome



AMX's ViewStat Color Communicating Thermostat

- Stylish design and paintable surface complements any decor
- Versatile HVAC control, including single- and two-stage furnace and A/C, roof top two-stage heat and cool, boilers with A/C, single-stage heat pumps, and first-stage radiant floor heat)
- Includes remote temperature sensor for reading outdoor or second zone temperature

MAKING DOOR AND GATE COMMUNICATION/ACCESS EASY

For convenience and security, the Metreau Entry Communicator with display can be placed at weather-protected entry points of homes, condos, or hotels to provide audio/video communications with anyone at a door or gate—all over IP. An AMX Modero intercom-enabled touch panel can interface with the Entry Communicator and allow residents to open doors and gates.

The MET-ECOM-D's integrated display (not weather-resistant) provides the option of placing custom logos, personalized greeting messages, privacy notifications and other announcements (e.g. "Welcome", "Do Not Disturb", "Make up Room").

Use with the PS-POE-AF Power over Ethernet Injector to simplify wiring and installation by eliminating

the need for an AC outlet at each point of installation.

The Metreau Entry Communicator Key Features:

- Two-way VoIP audio to an intercom-enabled Modero touchpanel
- One-way video conferencing with any touchpanel
- Includes I/Os and Relays that enable guest entry from a Modero touchpanel
- Dual-color LED button provides feedback and doorbell notification
- Small form factor and shallow depth make for easy installation
- VoIP integration allows an unlimited number of entry communicators to be accommodated per system
- Camera can be easily positioned to correct angle for viewing guests at door or gate
- OLED display for personalized messaging
- Power over Ethernet



AMX's Metreau Entry Communicator with IP control

ELAN Home Systems FEATURE-RICH CONTROL SOLUTIONS FOR EVERY APPLICATION



(Left to right) ELAN's VIA!@10.0-EM, OLÉ*XL, VIA!@Valet10.0-EM, N800, and XP84

ELAN Home Systems is a leading manufacturer of innovative multi-room audio/video and home automation systems. ELAN's diverse lines offer complete lifestyle solutions for every customer need. And now with MSRP's ranging from \$380 to \$2000, more people can enjoy touchpanel technology creating new opportunities for ELAN dealers.

VIA!@VALET10.0-EM

- 10-inch, widescreen video touch-panel
- Ideal for tabletop and under-cabinet mounting
- Ultra-fast response, reliable execution, live video and ease of programming
- Great option for the senior market (larger format and bigger buttons)

Contact

ELAN Home Systems
www.elanhomesystems.com

- Easy to program with ELAN's newest VIA!@TOOLS software with pre-written two-way serial drivers for Lutron's HomeWorks® and RadioRA, Jandy Aqualink®, and many other integration partners

N800 FOUR-INCH HAND-HELD CONTROLLER

- Reliable wireless control of all entertainment, theater, and whole-house systems
- Internet access
- A sleek hand-held package makes the ideal go-anywhere controller for the entire house

OLÉ*XL FILM INTERACTIVE TOUCHPAD

- Revolutionary functionality, keypad-like simplicity, affordability
- Unmatched customization
- Extra-large OLED display

XP84

- Wireless 8.4-inch touchscreen, great high-res graphics
- Same functionality as the N800, priced very competitively and includes a great charger station that sits on Ethernet
- New, extended battery life

ADDITIONS TO THE VIA! LINE

- The new VIA! lineup includes two new sizes: 7-inch VIA!7-EM and 10-inch VIA!10.0-EM
- Widescreen landscape formats
- Live video and ease of programming
- The new VIA!4.0-EM takes the success of the current VIA!4-inch panel and matches the low-profile frame
- The VIA!10.0-EM's large, wide-screen viewing area makes it an ideal in-wall TV monitor

Control4 FLAWLESS LUXURY YOU CAN AFFORD



Control4's new seven-inch touchscreen is a 16x9 format with enhanced features like screensaver functionality.

Control4 is expanding its touchscreen product family, consisting of the Control4 10.5-inch portable and wall-mount touchscreens and the Control4 Mini touchscreens with the new Control4 7-inch portable and wall-mount touchscreens. The Control4 7-inch touchscreens combine a new ergonomic styling with an easy-to-use interface, offering convenient control of whole-home automation, including a home theater, multi-room music,

advanced temperature control, security integration, smart lighting, and more.

HIGH STYLE, LOW COST

Expanding the touch screen family with a seven-inch version provides increased flexibility on price, size, and functionality for additional rooms in the home. And, the new industrial design adds elegance to the whole-home automation experience along with increased performance capabilities.

SCREEN SAVER FUNCTIONALITY

Control4's new touchscreen is a 16x9 format that has three times the display area of the Control4 Mini touchscreen and has four custom buttons for programming. Also, it is capable

of running the screen saver functionality that turns the touchpanel into a picture frame. Users can now be greeted in a unique way when a touchscreen is not in use. Once the photo screensaver has been enabled on a system, Control4 Composer Home Edition software can be used to add or remove pictures and configure display settings.

MANY VERSIONS TO CHOOSE FROM

The Control4 7-inch touchscreen family is available in three skus: 7-inch POE wall-mount touchpanel at \$1,195 MSRP, 7-inch Wi-Fi wall-mount touchscreen offered at \$1,195 MSRP, and the 7-inch portable touchscreen priced at \$1,495 MSRP.

Contact

Control4 

www.control4.com



HAI's OmniTouch 8p and OmniTouch 10p portable touchscreens

THE OMNITOUCH 8P AND OMNITOUCH 10P

HAI's OmniTouch 8p is a 8.4-inch screen while the 10p is 10-inch screen. Both can be completely personalized and offer customized updates of traffic, weather, and stock info.

Other key features include:

- Total home control: video cameras, lights, thermostats, irrigation, drapes, etc.
- Total control of stored media such as pictures and videos
- Acts as digital photo frame
- Optional charging cradle available

PRONTO LINK FOR PHILIPS PRONTO

HAI's Pronto Link is a ProntoScript integration module for the Philips Pronto remotes that works with the Pronto 9400, 9600, and the new 9800.

Contact



www.homeauto.com

It's a free download from the ProntoScript for Philips Certified Installers portion of the Philips Pronto website: www.pronto.philips.com/prontoscript.

The screens are preprogrammed in Pronto Link so an installer can easily merge the HAI functionality into a standard Pronto project.

Pronto Link allows a homeowner to use a single remote to control his or her home theater; adjust lights, temperatures, and security settings; and control multi-room audio systems, such as the Hi-Fi by HAI system.

Wi-Fi capability allows it to be used as a wireless touchscreen for the HAI system. The Pronto communicates via Wi-Fi to a standard Wi-Fi router or access point, which then connects to the Ethernet port on the HAI system. You can even view surveillance video on your remote control.

OMNITOUCH 5.7 WITH STAND

For an affordable touchscreen option, the OmniTouch 5.7 provides a fun and affordable interface for HAI's Omni LT, Omni Ile, OmniPro II, Lumina, and Lumina Pro home control systems.

The OmniTouch 5.7 does not require programming and configures itself. Customers can enjoy the one



The Pronto Link for the Philips Pronto with Wi-Fi capability

touch control of security (Omni family systems only), temperature, lighting, audio, and other home control functions via easy-to-recognize icons. The unit mounts flush with the wall and features a 5.7-inch color, touch sensitive LCD screen with TFT Technology for brighter colors and better viewing angles.

The OmniTouch 5.7 is designed to be mounted in-wall, but an optional stand allows for tabletop functionality. Color change kits include white, black, silver, almond, light almond, and ivory.

There is also a 5.7e version that communicates via POE and can connect to the Internet for RSS feeds and other live data.



The OmniTouch 5.7 requires no additional programming, and can be mounted in the wall or used as a tabletop panel.

continued from page 2



RTI's T4 Universal Controller

interfaces, or have one remote for the theater and a separate controller for the whole-house system."

Also at CEDIA Niles will launch a brand-new technology called IM Net which works like a source card. "It searches the Internet or home network and delivers content through the whole-house ICS System," he explained. A finalist for CEDIA's Technology of the Year in 2008, Sterns said that Niles wanted to develop a product that worked seamlessly with subscription services like Rhapsody.

Vantage Control's Derek Jensen was quick to point out that interest is so great in the touchpanel category that Utah-based Vantage has expanded its offerings with various new models. The TPT line of Vantage touchscreens vary in size, function and capabilities, and offer a product for every style and performance need. The in-wall mounted 10.4-inch TPT1040 will debut at CEDIA in September 2008, while the TPT650 and the 5.5-inch TPT550 will ship this summer. For wireless control, Vantage

offers the TPT1210-1 and the seven-inch TPT700 portable touchscreens.

"Our new models are market driven, and the portable options are popular," Jensen said. A portable panel with Wi-Fi provides complete freedom and mobility to control subsystems and access movies, music, and digital content from any room of the home.

HAI is also promoting portability. HAI will use the CEDIA forum to showcase its new portable touchpanel solutions including the

OmniTouch 10p. The 10-inch device is totally customizable and offers personalized updates of traffic, weather, and stock info, as well as media control and access.

McLellan said that the new touchpanels from HAI reflect an exciting expansion for the company. "We've come full circle at HAI. We've always been very good with security and now we are evolving into media selection, all built into one ultra-reliable system," he said.

Along with the new touchpanels, HAI will release a new rewrite of its programming software, dubbed PS 3.0, to make integration even easier.

With so many forms and features to choose from, it is up to the homeowner to select which touchpanel best fits their style and lifestyle needs. According to Remote Technologies Inc. (RTI), based in Minnesota, its popular K4 touchpanel has it all—beauty and brains. In addition to its 6.4-inch color TFT LCD, RTI K4 offers infrared control, video monitoring, Ethernet connectivity, and a built-in Web browser. It's a con-

troller, personal computer, and monitor all in one sleek chassis.

RTI's Pete Baker said that in addition to showcasing its tried-and-true touchpanels, at CEDIA the company will introduce an entirely "new product category, new handheld touchpanels, and two-way communication paths."

The two-way transmission path is significant for RTI, because, as Baker explained, "now our popular panels will have two-way communication" for instant feedback from home devices such as thermostats or tuners.

Baker also described RTI's continued efforts with its Integration Partner Program continues to reach out to many industry manufacturers to ensure that their products work seamlessly. Similarly, the manufacturer is building its database of RS232 strings to help save its dealers valuable programming and install time.

ADDING VALUE

Many manufacturers such as Control4, also based in Utah, see the value in offering various touch-



panels for varying system needs. To that end, Control4 is expanding its touchscreen line-up with seven-inch portable and wall-mount touchscreens for whole-home automation, including a home theater, multi-room music, temperature control, security, and lighting.

The Control4 7-inch touchscreen suite includes the 7-inch POE wall-mount touchpanel (\$1,195 MSRP), 7-inch Wi-Fi wall-mount touchscreen (\$1,195 MSRP), and the 7-inch portable touchscreen (\$1,495 MSRP).

An opportunity to add even more value to a custom system elevates the expertise a contractor offers. Being a luxury service provider means building systems that surpass the client's expectations. IP or remote access fits into this value-added vendor strategy.

ELAN Home Systems, located in Kentucky, is proud of the new IP developments with its HomeLogic brand. David

Moore, ELAN's product manager for user interfaces, said that CEDIA attendees should expect to see a major software system upgrade that lets the HomeLogic and OleXL system work together more seamlessly. "Now the HomeLogic can become the true bridge and core of the system with full, two-way feedback with OleXLs all over the home." Moore, who used to be an ELAN dealer, said integrators are excited about this upgrade because it creates a scalable Good, Better, Best lineup and bridges the mid- and high-end IP offerings.

Also new from ELAN is the XP84, a flagship wireless Web tablet due to ship in September. "It's a wonderful panel with Windows XP embedded that supports Flash, Web browsing, web-based e-mail, and incredible software bells and whistles," Moore stated. "We listened to our dealers, took their input, and rolled out a product that we think will be a home run," he said. "It's more horse power with extended battery life." Moore added that it carries a low price point to keep the dealer margin high, a priority for ELAN.

Another way to distinguish your service offerings is client personalization. Since energy-conservation is on everyone's minds, AMX's ViewStat Color Communicating Thermostat is an appealing solution for climate control and energy conservation.

The Dallas-based manufacturer's ViewStat is a 3.5-inch color active display with pin-sharp graphics, programmable settings with four set points per day, HVAC, and humidity control for every zone of the home. To make integration seamless, it com-



Vantage's TPT1210-1

municates directly with AMX NetLinx system.

CHANGING LIFESTYLES

As many in the custom install industry know and as Charles Darwin first observed, it's the species that are the most responsive to change that ultimately endure. SAVANT is committed to staying on top of the trends and creating solutions that meet changing needs. Savernio believes that connecting with the clients' "user experience" is essential. "The proliferation of multimedia content and technology has created a demand for interactive user interfaces beyond standard fixed touchpanels," he explained.

"The diversity in our line of touchpanels will do more than ever with their music and videos with easier and more entertaining and interactive access to their content," Savernio added. "Our focus is on the social experience of the user interface."

Margot Douaihy is a contributing editor of Residential Systems magazine in New York City.



Control4's new 7-inch touchscreen is a 16x9 format with enhanced features like screensaver functionality.