

Digital Times is a "for eCommerce newsletter reporting on the development and/or availability of interactive products and services."

w w w . d i g i t a l t i m e s . c o m

Apple Gives Digital MUSIC Lovers what they REALLY want!

Until this month, songs purchased from iTunes digital music store were recognized by, and had to be played on, Apple products only. Now, for \$1.29 each, tracks on **iTunes Plus** CAN be played on competing MP3 players! Why?? because *Digital Rights Management copy protection has been removed* from the iTunes Plus/EMI catalog. iTunes customers that previously downloaded these songs for .99 can upgrade to the **enhanced CD-audio quality** DRM-free version for only \$.30 ;-).

Thousands of songs are currently available due to the agreement between Apple and the world's 3rd largest music company - London-based EMI. I see this as a step in the right direction. Recent industry research estimates that consumers will spend \$9 billion on mobile music in 2007, including ringtones and music downloads.

The music & software industries were behind passage of the Digital Rights Management [**DRM**] movement of several years ago, making it illegal to distribute, play or copy songs or movies. Many DRM issues and cases have surfaced over a consumers ability to exercise their legal rights of fair use and de minimis use. Consumer access to information has been and continues to be, directly threatened by early digital rights management initiatives.

Many believe that Digital Rights Management software was *designed to impose restrictions* on computer users and that the use of the word "rights" in this way was designed to protect the viewpoint of the few that imposed the restrictions, while ignoring that of the many on whom the restrictions were and are, imposed.

AACS, the "Advanced Access Content System" promoted by Disney, IBM, Microsoft, Intel, Sony, and others, aims to restrict use of HDTV recordings—and software—so they can't be used except as *these companies permit*. A boycott of HD DVD and Blu-ray has been announced: For information, GoTo: <http://bluraysucks.com/boycott>

-editor

Scroll
Down for
rest of
issue!



Great For Your SUMMER Roadtrips!



New! Mio DigiWalker™ C520



Sporting a 4.3 inch diagonal touch screen and several nice features, the **Mio DigiWalker™ C520** portable widescreen GPS navigator and Digital Media Player is perfect for your summer travel adventures.

Use it to get your bearings and figure out where you're going and then give it to the kids in the back seat and let them enjoy their favorite music or movies.

Right now you can get an **Instant \$70 Rebate from online retailer, Megagps**. They are currently taking pre-release orders. Pre-release orders are shipped as soon as the unit comes in from Mio [mid-June] and can be cancelled any time prior to shipping.

The unit features English language TeleAtlas maps + Integrated Bluetooth for easy pairing with Bluetooth equipped cell phones for hands free calling while on the road. \$399.95 at Amazon.

Study: iPods Can Make Pacemakers Malfunction

WARNING

In May, an interesting study presented by a 17-year-old high school student at a meeting of heart specialists found that **iPods** can cause cardiac implantable **pacemakers** to **mal-function** by interfering with the electromagnetic equipment monitoring the heart!

The study tested the effect of the portable music devices on 100 patients, *whose mean age was 77*, outfitted with pacemakers. Electrical **interference was detected half of the time when the iPod was held just 2 inches from the patient's chest for 5 to 10 seconds.**

In some cases, the iPods caused interference when held 18 inches from the chest. Interfering with the telemetry equipment caused the device to misread the heart's pacing and **in one case caused the pacemaker to stop functioning altogether. Full story [HERE](#).**

My 76-year old husband is presently recovering from heart surgery. Fortunately, his entertainment consists of DirecTV, **Tivo**, computer games and me -- not MP3 players.

-editor



FlipStart® Mini PC

The next issue of **Digital Times** will feature a review of FlipStart Labs new ultra-cool mobile personal computer.

FlipStart is designed for the discerning, highly mobile professional. [Dynamism](#), a leading web-based reseller of exclusive ultra-mobile consumer electronics, has been chosen as the first authorized reseller of this product. Every FlipStart 1.0 comes with an Intel® Pentium® M Processor, 30 GB hard drive, QWERTY keyboard and SVGA display; built-in Wi-Fi, Bluetooth® wireless technology and Sprint® Mobile Broadband ready; port replicator for desktop connections; Microsoft® Windows® XP Professional or Windows Vista™ Business operating systems; high-capacity lithium polymer battery; stereo earbuds/microphone; AC adapter; screen polishing cloth; and soft carrying case.

Ultra HD TV ;~)

WOW! I am planning on buying my high definition T.V. in 2009. Under design and development by **ATEME™ SA**, an acknowledged leader in MPEG-4



video compression solutions, & NHK Labs. 2009 will mark the introduction of the full specification for Ultra HD cameras, recorders, encoders and projectors.

ATEME's renowned technology supports both standard and HD content, deployed across any platform - from mobile to Ultra HD. Ultra HD broadcasting consumes a tremendous amount of bandwidth...The use of ATEME's MPEG-4 AVC compression technology dramatically reduces the bandwidth requirements while maintaining the best quality.

-editor

<http://www.digitaltimes.com>,
.net, .org, .ws, .us, .cc, .biz, .tv

Digital Times® is
an "ecommerce publication
reporting on the development
and/or availability of interactive
products and services."

Sandra Knowles Kinnaird,
Founder