

Press Information

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Philips upgrades Pronto remotes to enable advanced two-way multi-room control

DENVER – For the first time, Philips has introduced a significant upgrade to its award-winning Pronto home control system to allow two-way multi-room control in a mid-end touch-panel unit. The add-on, called ProntoScript, is available for the Pronto TSU9600 and TSU9400 models. The latest release of the ProntoEdit Professional editing software, available as a free download from the Philips website, includes the ProntoScript tool that enables two-way communication with the Philips Pronto remote.

The increasing integration of home entertainment and automation systems, together with the advent of multi-room A/V servers that allow content to be shared throughout the house, has driven consumer demand to control and monitor diverse home systems from a single device.

The Philips Pronto TSU9600 and TSU9400 control panels with ProntoScript provide a completely integrated two-way home control solution in affordable, easy-to-use touch-panels. The unit can receive feedback from RS232 or IP-controlled devices in real-time, providing advanced two-way functionality beyond controlling home entertainment and automation systems. The Philips Pronto TSU9600 and TSU9400 with ProntoScript allow the user, for example, to check whether the lights are currently on in a given room, consult temperature levels of HVAC systems or quickly read volume levels for A/V devices – all from the screen of the control panel.

ProntoScript allows custom installers to easily configure system feedback and dynamic user interfaces on the Pronto control panel by selecting from a list of pre-configured modules. Thanks to its straightforward, JavaScript-based, programming language, ProntoScript also offers the ability for custom installers to write simple modules to further enhance customization and adapt to set-ups to particular client needs. Several manufacturers have already joined the Philips Pronto partnership program to enable their equipment to work with the Pronto TSU9600 and TSU9400, with many more manufacturers to deliver modules toward the end of 2007.

“The Pronto TSU9600 is already the preferred touch-screen controller for home installations, thanks to its flexibility, reliability and razor-sharp display with the highest resolution available on such a device,” says Xavier Delmeiren, General Manager, Philips Home Control. “With ProntoScript, Philips is the first to offer a programming environment for advanced home remotes to integrate with A/V components, A/V servers, lighting and HVAC systems, making multi-room control with two-way communication affordable and simple to set-up.”

Wide range of support

Philips Pronto includes integrated support for the Escient Fireball Music and DVD managers, Imerge Music servers, Lutron Radio RA and MCE PC. In addition to these systems, a host of manufacturers have created modules which allow Pronto to control their systems:

- In the lighting domain, Lutron HomeWorks, DynaLite, LiteTouch and iLight are supported. "The Partnership permits both companies to enter new markets and field new opportunities that we otherwise couldn't do on our own," says Dannielle Furness, Marketing Manager of Dynalite. "We see the Pronto Partnership with Philips as a unique way to offer a better service to our customers in line with what today's installers' market is demanding. The co-developed ProntoScript module increases the efficiency of programming for installers and ensures reliable operation of the Dynalite system via the Pronto home controller for full system control beyond just lighting. The benefits are compelling for all parties involved."
- With HVAC equipment, Aprilaire Systems are supported.
- In A/V Servers: Escient Fireball DVD and Music Managers, Imerge SoundServer S3000 and Xiva supported music servers (Elan VIA! DJ series 2, Revox M37 mkII, Niles DMS4, SpeakerCraft Mode Jukebox and Xantech Xmusic W+), NuVo, Arcam, moodSeer and Kaleidescape Server Systems are supported. "For some time the Pronto provided the best hand-held control experience for Imerge SoundServers," states James Meredith, Technical Sales Executive of Imerge, "Now with the TSU9600 and TSU9400, Philips has taken the Imerge & Pronto experience to the next level, utilizing the latest technology to place metadata and cover art right in the users' hands, enriching their music experience."
- In Media Centers: Life|ware's digital entertainment and home automation solutions enable direct Pronto control of all Life|ware features from television, music, digital photos and videos to lighting, security, HVAC and multiroom audio distribution. "We are thrilled that the Pronto TSU9600 with ProntoScript can now be used to control and communicate with Life|ware," said Mike Seamons, vice president of marketing for Life|ware. "Philips has been a leader and an innovator in home control for years, and this new development provides our dealers with a compelling new remote control option for their customers to utilize the power of Life|ware."
- For high-end amplifiers, two-way communication (e.g., volume feedback) with Denon, Marantz, Yamaha and Onkyo models is supported.
- For multipurpose systems integration, Vantage modules are developed; "Everything controlled from the Vantage system (lighting, HVAC, curtains, audio, video, etc.) can be controlled from the Pronto TSU9600 control panel." Said Bart Stuyven, Product Manager for Vantage EMEA, "The simple communication between Vantage & Pronto can be done over the standard IP network or using RS232

communication ports. This makes the integration between Vantage & Pronto extremely easily usable and fast in set-up.”

- Partners who are working already on modules which will be released in the course of 2007 include Russound, Gira, Hawking, HAI and Clipsal.

For further product information, please consult the Philips Pronto website at www.pronto.philips.com

About Royal Philips Electronics

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