

Toshiba unveils vision of tomorrow's digital human with a preview of innovative wearable device concepts

Submitted by: Speed Communications

Friday, 19 March 2004

Toshiba Unveils Vision of Tomorrow With World's Smallest Hard Disk

Previews Concepts of Innovative Wearable Devices

19 March, 2004 - Toshiba Storage Device Division (SDD) will today preview an array of innovative wearable devices based on its 0.85-inch hard disk drive (HDD), which is destined to bring the advanced functionality and versatility of hard disks to next-generation miniature and portable products. Toshiba SDD will display the concept devices as its vision of tomorrow's 'digital human' at the Innovation Corner at CeBIT 2004 in Hannover, Germany.

Toshiba is the pioneer of high capacity, small form factor hard disk drives. Its 1.8-inch drive is already the storage device of choice for some of the hottest portable gadgets on the market. Although none of the products on show at CeBIT are commercially available, Toshiba believes that the concept designs will inspire designers and manufacturers of next-generation, smart mobile accessories.

"Technology is becoming a bigger and better part of everyone's daily lives, and storage holds the key to greater performance and functionality," said Nick Spittle, Senior Manager Product Development, Toshiba Storage Division Europe. "The completely digital human may be a concept that is still some way off, but our hard disk's combination of high performance in a small form factor is the perfect medium to turn fantasy into reality by delivering on the visions of the product designers."

The concept products being premiered at CeBIT 2004 are:

* Wristwatch PDA

Designed with the highly digital, highly mobile worker in mind, the wristwatch PDA offers the full functionality of a high-end PDA with the ease and comfort of a modern digital watch. The widescreen display ensures video playback and video-phone conferencing will be received in crystal clear hi-definition whilst advanced voice recognition software enables easy and simple data input on the move. When at home or in the office, Bluetooth and Wi-Fi connectivity will broadcast directly to the nearest wireless-enabled TV or smart display.

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Digital Wallet/Data Key

The data key is perfectly suited for the busy professional and hectic socialite and contains all the features you would expect from a high end mobile device. Biometric security features store and protect crucial healthcare and digital passport information and the device acts as a single security solution for your home, office or car. PDA functionality includes an electronic address book, mobile email and wireless connectivity. Personal finance features includes support for location based e-commerce and electronic purchasing via all major credit cards and retailers.

* Intelligent Spectacles

The intelligent spectacles take the benefits and flexibility of personal mobile computing to an entirely new level. A wide range of connectivity standards ensures highly interactive web browsing and easy email access from any location and the advanced display capabilities for crystal-clear interface means that menu items and text could be simply selected just by focusing your eyes on the desired object on the screen

* MP3 Player Headset

With the capability to store an entire music collection on a device no smaller than a stereo headset, users can experience digital sound on the move in a design that is more natural and comfortable to wear. The player's scroll wheel offers quick and easy menu access and track selection and the high speed Wi-Fi compatibility and Internet browsing means music can be transferred quick and easily without needing to connect to a network provider or PC.

The concept products will be interactively displayed at the Innovation Corner, Hall 1, Stand 6H, throughout CeBIT 2004, in Hannover, Germany

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Notes to Editor

Accompanying images are available on request.

About Toshiba Europe SDD

Toshiba Storage Device Division (SDD) leads the market in developing, designing and manufacturing DVD-R/RW, DVD-ROM and CD-RW/DVD-ROM combination optical disk drives and 1.8ins and 2.5ins hard disk drives. The company was also the first to design and develop the world's first multi-gigabyte hard drive at a sub-one-inch size. SDD markets high quality peripherals to original equipment manufacturers (OEMs), value-added resellers (VARs), value-added dealers (VADs), system integrators and distributors throughout Europe. It also provides end-users with innovative portable storage devices. Since 2001, the SDD has been influential in the retail market with the introduction of its retail kits. Inherent in the company's philosophy and product lines is a sincere commitment to high-quality engineering and manufacturing, qualities that have been instrumental in establishing Toshiba products as worldwide leaders.

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