



← TDK XS-iv S60 and S80

Multimedia speakers

Incorporating revolutionary SurfaceSound technology usually reserved for hi-fi systems, these flat-panel PC speakers promise high-quality, crystal-clear sound. The S80 system provides 80W of power, while the TDK XS-iv S60 offers a slightly lower 60W, and a forced pipe subwoofer guarantees crisp, rich audio and heavy bass. Not only does this TDK range sound good, it looks amazing, too, with a sleek design and silver styling.

TDK: 01737 773 773

Price: from £59.99

↓ Segway Human Transporter

Scooter

The product formerly known as Ginger or 'IT' has been kept under wraps for months, leading to speculation over what its designer Dean Kamen would unveil. Perhaps a little disappointing, but a lot of fun, the Segway is ultimately an adult scooter which uses your body's movement to drive the two-wheeled system.

The Segway promises it can go anywhere a pedestrian can, although we're not sure it's managed stairs yet. There are three models to choose from for different terrain and conditions.

Segway: www.segway.com

Price: £2,000-£6,000



↑ Thrustmaster Firestorm

Wireless gamepad

After acquiring a hefty collection of games at Christmas, what better way to experience them than on a wireless gamepad designed for one thing and one thing only: playing games. The Thrustmaster Firestorm allows you to move up to five metres away from your PC, so you can stretch your legs during intensive play without ever having to take your eyes off the screen. The pad has two analogue ministicks for progressive control, 12 programmable quick-action buttons and, as it's a USB device, you can literally plug it in and play.

Thrustmaster: www.thrustmaster.co.uk

Price: £29.99

→ Imation RipGO

Mini CD-R burner and digital audio player

Designed to fit in the palm of your hand, this mini CD-R burner is the ultimate in hi-tech streetwear. The Imation RipGO doubles as a digital audio player using mini 8mm disks, and can store up to six hours of digital info.

Perfect for the music enthusiast or business professional that needs to record data, graphics or presentations, the Imation is capable of downloading three hours of MP3 music in less than five minutes. Slinky and stylish, the RipGO tips the scales at a lightweight 8oz.

Imation: 01344 402 000

Price: £250



← Sony Airboard

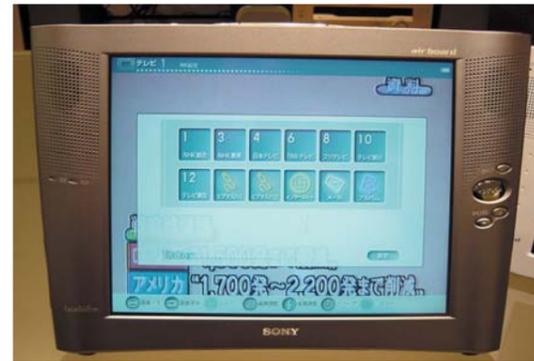
Interactive flat-panel internet appliance TV

This ultra-sexy flat-panel, with a 10.4in screen and attractive silver casing, marks one of Sony's visions of the future. Acting as a television, internet and email client, its aim is to 'free users from stationed TVs and PCs'. This means you can move freely around the house and plug in to telephone sockets wherever you are. It's wireless – if you can be bothered to set up the appropriate network, that is – and its touch-screen interface allows easy switching between TV and internet functionalities.

Sony's Airboard will launch in Japan in January 02, but at present there are no plans for release in the UK.

Sony: www.sony.com

Price: TBC



→ Fujitsu MHR series

Mobile hard disk drives

This new mobile hard disk range offers 10, 20, 30 and 40GB models. Ideal for laptop computers, the devices feature Fujitsu's second-generation head-load and unload facility and silent hard drive technology to improve reliability in harsh environments. They offer a transfer rate of 32.5MBps (megabytes per second) and an 'industry-leading track-to-track seek time' of 1.5ms (milliseconds). Weighing just 99g, the devices are lose-down-the-sofa small, and with built-in shock tolerance you don't have to worry about damaging the disks while on the move.

Fujitsu: www.fujitsu-europe.com

Price: TBC



← Hitachi Starboard LC-70

Interactive whiteboard

We're sure most of the country's schools would love to throw out their trusty blackboards and invest in interactive whiteboards. However, as our educational institutions are lacking in funds, they'll just have to drool like the rest of us. You can write and draw on the Starboard, make amendments to existing presentations and save directly on to your PC. The electronic pen – which performs as a pointer, mouse and, unsurprisingly, a pen – can also function as a page-turner when used in conjunction with a projector.

Hitachi: www.hitachi.co.uk

Price: £1,714