

new products

With Christmas just around the corner, there are plenty of new peripherals on the market this month. Whether you're after a gift or just want to treat yourself, we bring you news of some of the more striking product releases



← HP Deskjet 3325, 6122 and 6127

Inkjet printers

HP has been busy expanding its home and small business printer range. It claims that its Deskjet 3325 (pictured) is "the perfect first-time printer". It can churn out up to 8ppm (pages per minute) mono and 6ppm colour. It features a 100-page papertray and a handy onscreen cancel option that prevents you wasting ink and paper. The 6122 and 6127 both offer claimed print speeds of 20ppm for mono and 13ppm colour, two-sided printing and a 400-sheet papertray, and the 6127 adds ethernet networking to the mix.

□ HP: 08705 474 747 □ Website: www.hp.com

□ Prices ex VAT: Deskjet 3325 £42, Deskjet 6122 £144, Deskjet 6127 £195

↓ Toshiba PDR-T30 and PDR-2300

Digital cameras

Toshiba has released the stylish PDR-T30 and PDR-2300. The T30 offers 3.2Mp (megapixel) image resolution and a sleek grey chassis. It boasts a maximum resolution of 2,048x1,536 pixels and a 2x optical/3x digital zoom. A touch-screen LCD lets you annotate your images directly from the device and it can also capture short movies. The 2300 offers a slightly lower resolution at 2Mp, but is matched by a lower price. It has 3x optical and 2x digital zoom facilities but uses four AA batteries rather than rechargeable lithium-ion units.

□ Toshiba: 08704 424 424 □ Website: www.home-entertainment.toshiba.co.uk

□ Prices ex VAT: T30 £298, 2300 £152



↑ Waitec Caddy 136 and 138

Digital cameras

Waitec's latest Caddy cameras are the 1.3Mp (megapixel) 136 and 138. Both offer a USB connection to download shots and TV-out ports so you can view your snapshots on a television screen. If you prefer your images moving, each captures video – the 136 at up to 10fps (frames per second) and the 138 up to 25fps. Both cameras feature a 2x optical zoom and are powered by two AA alkaline batteries. The main difference between the devices, and the reason for the difference in price, is the colour display on the back of the 138. Both have a two-year warranty.

□ MP3 Plus: 01225 785 188

□ Website: www.waitec.com

□ Prices ex VAT: Caddy 136 £71, Caddy 138 £92



↓ 3M Renaissance Mouse

Ergonomic computer mouse

The Renaissance Mouse is designed to cut down users' discomfort by changing their posture. Instead of adopting the usual 'palm down' stance, the Renaissance has a vertical design which keeps the arm in a 'handshake' position. Research by the University of Oslo shows that keeping the arm in this natural pose can cut down the pain felt by regular computer users. The Renaissance comes in three different sizes so users can choose the one that suits their hand best. Left- and right-clicks are carried out by the thumb, which is a stronger digit than a finger, and you can scroll through documents with a single click.

□ Office Markets: 01344 858 381

□ Website: www.3m.com/uk

□ Price: £59 ex VAT



→ NEC Versa M300

Budget notebook

Mobile professionals are the target market for NEC's latest notebook, the Versa M300. It comes in a range of configurations based on either Intel's budget Celeron chip or the faster Pentium 4 processor and it can be fitted with over 1GB of RAM. Graphics are handled by ATI's Radeon IGP 340M integrated chipset with 32MB of memory. A 40GB hard drive is twinned with a floppy drive and a choice of CD-ROM, DVD-ROM or DVD/CD-RW drive. The 2.8kg M300 comes with either a 14 or 15in TFT (thin-film transistor) display, it has a built-in ethernet port and there's even the option to include WLAN (wireless local area network) technology.

□ NEC: 0870 333 6320 □ Website: www.nec-online.co.uk □ Prices: from £637 ex VAT



↑ Optoma EP737

Digital projector

The EP737, Optoma's latest ultraportable projector, weighs in at just 1.7kg. It offers contrast rating of 1,600:1 and promises a bright display thanks to its 1,500 Ansi lumens. It can display a resolution of 1,024x768 and is built on Texas Instruments' latest DLP (digital light processing) technology. Operating noise is 35dB and it can display up to 16.7 million colours. The EP737 is primarily aimed at businesses users and is backed by a three-year hot-swap warranty. This means that a faulty unit will be replaced by a loan device until it's fixed so you are never without a projector.

□ Optoma: 01923 691 800
□ Website: www.optomaeurope.com
□ Price: £2,426 ex VAT

→ Cassius Pro

All-in-one flat-panel PC

It's a fact: PCs are getting smaller. Densitron has developed the Cassius Pro, a PC built into a 79mm thick flat-panel display. The 8kg unit comes with a wireless keyboard and mouse to cut down on cable clutter and a touch-screen version is also available. The Cassius Pro runs Windows 2000 or XP Pro and is powered by either a 766MHz Celeron or 800MHz PIII chip. It has 128MB of RAM and a 20GB hard drive, both of which can be upgraded, plus floppy and 24-speed CD-ROM drives. The screen is a 15in TFT (thin-film transistor) with a maximum resolution of 1,024x768. It has built in 10/100 ethernet, plus three USB ports to add on extra peripherals.

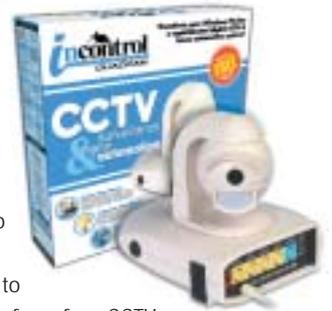
□ Densitron: 01959 542 000 □ Website: www.densitron.com
□ Prices: from £1,750 ex VAT

→ InControl Quadcam

Home security monitoring system

InControl says that its Quadcam system can turn any Windows PC into a CCTV security system. The package provides you with everything you need to view, record and play back digital video from four CCTV cameras. You can monitor your home live over the web and control up to 256 domestic appliances via your PC. You can even get text alerts sent to your phone and video snapshots of events emailed to you. The pack includes a USB-based Quadcam Hub, which you can connect to up to four CCTV cameras. One camera is bundled with the pack, but you have to pay extra if you want the other three. Each device has an integrated video image sensor, PIR (passive infrared) alarm sensor and covert microphone.

□ Digital Cybermasters: 01225 760 707
□ Website: www.incontrol-quadcam.co.uk
□ Prices ex VAT: £169 InControl Quadcam, £29 unlimited remote connections and SMS alerts for 12 months, £51 InControl Quadcam CCTV cameras





↑ Netbox Cubit

Desktop PC

This isn't the first time a manufacturer has released a cube-shaped PC, but we hope that this attempt will be more successful than Apple's ill-fated G4 Cube. Netbox has taken the more traditional Windows route, installing a range of flavours of the Microsoft operating system on the Cubit.

This 200x200mm system is powered by an 800MHz Via E-Series processor, 512MB of RAM and a 60GB hard drive, so it should be up to everyday tasks. It features a combo DVD/CD-RW drive so you have ample backup and playback facilities. A standard or ADSL modem can be fitted, so the Cubit can be delivered to you broadband-ready. Keyboard, mouse and monitor are optional extras.

- Netbox: 01453 840 171
- Website: www.cubit.info
- Prices: from £591 ex VAT

↓ Canon Laser Shot LBP-1120 and LBP-1210

Monochrome laser printers

Canon's latest release, the LBP-1120, is a 10ppm (pages per minute) laser printer offering true 600dpi (dots per inch) resolution. To ensure the best image quality this 6.2kg device employs automatic image refinement technology, which Canon claims can boost image quality to match 2,400x600dpi resolution output. It is a USB 2.0 unit, so if your PC supports this format you will benefit from faster data transfer. The 7.8kg LBP-1210 is a step up in Canon's printer range with a claimed print speed of 14ppm. It offers the choice of a USB 2.0 or parallel connection and an optional network adapter.

- Canon: 08705 143 723 Website: www.canon.co.uk/laser
- Prices ex VAT: Laser Shot LBP-1120 £152, Laser Shot LBP-1210 £212

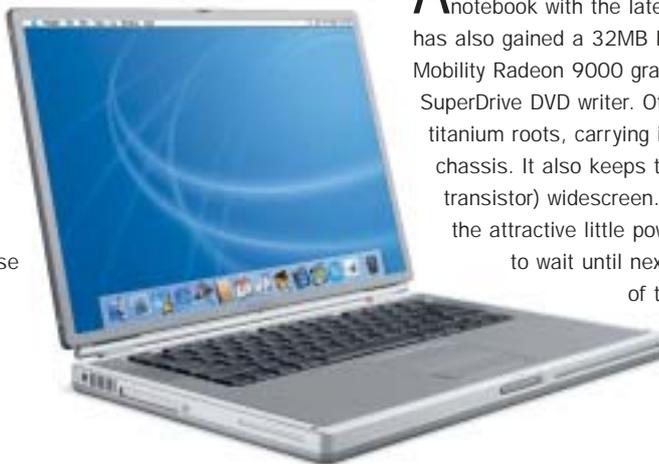


↓ Apple 1GHz PowerBook

Notebook

Apple has at long last hit the magical 1GHz mark in a notebook with the latest PowerBook. The new notebook has also gained a 32MB DDR (double data rate) RAM ATI Mobility Radeon 9000 graphics card and a slot-loading SuperDrive DVD writer. Otherwise it sticks to its sleek titanium roots, carrying its 2.4kg in a sleek 25.4mm thick chassis. It also keeps the trademark 15.2in TFT (thin-film transistor) widescreen. If you want to get your hands on the attractive little powerhouses, though, you will have to wait until next year. At least it gives you a bit of time to start saving.

- Apple: 0800 039 1010
- Website: www.apple.com/uk
- Price: £2,084 ex VAT



← Sony Vaio PCV-RX408

Power PC

The PCV-RX408 heads up Sony's family of desktop Vaio PCs and adds some innovative new features to the range. Sony's Click to DVD feature lets users record video and still images from camcorders, cameras and Memory Stick media, as well as edit footage and add soundtracks and background themes. Giga Pocket enables the capture of TV to the hard drive. You can then edit recorded files using Sony's MovieShaker software. The PC PCV-RX408 uses a 2.66GHz Pentium 4 processor, which is twinned with 512MB of DDR (double data rate) RAM, a 64MB GeForce4 MX 460 graphics card and 160GB hard drive.

- Sony: 08705 111 999 Website: www.sony.co.uk Price: £1,364 ex VAT

