

Rental & Staging New Product Award Winners

Best New Products for the Staging Market Presented at InfoComm 2018 in Las Vegas



In a ceremony at InfoComm 2018 in Las Vegas on Tuesday, June 5th, the winners of the InfoComm *Rental & Staging* New Product Awards were announced. The program, administered by S&VC's *Rental & Staging Systems*, recognizes the manufacturers of new products for the live event and staging market that were introduced since InfoComm 2017. These are the products that made a lasting impression in the market leading up to InfoComm.

"This past year, more than any in recent memory," said David Keene, Executive Editor in charge of the *Rental & Staging* Awards program,

"we've seen a surge of new products—from direct-view LED, high-lumen projection and more laser phosphor projection in general, to new-gen video processing, to the increasing use of digital signage in all areas of the market. The InfoComm show floor in Las Vegas bore that out, in the breadth of products on offer and with some of the prominent ones accompanied by *Rental & Staging* New Product Award trophies displayed in the booths of the winning exhibitors."

The complete list of winners of the 2018 *Rental & Staging Systems* New Product Awards:



Future PLC's Adam Goldstein presents Peerless-AV's Dave Dahm the award for Best Video/Streaming Product, for the Peerless-AV PeerAir Wireless HD Multimedia System.



Adam Goldstein of Future PLC presents Pablo Espinosa of Meyer Sound, the award for Best Loudspeaker for the Staging Market, for the Meyer Sound, UP-4slim Ultra Compact Loudspeaker.

Best Video Projector/High Lumen: Epson Pro L1755UNL Large Venue Laser Projector ▶

The Pro L1755UNL features a laser–light source for virtually maintenance–free operation up to 20,000 hours, native WUXGA performance with 4K Enhancement Technology, and 15,000 lumens of color/white brightness. With a .35 throw ratio, the ELPLX02 lens transforms the high–lumen laser projector into an ultra short–throw solution that can be installed 100–inches from a screen or wall and deliver stunning images up to 1000–inches. The Pro L1755UNL operates at 120 volts – a breakthrough at this high range of lumens – and combined with the ELPLX02 lens it defies projector limitations in space–constrained environments and rear–projection applications with incredible installation and positioning flexibility



Best Video/Streaming Product

- Peerless-AV, PeerAir Wireless HD Multimedia System

Best Rental Management Software

- Point of Rental Software, Rental Essentials

Best Fine Pitch LED

- Absen, X3v Mobile Indoor/Outdoor LED Solution

Best Video Projector/High Lumen

- Epson Pro L1755UNL Large Venue Laser Projector
- Barco, E2 Presentation System

Best 55 inch Display

- NEC, P554 55” Professional-Grade Display

Best LCD-based Video Wall

- LG, 0.6mm Ultra-Narrow Bezel Video Wall (SVH7E)

Best Video Projector/10K Lumen or Less

- Panasonic, PT-MZ670U Projector

Best Audio Mixing Product

- Dan Dugan Sound Design, Dugan Model E-2A Automixer

Best Loudspeaker for the Staging Market

- Meyer Sound, UP-4slim Ultra Compact Loudspeaker

Best General AV Product

- NEC Display Solutions, EX341R-BK Display

Best Digital Signage Product

- LG, 88-inch Ultra Stretch Display (88BH7D)



Best Fine Pitch LED: Absen, X3v Mobile Indoor/Outdoor LED Solution.

Absen's 3.91mm pixel pitch mobile LED solution is designed for reliable performance in a variety of settings with various ambient lighting. These tough, lightweight and modular panels are interchangeable and work well with existing frames, processors, data and power units, with consistent colors and curved display options adding to their value and appeal. The X3v provides 4,500nits brightness and a refresh rate up to 3840Hz. Its front panels rate IP65 while its back panels rate IP54, providing the best weather protection from rain and other environmental elements indoors or out.

Best LCD-based Video Wall: LG, 0.6mm Ultra-Narrow Bezel Video Wall (SVH7E)

The ultra–narrow 0.6 mm bezels of the 55-inch LG SVH7E combine to create one powerful, impactful video wall with an incredible 1.2 mm bezel–to–bezel width. The display's eye–catching design and unique bezel width offers end users an immersive picture that resembles one continuous image rather than a collection of segmented panels. The groundbreaking video wall is equipped with LG's webOS 3.0+ Smart Signage platform, providing end users across a host of industries, convenience and ease of use. Combined with LG's proprietary In–Plane Switching (IPS) technology, the LG SVH7E video wall produces unparalleled viewing experiences sure to capture any viewer's attention.





▲ Best Video Projector/10K Lumen or Less: Panasonic, PT-MZ670U Projector

The PT-MZ670U (WUXGA) features 6,500lm (center), an LCD Solid Shine laser projector designed for stunning image quality and a compact and lightweight body, with ultra-low noise operation (28dB) in Quiet Mode. Continuous operational period for Laser Light Source (without exchange) is extended to 20,000 hours. Built-in LinkRay, a proprietary light ID transmission technology delivers mobile media content to people by allowing their smartphones to read IDs sent via LED transmitters. The Clarity Processor 4 enhances image clarity and sharpness, while Daylight View Basic ensures clear and vivid images in bright environments. Four-corner correction for stacking or projection on uneven surfaces; curved correction for curved surfaces. Exchangeable lenses (compatible with PT-EZ770 series lenses) offers flexible installation options. The Plug and Share app allows you to connect a PC to the MZ670U over a network to display video simply by preparing a USB key and plugging it into the projector. This projector is designed for education, house of worship, and other installation environments for projection of your media in harmony.



▲ Best Video Signal Processing: Barco, E2 Presentation System

The E2 presentation system for live screen management provides superior image quality, exceptional input and output density, great expandability and durability. Supporting native 4K input and output, it was the first screen management system to manage 4K projector blends with refresh rates up to 60Hz with full 4:4:4 color sampling and 12bit processing. A truly versatile system, it offers eight mixable PGM outputs and four scaled Aux Outputs for full show control with a single box. The E2 can be linked with multiple other E2 chassis to create extremely large pixel processing canvasses, to support the largest displays available. Features are 1) Supports native 4K input and output; 2) Simple servicing and control with cross-platform user interface; 3) Steel chassis that's able to withstand challenging conditions; 4) An extremely flexible 32-layer management system.



◀ Best Loudspeaker for the Staging Market: Meyer Sound, UP-4slim Ultra Compact Loudspeaker

The new UP-4slim from Meyer Sound is a compact, self-powered loudspeaker designed for demanding applications that require exemplary performance in a slender, lightweight and elegant package. The all-aluminum enclosure houses two 4-inch cone drivers, a 1-inch metal dome tweeter, a three-channel amplifier and dedicated signal processing. Operating frequency range is 85 Hz to 18 kHz, and a conical waveguide produces a smooth and consistently wide 100-degree dispersion

pattern. The UP-4slim incorporates Meyer Sound's exclusive IntelligentDC technology, receiving balanced audio and 48 V DC from a remote MPS-488HP power supply unit via a single 5-conductor cable with termination on a 5-pin Phoenix connector.



▲ Best 55 inch Display: NEC, P554 55" Professional-Grade Display

Seamless simplicity with the new professional NEC P series products. New contemporary and slim mechanical design with focused aesthetics allows for the smooth and stylistic integration into any type of environment. Their full metal chassis coupled with real-time temperature sensors and integrated cooling fans maintain the professional quality necessary for commercial environments. With a wide range of the latest connectivity interfaces including resolution support up to Ultra High Definition at 60Hz, these displays offer the future-proofing necessary for the investment. These displays also include expandability options such as the Open Pluggable Specification (OPS) and Raspberry Pi Compute Module slots for source integration directly into the display. The NEC P series boasts 700 cd/m2 brightness along with a new anti-glare surface that allows for efficient readability in higher ambient light situations and is ideal for 24/7 signage in airports, quick-serve restaurants, financial institutions, and command and control.



newproducts

Leyard and Planar LED

Leyard and Planar demonstrated their growing portfolio of fine pitch LED display solutions at InfoComm 2018. These high resolution LED video wall solutions offer customers a wide array of choices to fit almost any need. The fine pitch LED displays showcased included:

Leyard DirectLight X 0.7: This display breaks new ground as the finest pitch LED video wall display in the industry—offering a breakthrough pixel pitch of just 0.7 millimeters.

Leyard DirectLight X 0.7 provides high resolution images at the closest viewing distance, and allows for 4K and 8K resolution video walls in smaller spaces, matching the pixel density seen in traditional control room video walls but with a completely seamless and uniform image.

Leyard TWS Series: A family of versatile ultra-fine pitch LED video wall displays available in 0.9, 1.2, 1.5, and 1.8 millimeter pixel pitches, the Leyard TWS Series features a convenient 27-inch diagonal size with an all-in-one design to fit a broad range of environments. The Leyard TWS Series is lightweight and easy to handle, making it an attractive solution for applications where traditional, hanging or curved video walls are required.

Leyard TVF Series: The Leyard TVF Series is a family of fine pitch LED video wall displays available in 1.5, 1.8, and 2.5 millimeter pixel pitches. With a 27-inch, slim-profile display cabinet, the series features front serviceability and a creative, stackable design that eliminates cabinet-to-cabinet cabling and reduces the complexity of installation and vertical alignment.

Leyard LED MultiTouch: The Leyard LED MultiTouch is the industry's first completely seamless interactive LED video wall. This proprietary multi-touch solution revolutionizes interactivity for narrow pixel pitch LED video walls without the disadvantages of front glass. Available in 0.7, 0.9, and 1.2 millimeter pixel pitches, it offers a seamless, smooth, lightweight and durable LED touch surface that delivers superior visual performance.

Meyer Sound Debuts Svelte, UP-4slim UltraCompact Loudspeaker

Meyer Sound has introduced the UP-4slim ultra-compact loudspeaker, a slender new solution for applications that demand impeccable performance and exceptional power-to-size ratio together with elegant aesthetics. The UP-4slim incorporates Meyer Sound's exclusive IntelligentDC technology, integrating the inherent sonic advantages of self-powered loudspeakers with the installation ease of low voltage systems. It is the first IntelligentDC multi-way loudspeaker to be housed in an all-aluminum enclosure.

The UP-4slim is a three-way system comprising two 4-inch cone drivers, a 1-inch metal dome tweeter, a three-channel amplifier, and dedicated signal processing. The two cone drivers work in parallel at lower frequencies, with one rolling off in the midrange to prevent comb-filtering effects. The high-frequency driver is mounted on a conical waveguide to produce a smooth and consistently wide 100-degree dispersion pattern. The integral three-channel amplifier produces 500 W total output power.

The UP-4slim's operating frequency range is 65 Hz to 18 kHz, and the aluminum enclosure is ported, damped, and braced to minimize res-

onance while maintaining uniform response to the lower frequency limit. Real-world linear peak acoustic output is 110 dB SPL using unfiltered pink noise.

As with the other fourteen loudspeakers in the IntelligentDC range, the UP-4slim receives balanced audio signal and 48 V DC from a remote, rack-mount MPS-488HP power supply and signal distribution unit. Connections are via a single 5-conductor cable (e.g. Belden 1502) with termination on a 5-pin Phoenix connector. Conduit for the cabling is not required in most jurisdictions worldwide. The optional RMS Remote Monitoring System provides a display of loudspeaker operating status on a Windows or Mac computer.

The internal components of the UP-4slim are identical to those in Meyer Sound's highly successful UP-4XP, which is housed in a slightly larger, wood-based enclosure. However, the dedicated signal processing in the UP-4slim has been modified and refined to attain optimum performance in the slimmer aluminum housing.

The UP-4slim measures 15.90 inches high, 4.29 inches wide and 5.69 inches deep (404



mm x 109 mm x 145 mm). Weight is 14 pounds (5.9 kg). The UP-4slim may be installed using the optional U-bracket or mounting yoke. The M8-threaded top and bottom rigging plates also can be fitted to the optional external pole mount for portable applications.

Other options include custom color matching and weather protection for outdoor installations. Applications for the UP-4slim include foreground/background music and paging in commercial installations, delay and fill systems in performance venues, and portable systems for smaller rooms. It is also ideal for deployment in Meyer Sound's Constellation active acoustic system. The UP-4slim started shipping in June.

newproducts

Epson 12,000 lumen native 4K

Epson showcased its laser projector solutions at this year's InfoComm, including the world's first 12,000 lumen native 4K (shown in photo). The Pro L12000Q is a 12,000 lumen native 4K 3LCD laser projector and the Pro L20000U boasts 20,000 lumens of color and white brightness² with WUXGA resolution. Both models share the same robust, compact chassis for simple integration into existing infrastructure. Featuring support for HDR, 360-degree installation flexibility, backward lens compatibility, swappable interface boards, tile assist, and a sealed optical and laser engine to protect from dust and smoke. These large venue laser projectors are ideal for rental and staging events, lecture halls, churches, and digital signage installations.

Epson also showed at InfoComm its PowerLite L-Series – The new PowerLite L615U, L610U, L510U, L400U, L610W, L500W, and L610 deliver incredible value to customers, featuring an integrated laser light source, stunning imagery, up to 6,000 lumens of color and white brightness², resolution up to WUXGA, and enhanced wireless technology to connect to multiple devices. The PowerLite L-Series deliver innovative features that ensure bright, vibrant images, as well as quick and easy setup across devices for the education and corporate markets.

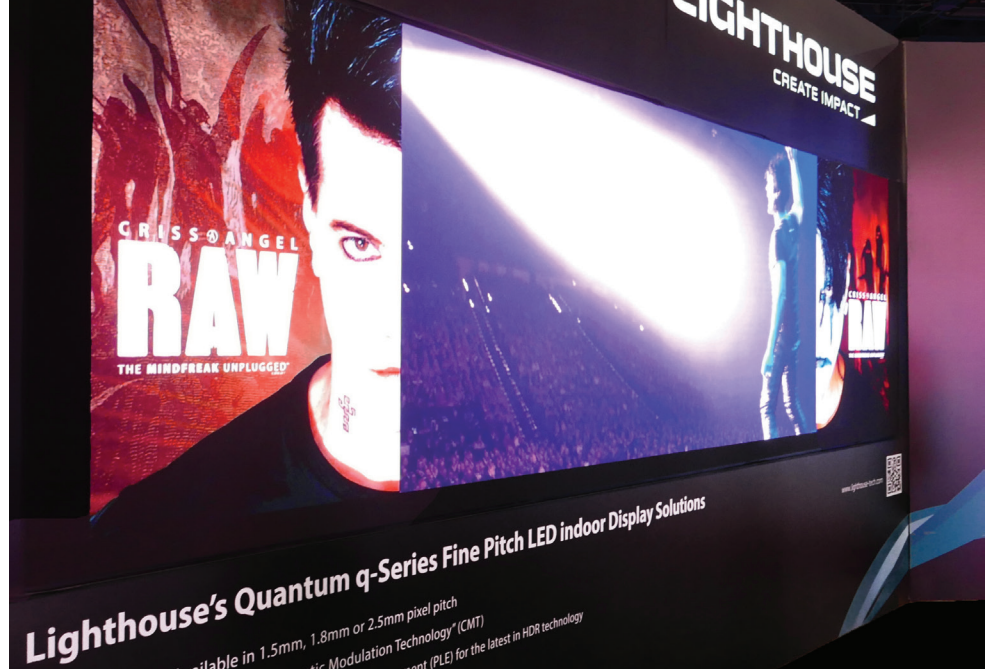
Sharp 8K Ultra-HD Multi-Display Video Wall

Attendees at DSE 2018 got to see Sharp's 70" Class (69.5" diagonal) PN-V701 LCD displays configured in a 3x1 video wall. At InfoComm, visitors witnessed the world's largest LCD panel video wall, as Sharp showcased a 4x4 configuration with the PN-V701 displays. The 16 LCD panels each have a resolution of 1080p and together comprise a 280" diagonal wall in 8K resolution. The displays are ideal for stores and shops looking to turn heads, and with a bezel-to-bezel width of just 4.4 mm, large images on the video wall will appear natural and seamless. Additional features include SHARP Advanced Uniform Color Calibration Technology (UCCT), which can deliver uniformity of color and brightness across the entire video wall.



Lighthouse Direct View LED

Lighthouse Technologies Limited, a leading global brand in direct view LED video display solutions with a 20-year history in the USA, debuted its new Quantum q-Series fine pitch direct-view LED indoor display solutions for the North American commercial AV market during InfoComm 2018 in Las Vegas. Quantum q-Series displays feature the latest in HDR technology—Lighthouse’s proprietary Peak Luminance Enhancement (PLE)—which delivers higher contrast ratios and provides a wider color space for richer colors and more natural images. Quantum q-Series LEDs also include Lighthouse’s state-of-the-art Chromatic Modulation Technology (CMT) to prolong LED life and virtually eliminate problems frequently associated with other display solutions.



Chromatic Modulation Technology Addresses Issues Other Technologies Ignore

Lighthouse’s Quantum q-Series fine pitch LED indoor display solutions—available in 1.5mm, 1.8mm or 2.5mm pixel pitch—are designed to support high pixel density indoor applications. But the true differentiation of the q-Series is embedded inside the display.

Available for the first time in the category, Lighthouse’s proprietary Chromatic Modulation Technology (CMT) features an integrated photosensor mounted inside each panel, continuously measuring the output for each LED module. The CMT nerve center automatically corrects for luminance and uniformity, addressing issues that other technologies ignore as they age or when they are swapped out for repair or maintenance. Lighthouse Quantum q-Series LEDs panels eliminate these problems.

Peak Luminance Enhancement Delivers Richer Colors and More Natural Images

The new q-Series also introduces Peak Luminance Enhancement (PLE) for the latest in HDR technology. PLE enhances peak luminance to deliver higher contrast ratios and provides a wider color space for richer colors and more natural images.

The Lighthouse LEAP processor and proprietary processing algorithm convert 8-bit video source materials to 10-bit HDR output, providing a new level of versatility and takes advantage of HDR performance for existing source material.



LG In-glass OLED

At InfoComm 2018, LG introduced slimmer-bezel versions of the 65-inch Ultra HD “Wallpaper,” 55-inch Full HD “In-Glass Wallpaper,” and 65-inch Ultra HD video wall LG OLED displays with a new super-slim bezel overlap seam. LG also showcased the highly-acclaimed LG OLED Canyon, which first made a splash by wowing attendees at CES 2018 with its winding LG Open Frame OLED panels in convex and concave configurations. LG’s proprietary OLED technology delivers perfect blacks, infinite contrast and incredible color from wide viewing angles, and are sure to elevate retail environments and art galleries with their cutting-edge picture quality.