

projector review

Presentations lab test



Digital Projection iVision sx+

Digital Projection has packed an impressive set of features into the relatively small 7-pound iVision sx+. It measures 11 x 3.5 x 9.5 inches and looks like an average portable business projector. But inside, it has native SXGA+ resolution (1,400 x 1,050 pixels) and a powerful lamp that put out almost 3,000 ANSI lumens in the *Presentations* test lab — well over the 2,500 lumens Digital Projection lists for its brightness spec.

With SXGA+ resolution, the projector has remarkable flexibility: it works with many types of incoming source signals, from HD video to highly detailed CAD drawings and scientific visualizations. It can natively match the resolution of an increasing number of SXGA+ notebook computers coming on to the market. It can also switch easily between the 16:9 widescreen and 4:3 standard aspect ratios, and project common business and home-theater signal resolutions with pixel-to-pixel matching, including 480i, 720p, SVGA (800 x 600 pixels), XGA (1,024 x 768), WXGA (1,280 x 720) and SXGA (1,280 x 1,024). For higher resolutions such as UXGA (1,600 x 1,200) or 1,080i, the projector will scale up much better than a common XGA-resolution unit.

Testing it with an IBM ThinkPad notebook with an SXGA+ screen, we found text and images to be clean and sharp. Graphs, Microsoft PowerPoint slides, text documents and digital photos were all excellent onscreen. During our color-spectrum tests, even the yellow tones were accurate, which is not always the case with DLP-based projectors.

Digital Projection quotes a full-on/full-off contrast ratio of 2,000-to-1, and in the *Presentations* lab the iVision sx+ hit that number dead on. Video from the component and S-video connections looked great, with little pixel flutter and a warm, clear picture.

From a usability standpoint, the iVision sx+ again gets high marks. There are many auto-image-adjust options within the menu system, and color, brightness, contrast and other controls can be adjusted with greater sensitivity than with most business projectors. The remote con-

trol is nice as well; it has a track-ball for onscreen navigation, a laser pointer, individual buttons for specific sources, buttons for switching between aspect ratios, and controls for adjusting brightness, contrast and color.

For its price — nearly \$13,000 — we expected the iVision sx+ to be a solid performer with bright, sharp projection of data and video content, and it lived up to these expectations for the most part. One minor gripe: Considering its price, we feel Digital Projection should include a nicer carrying case to protect such a significant investment. It comes with a standard soft-side nylon case.

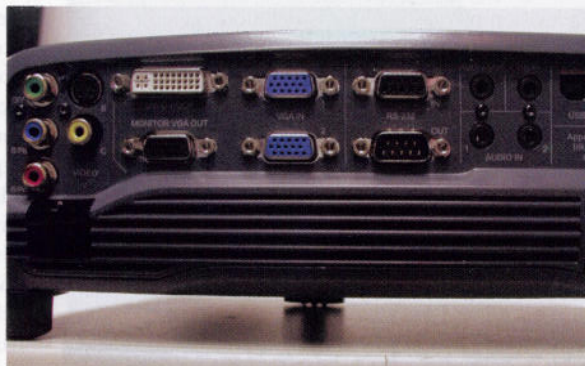


The top panel offers control for menu, source, keystone, volume and power.

The iVision sx+ is a premium projector made for a niche of users who need SXGA+ resolution and high brightness in a compact, portable projector. It's also well-suited for intensive-use or 24/7 environments. If your needs fall into either of these categories, it'd be hard to beat the bright and beautiful iVision sx+. (STAFF REVIEW)

CONTACT: Digital Projection International, 770.420.1350, www.digitalprojection.com.

CIRCLE 305 ON READER INQUIRY CARD



The iVision sx+ offers a wide variety of interfaces.

Digital Projection iVision sx+

\$12,995.

DLP projector with SXGA+ resolution (1,400 x 1,050 pixels).

Weights 7.7 pounds (12.2 pounds with accessories).

PROS: High resolution, high brightness. Performed at or better than specs. Great overall performance with computer data and video. Easy to use. Nice remote control. Advanced image-adjustment features in menu.

CONS: High price. Comes with soft-side case. No on-board speaker.

DESIGN: Controls on top for menu, source, keystone correction, volume, power. Status light also on top. All connections on back. One drop-down foot in front, two screw-down feet in back. Lock slot.

HOOKUP: VGA in (2), VGA out, DVI, component, S-video, composite, USB, LAN, Audio mini-jack (2), Audio out mini-jack.

COMES WITH: Cables: VGA, DVI, audio, 3.5mm-to-RCA, S-video, USB. Remote. Soft carrying case.

WARRANTY: Two years on projector; 90 days or 500 hours on lamp.

from our lab

PRESENTATIONS LAB READINGS

MANUFACTURER'S SPECIFICATIONS

Brightness (ANSI LUMENS) 2,500
2,839

14% ABOVE SPEC

Contrast ratio 2,000-TO-1
2,000-TO-1

AT SPEC

rating 9

Presentations projector test methods can be found at www.presentations.com/test_methods. Tests conducted with DisplayMate for Windows Video Edition software.