

Product Hits of Winter NAMM

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Looking for the place where pro meets M.I.? NAMM is it. With an exhibitor list featuring familiar names like API, Universal Audio, Focusrite, Crest, QSC, Studer, Manley, Crane Song, Rupert Neve Designs, Millennia Media, Neumann and dozens more, you might think you were at AES, but all were at NAMM.



Perhaps this year's theme was product downsizing, as numerous top-end companies showed new gear appealing to lower-priced markets, such as Solid State Logic's Duende Mini, Waves' \$99 iGTR guitar processor and Euphonix' new Artist Series mix controllers. At the same time, affordable, high-res pocket recorders were everywhere, from Edirol, Kaysound, Korg, M-Audio, Marantz, Olympus, Samson, Sony, Tascam, Yamaha and Zoom—offering a complete 24/96 remote rig for as little as \$299. Click [here](#) to see a video demo of Tascam's new DR-1 mini recorder.

iPOD-IFICATION

If there was ever a case for the democratization of audio production tools, you could find it at NAMM. Apple's iPod continues to show its versatility via interesting new third party add-ons.

The **Alesis** MultiPort is a pro-grade USB interface with XLR mic and 1/4-inch inputs/outputs, transport control keys and the ability to record directly to computer—or iPod. **Samson's** StudioDock powered monitors have something extra—a built-in iPod dock and USB interfacing. And **Numark** is now shipping its Fit for Sound, a rackmount iPod dock with RCA/XLR outs and large transport keys.



Alesis MultiPort



Akai MPC5000

Some 20 years after it first arrived, the **Akai** MPC keeps improving. The MPC5000 features 8-track streaming disk recording, a 20-voice analog synth with arpeggiator, 64-voice drum/phrase sampler, 12 Q-Link controllers, onboard effects, internal 80GB hard drive, large 240x128 hinged backlit LCD and optional CD-R/DVD drive. Shipping in Q2, retail is \$3,499.

CERTIFIED HITS

Here are our picks for NAMM's Top-10 hits, listed alphabetically.

Akai MPC5000

EastWest Fab Four Virtual Instruments

Euphonix Artist Series

KRK Ergo

MOTU Digital Performer 6

Peavey Revalver Mk III

Primacoustic Recoil Stabilizers

Sonnox Suppressor Plug-in

Spectrasonics Omnisphere

SSL Duende Mini