

NAMM 2008: Hot New Products, Part 1

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Yesterday, in addition to chasing down interviews with club legends, we managed to have a peek at several new products from Arturia, Dave Smith Instruments, Akai and a few others.

Here's our take on the first round of production tools for 2008.

Alesis

Interesting fact: The [Alesis SR-16](#) was the longest running beatbox in production, having remained unchanged since its introduction the early 1990s.

(If only the same could have been said about the [TR-808](#), but I digress...)

This year, they dropped the [SR-16](#) and replaced it with the [SR-18](#), which retains much of the original's charm, while adding effects, battery power (nice!) and an extended set of new sounds.



To some, this may be a subtle upgrade, but in a lot of ways, it sets up the portable beastie for another decade-long run in studios and backpacks.

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For the next few days, we'll be prowling the show floor and assessing this season's crop of new products, so check back all weekend for even more reviews and information.