

28 PRODUCTS FOR YOUR NEXT OUTDOOR INSTALLATION

An expanding array of loudspeakers, including 70-volt option solutions, along with 4K video displays drive rich potential for exterior installations. We round up a sampling of the latest solutions.

By *Commercial Integrator* Editors

DRIVEN BY the residential market's recent "discovery" of 70/100-volt technologies, there's a new generation of loudspeaker that include in-ground subwoofers fueling a renaissance of outdoor audio solutions. These products are helping professional integrators deliver full frequency, evenly dispersed sound throughout properties ranging from restaurants and resorts, to amusement parks and sports facilities.

Not to be outdone, there's a growing array of video solutions that complement these audio products now available to integrators. Today's outdoor video products are engineered to survive a variety of environmental conditions, while delivering resolutions that include Ultra HD 4K.

Here is a look at some of the latest products and technologies available for your outdoor projects this year.



Apollo Enclosures

Utilizing lightweight materials and finished in black, with upgrade choices such as silver, metallic sandstone and white, Apollo's enclosures fit HD and Ultra HD TVs ranging from 39 to 75 inches. Apollo says its enclosures employ anti-reflective safety glass that reduces reflectivity, and delivers a lasting sealed fit to protect against rain, dust, dirt and insects. The enclosures withstand temperatures from -4 to 122 degrees, and are supported with a full range of accessories, including heaters and weatherproof mounting brackets. apolloenc.com



Bose Free Space 51 Environmental Speakers

Illustrating its heritage of supplying indoor and outdoor solutions to the residential and commercial markets, Bose's Free Space 51 Environmental Speakers address outdoor audio needs. The speaker produces a 360-degree field of sound, and can be installed on ground or in the ground. The Free Space 51 model features a 4.5-inch full-range driver. The speaker is designed to withstand snow, rain, salt and temperatures from -22 to 140 degrees. bose.com



Bowers & Wilkins AM-1

Designed for locations such as patios, gardens, poolside, and end users such as restaurants, the AM-1 utilizes a rust-proof grille and a rigid cabinet. B&W says its engineers designed the speaker with an inverted driver array that includes tweeter placement below the AM-1's other drivers to ensure the listening axis and accurate phase characteristics. The speaker also includes a rear-mounted bass radiator, and a mounting bracket that allows integrators to rotate the AM-1 220 degrees. bowers-wilkins.com



Coastal Source Bullet Speaker

Coastal Source is a diverse manufacturer of outdoor electronics that includes lighting and audio products. The Bullet Speaker is available in a number of finishes such as brass, vintage brass, white, nickel and copper, and the speaker is designed to blend in and complement customers' landscaped properties. Internally, the speaker employs a 3-inch coaxial driver that Coastal says was specifically developed for the Bullet, and it resides in a waterproof and weatherproof enclosure. coastalsource.com



Crestron AIR LS4T

The two-way AIR LS4T is a weatherproof speaker that dealers can mount to stakes, walls or fence posts. The speaker offers installation provisions such as 8-ohm and 70/100-volt. Crestron states the speaker product produces a frequency response of 90Hz to 20kHz. Externally the speaker features a dark bronze finish, and it incorporates a direct-burial pigtail cable that helps ensure a clean and reliable connection. crestron.com



Monitor Audio Climate Garden System

The Climate Garden System represents the latest product category tackled by the British audio manufacturer. The unit is available through American distributor Kevro. The solution includes the CLG-W12 in-ground subwoofer and Climate CLG140 satellite speakers. Monitor explains that the sub and satellites daisy chain together via 70/100-volt options to cover large spaces with full-frequency sound. The sub is specified to deliver low frequencies down to 30Hz, and Monitor adds the products incorporate its C-CAM driver technologies. kevro.com, monitoraudiousoa.com



Crown CDi 2/600BL Amplifier

Crown says the CDi series amps are designed to balance performance, along with a selection of features without adding a significant cost. The CDi 2/600BL produces 600 watts into 4 and 8 ohms. The two-channel amplifier features network control, DSP and the BLU Link option. The BLU Link enables easy connections to Harman's proprietary protocol to send and receive up to 256 channels. Other features include eight-band parametric EQ options for the inputs and outputs, and the company's LevelMAX limiter. crownaudio.com



Leviton Architectural Edition Powered by JBL

As part of its introduction of five products in its Leviton Architectural Edition (LAE) architectural speaker line, Leviton has introduced the LAEAW, its new Indoor/Outdoor All Weather Loudspeaker. The model features gold-plated binding posts that are ideal for outdoor, utility, commercial, indoor pool, atrium, and other large space applications, the company says. The offering is part of Leviton's longstanding partnership with JBL, with the LAE series also including in-ceiling, in-wall and home theater models. leviton.com/audio



James Loudspeaker Modular Indoor/Outdoor Theater

The Modular Indoor/Outdoor Theater is a built-to-size aluminum structure to be assembled onsite, housing all of the required loudspeaker components for any surround format. The system is compatible with an array of subwoofer options. The product can be used for Dolby Atmos, Auro3D and DTS:X as well as conventional 5.1- or 7.1-channel surround formats. Conceived as a fully customizable free-standing solution, the Modular Indoor/Outdoor Theater gives integrators a turnkey theater for clients in rental properties or any other temporary scenario. jamesloudspeaker.com



Leon Speakers Boundary Series

Constructed from solid aluminum and finished in a high-performance finish, Leon Speakers' Boundary Outdoor Series is engineered to produce high levels of sound quality, while withstanding rain, snow, dirt, dust and other elements. The Boundary Series utilizes 5-inch aluminum cone woofers, along with a 1-inch aluminum dome tweeter. The company says the speakers include its proprietary brackets designed for an easy mount to trellises, eaves or railings. The line comes in standard finishes of midnight black or cloud white, plus custom, color-matched finishes. leonspeakers.com



GoVision GoVision TV

Addressing applications in the residential and commercial markets, GoVision TV provides dealers with a versatile, scalable outdoor video offering. GoVision says the products mount to nearly any structure, and the IP65-rated solution delivers more than 5,500 nits to maintain picture quality in bright sunlight. The Texas-based company says GoVision TV incorporates speakers and all of the necessary inputs to support the integration of the products into commercial and residential A/V systems. jumbo.tv



NEAR 7XL & 3XL DSP Amplifiers

Developed for residential applications, NEAR's 7XL and 3XL DSP amplifiers were introduced to American dealers at CEDIA 2016, and to European dealers at ISE 2017. NEAR states the 7XL is rated to deliver 700 watts per channel of power and the 3XL is rated to produce 350 watts per channel. Both employ Class D amplification designs that are capable of driving 4- and 8-ohm loads, and they provide 100-volt capabilities. The amps also offer high- and low-pass filters with slope and alignment control, 15-band parametric equalizers, and 16 presets. nearspeakers.com



Niles Audio RS Rock Speakers

Over the years, veteran custom electronics manufacturer Niles Audio has offered installers everything from volume controls and amplifiers, to control systems and IR systems. Among the company's loudspeaker varieties are its RS series of rock speakers. The models are available in colors such as granite, coral and sandstone. The RS series offers 5-, 6- and 8-inch driver sizes. Niles also has a selection of dual-tweeter models to provide stereo sound in locations that can't accommodate a pair of speakers. nilesaudio.com



Paradigm Garden Oasis

Canadian company Paradigm has introduced its Garden Oasis speaker system to expand its outdoor offerings. The scalable system has 4-inch and 6-inch satellite speakers, and 10- and 12-inch subwoofers. Paradigm says the satellite speakers switch between 8-ohm, 70-volt and 100-volt operation, and the products incorporate the company's Reduced Edge Diffraction (RED) technology to augment sound dispersion. paradigm.com



Peerless-AV Xtreme Outdoor Soundbar

Drawing from its diverse R&D, Peerless-AV's Xtreme Outdoor Soundbar (SPK-060) is a versatile outdoor audio solution. The active soundbar incorporates a 60-watt amplifier that is rated to deliver peaks of 90 watts. Peerless-AV says the speaker has a rated frequency response of 50Hz to 20kHz. In addition to its audio capabilities, the SPK-060 carries an IP65 rating for its enclosure, and it comes with the company's universal mounting hardware. Other features include built-in Bluetooth and a 12-button IR remote control. peerless-av.com



PlanterSpeakers AZEK Series

Madison Fielding's new PlanterSpeakers Bedford AZEK and North Salem AZEK models are variations on its lattice speakers made of cypress wood. Available in white, the speakers include the company's Smart Pot interior for drainage, and can be fitted with standard 90- or 180-degree projection. The Bedford's two-way speaker system features a 1-inch tweeter and a 5-inch HD woofer with a down-firing 8-inch passive radiator. The North Salem's three-way design features a 1-inch tweeter, a 4-inch mid-range, and a down-firing 8-inch HD woofer. A pair of the AZEK models can cover an area of up to 500 square feet, the company says. planterspeakers.com



Powersoft Audio Ottocanali Series Amplifiers

This line of eight-channel amplifiers from the Italian manufacturer Powersoft Audio offers power ratings all the way up to 12,000 watts into 4 ohms. The amps come with switchable main and aux signal inputs per channel, Lo-Z and Hi-Z output connects, and configure through the company's Armonia Pro Audio software suite. Models include the Ottocanali 4K4, the Ottocanali 8K4 and the Ottocanali 12K4, and they support the Dante digital audio platform. powersoft-audio.com



Rockustics XT-PowerRock

The two-way XT-PowerRock is a rock-style loudspeaker that can be placed in locations such as gardens, pools and patios to solve commercial and residential applications. The 93dB-efficient speaker's high-frequency driver employs a 1.3-inch diameter diaphragm with a 1-inch throat on an 80-degree conical horn. An 8-inch woofer reproduces low frequencies, and Rockustics says the speaker handles up to 250 watts of power. The speaker includes a 120-watt transformer with an 8-ohm bypass option. It is backed with a 10-year warranty, and comes in three colors. rockustics.mseaudio.com



Revel M80XC Outdoor Loudspeaker

Revel is known for its high-performance audiophile products, and the company addresses the outdoor market with its M80XC. The two-way speaker employs an 8-inch aluminum-cone woofer, along with a 1-inch aluminum dome tweeter and Acoustic Lens waveguide. The speaker incorporates 70/100-volt with 8-ohm bypass options. Revel says the speaker carries an IP56 weather protection rating, features the company's InvisBall mounting system, and is offered in black or white. The 89dB-sensitive speaker delivers a frequency response of 60Hz to 22kHz +/-3dB. revelspeakers.com



QSC PL380 Amplifier

Rated to produce 1,500 watts with both channels driven, the PL380 from QSC provides the ability to support remote network and control monitoring using the company's Q-SYS. The company points out the amplifier incorporates features such as parallel XLR connectors for loop-through connectivity, as well as Neutrik Speakon and Touch-Proof binding posts, and three selectable gain structures: 26dB, 32dB and 1.2-volts. QSC adds the amp utilizes a linear Class H output circuit that offers high levels of efficiency. The company backs the amp with a three-year warranty. qsc.com



Russound XZone 70V Streaming Audio Amplifier

Russound's first 70-volt component streams content from local networks, cloud services, and incorporates Apple AirPlay. Russound says dealers will find the XZone70V familiar through its similarity with the residential XStream products, but one major feature that differentiates the products is the inclusion of SiriusXM for Business. This streaming option provides commercial clients with a cost-effective, legally licensed solution to meet their clients' background music needs. russound.com



SoundTube Weather Resistant Surface-Mount Speakers

SoundTube's SM52-EZ, SM52-EZ-WX, SM82-EZ-II and SM82-EZ-II-W incorporate polypropylene woofers — 5.25-inch in the SM52-EZ and SM-52-EZ-WZ, and 8-inch woofers in the SM82-EZ-II and SM82-EZ-II-WX. All four models include soft-dome tweeters, and SoundTube's BroadBeam Ring technology. The speakers come with IP65 ratings, which means they are sealed tight and capable of withstanding water jets pointing directly at them. The WX models are IP65 rated out of the box, and the standard models meet IP65 criteria when the port plugs are installed. The speakers offer the choice of 70-volt, 100-volt and 8-ohm bypass. soundtube.com



Séura Ultra Bright Outdoor TVs

Available in display sizes from 42 to 84 inches, the Ultra Bright Outdoor TVs produce brightness levels as high as 700 nits to combat sunlight. The TVs' LuminOptics anti-glare screens also help the TVs to maintain quality images. Séura says that dealers can install the TVs in locations that include decks, patios and hot tubs. The TVs are rated to withstand temperature extremes of -30 to 122 degrees, and the products' triple-seal construction protects the TVs from all types of environmental elements, as well as dust and dirt. seura.com



SunBriteTV Veranda 4K Outdoor TVs

Underscoring SnapAV's commitment to the growing outdoor A/V market, its SunBriteTV brand introduced Veranda, a family of weatherproof televisions that it says are safer and provide superior performance and durability than indoor televisions in outdoor installations. Available in three screen sizes (43, 55 and 65 inches), the Veranda comes standard with a premium direct-lit 4K UHD screen, is brighter than typical indoor televisions and includes built-in down-firing speakers. Built for permanent outdoor installation in shaded locations, Veranda offers an operating temperature range of -24 to 104 degrees. snapav.com/ sunbritetv



Sonance CT/CM/FM 70/100V Speakers

The Southern California company Sonance's CT/CM/FM 70/100-volt speakers address applications such as office environments, hotels, restaurants, airports, amusement parks and marine. The CT-8 and CT-10 feature Sonance's Planar Diaphragm Technology that disperses sound 140 degrees. Aesthetically the speakers feature Sonance's Expanded Polystyrene Surface (EPS) concept that allows the speakers to be painted with materials that include latex. The CT-8 and CT-10 are retrofittable, and Sonance supports the speakers with optional tile bridge, backcan and mounting accessories. sonance.com



The DaVinci Group EN5

The EN-5T outdoor loudspeaker diversifies DaVinci's selection of outdoor audio products by providing dealers with a speaker that includes 70-volt/100-volt or 8-ohm operational modes. Other features built into the speaker include protected connections in water-tight housings, and a two-way acoustic design that features a 5-inch polypropylene woofer and 1-inch PEI tweeter. The DaVinci Group rates the speaker's sensitivity at 88dB, and says it delivers a frequency response of 83Hz to 20kHz. The DaVinci Group recommends pairing the EN-5T speaker with its Vanguard Dynamics OS-SUB Outdoor Subwoofer for a full-range audio listening experience. tdgaudio.com



Soundsphere Q6

The Q6 from MSE Audio's Soundsphere brand is the company's most compact weatherproof loudspeaker, offering omnidirectional full-range music and clear voice announcements for indoor and outdoor applications. The upward-firing speaker includes a coaxial 6½-inch woofer and ½-inch dome tweeter. The Q6, as with other Soundsphere speakers, utilizes a proprietary diffusion/reflection system for a hemispherical coverage pattern, allowing the integrator to use fewer speakers than conventional designs in a given installation. The Q6 comes fully assembled and ready to mount using a mounting bracket or hanging kit. soundsphere.com



Terra Five Series

Dealers can deploy Terra's AC Five Series — which includes AC Five 1, AC Five 2 and AC Five 3 — in a variety of ways that include out-door 70-volt installations. Through optional hardware provisions, Terra says dealers can install modular AC Five-based soundbars for outdoor A/V systems, and mini line arrays for more complex installations. The Five 1 employs a ¾-inch tweeter and a 5.25-inch midrange driver; the Five 2 has a 1.1-inch titanium dome tweeter and a 5.25-inch midrange driver; and the Five 3 utilizes a 1.1-inch titanium dome tweeter and a pair of 5.25-inch midrange drivers. terraspeakers.com