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FRI JUN 30 2006

Coming Soon: Matrixstream 1080p IPTV Streaming



You've seen how voice-over-IP services such as Vonage and Skype have turned the world of plain old telephone service upside-down, and now Matrixstream may be just about to play a similar trick on the cable TV and satellite TV market space with its end-to-end IPTV (Internet Protocol Television) set-top box and transmission technology.

Here's the Matrixstream MX1020HD set-top box, currently in the testing phase, which is said to be able to deliver 1080p video over an everyday "best effort" broadband connection. According to the company, the system accomplishes this feat by using H.264 compression and proprietary XMS streaming technology built into its head-end units it'll offer to service providers, and then decodes those signals with this set-top box which could be coming soon to a home theater near you.

The best part of this equation is that by the end of this year, IPTV might give you choices beyond just cable or satellite TV. Small, hotly competitive service providers are currently gearing up to offer the same services you get on cable and satellite, at even higher resolution. Sounds pleasingly disruptive. – CHARLIE WHITE

[Product Page](#) [Matrixstream]

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Toshiba to Ship RD-A1 HD DVD Recorder



Toshiba is jumping all over this HD DVD format, where first it stumbled onto the market with its [lame-ass HD-A1](#), and now it's going to be first to market with an HD DVD recorder, the RD-A1, which it will offer under the Vardia brand. The RD-A1 uses those two superior codecs, H.264 and VC-1 to record its video onto either single- or dual-layer HD DVD-R discs, and it's capable of recording on DVD-RAM/R/W discs as well. If that's not enough, there's a terabyte of storage packed inside for plenty of HD TV show recordage.

Looks like it's well-equipped with all the usual suspects when it comes to inputs and outputs, too, with HDMI, optical and coaxial Dolby Digital 5.1 audio outputs, and even network connectivity. Unfortunately, you'll pay for the privilege of recording onto those HD discs, because pricing is set at a steep \$3462. Ships mid-July. - CHARLIE WHITE

[Toshiba RD-A1 the first HD-DVD recorder](#) [Newlaunchees]

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FRI DEC 13 2005

Pixela's HDTV On the Go






Apparently, the Japanese just can't stop watching their awesome HDTVs, so much that they need to do it on the go. So in comes the H.264 Pocket TV by Pixela, released only in Japan. Yes, now you will be able to enjoy stunning HDTV-quality programming on the go in the form of a long candybar-esque pocket TV.



The device not only does television, but also FM radio and music playback. You can enjoy your tunes with digital 5.1 as well, since this little TV offers it all. Now all you need is some football, beer, nachos, and a toilet/jar, and I'm convinced that you'll never have to move again in your lifetime.

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