



### 1. GE Security | SmartCom Kit Intercom and Multiroom Audio System



Selling rooms of audio is one thing, says Chris Thompson of WEBCO Security, Ramsey, Minn. GE Security's SmartCom integrated intercom and multiroom audio kit has helped WEBCO sell multiroom audio as a four-room package. Plus, it includes the added "cool" factor, Thompson says, of the intercom system. "The intercom can be expanded to eight zones."

Other popular features with clients, Thompson says, are the front door station and the whole-house communication. "They can select from four audio sources, call all rooms for a whole-house page, call room to room privately with hands-free answering, monitor the baby's room from any station and use do-not-disturb features."

Most importantly, Thompson says, "it's easy to use." He says WEBCO has installed about six SmartCom systems and has received positive feedback from clients.

The GE Security SmartCom integrated intercom and multiroom audio system is targeted at new constructions, blending audio and intercom into one room station keypad. The kit comes with capability for four-room audio and intercom.

[www.gesecurity.com](http://www.gesecurity.com)

### 2. Panasonic | TH50PZ77U Flat-Panel TV



Some might view Panasonic's 50-inch 1080p TH50PZ77U plasma as an attempt to keep up with the LCD category. If that was Panasonic's intention, it's working, says Ken Paulson of Paulson's Audio & Video, Farmington Hills, Mich. "It's a non-glare plasma that looks like an LCD. So, it gets over the debate between LCD and plasma. It's been really, really popular."

The antiglare screen coating that Paulson alludes to is among the key features of the THPZ77 series. Panasonic does a good job of diffusing glare from ambient light.

[www.panasonic.com](http://www.panasonic.com)

### 3. Speakercraft | Mode Music Server



This just in: Many people have iPods. That doesn't mean they don't also want multiroom audio, points out Speakercraft, having introduced its Mode system, which includes the Mode DJ music server.

The scalable system can support up to six iPods and their metadata information. "It's very intuitive, especially with the metadata feedback," says Dan Paulson of Paulson's Audio & Video, Farmington Hills, Mich. "Everyone's used to iPods. Nobody's afraid to touch it."

Well, that's not entirely true. *CE Pro* senior editor Robert Archer says he's the only person in the world who doesn't own an iPod. Still, however, he reviewed the Mode system for our August 2007 issue. "It took me a while to get used to the navigation of the system," he wrote. Once he did get used to it he found it easy. He also raved about the easy ripping function of the Mode DJ.

Gary Kukik of Wow Electronics, Yuma, Ariz., adds that clients love the simplicity that Mode offers. "[They] have found it exciting with XM and iPod audio all in one place, and it's not very expensive."

[www.speakercraft.com](http://www.speakercraft.com)