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# **Xantech Introduces Incredibly Useful Black Box: Intelligent System Manager Keeps Home Theater Systems Running**

*Xantech invents a way to outsmart 'human error' in today's sophisticated AV entertainment systems. The new 'Intelligent Systems Manager' is designed to prevent system catastrophes when casual users start pushing buttons.*

**Sylmar, Calif. – June 1, 2008** – Today's home theater systems are so complex that even turning them OFF incorrectly can disrupt settings. Xantech's new 'ISM4' Intelligent Systems Manager is an ideal back-up to eliminate the "human error" problem. It manages the power states of the components in a home theater system so that in the event of an un-programmed intervention, (such as a visitor turning off a TV screen at the unit itself) all of the video sources will remain coordinated and fully-functional.

"While it might seem unfair to describe this product as a 'granny guard,' we engineered the 'ISM4' for just that scenario: when the non-technical person attempts to access and use a high-tech entertainment system, which often results in a catastrophe," notes Xantech President Graham Hallett. "The potential for this device is almost unlimited because I believe that every installer will want one of these units in almost every job they do. The 'ISM4' delivers peace-of-mind for a very small price, reducing time-consuming and costly service call-backs. It belongs in any home where a complex audio/video entertainment system converges with family, children, spouses, and visitors because it brings *real-world operational simplicity* to leading-edge A/V components."

The 'ISM4' is designed for easy installation: just 'point and shoot' any IR remote controls from the equipment to be controlled, and the device learns their codes. No PC programming is required. Once programmed, the unit can sense the MASTER SOURCE so that if it is switched ON the 'ISM4' will automatically turn on all other sources connected. If the master source is turned OFF the 'ISM4' will make sure all sources turn OFF and stay OFF. If a unit is turned OFF when it is supposed to be on, the 'ISM4' will automatically turn the unit back on. Moreover, the 'ISM4' constantly checks the power status

of all units every 30 seconds. Keeping with the need to conserve energy, the unit also conserves power by keeping all units OFF when system is turned OFF.

The 'ISM 4' will be available the end of June at a retail price of \$350.

### **In Brief: Release Summary**

Key ISM 4 features include:

- Intelligent System Manager (4 Sources).
- Manages power state of up to 8 units via sensing modules (expands to 2 units for up to 8 sources).
- Send IR or RS232 command for ON-State and unit will make sure all units are turned ON and kept ON (i.e. constantly checks power status of all units every 30 seconds. If unit turns off when supposed to be ON, 'ISM4' will automatically turn the unit back ON).
- ON or OFF state can be controlled either by RS232 or IR *or* by simply turning one of the units ON manually. For example, turn on PLASMA with its ON button. Unit will sense the MASTER SOURCE is switched ON and automatically turn on all other sources connected. Turn OFF MASTER SOURCE and 'ISM4' will make sure all sources turn OFF and STAY OFF.
- Conserves power by keeping all units off when system is off.
- Get power status via RS232 Query.
- Monitors source power state with any Xantech sensor modules (Video, Current, Voltage, Light, Audio etc. ).
- No PC programming required (point and shoot IR).

### **About Xantech Corporation**

*Established in 1969, Xantech Corporation ([www.xantech.com](http://www.xantech.com)) designs and manufactures an extensive range of state of the art A/V Distribution and Control Systems, and Component Products, many of which have become the de facto industry standards. Since 1969, over two million of these systems have been installed worldwide.*

*The Xantech product line includes LCD Touchpanel Controllers, Multi-Zone, Multi-Source Audio/Video Systems, Multi-Zone, Multi-Source Pre-amplifiers, Multi-Channel Audio Amplifiers, Infrared Receivers, Remote Control Switchers, Interface Modules, IR Connecting Blocks, IR Emitters, Volume Controls and IR Accessories. Products are sold to Professional Installers and Distributors directly from Xantech.*

*Xantech's products are marketed in North and South America, Australia, New Zealand, Asia and Europe. Xantech is a subsidiary of Nortek, Inc. ([www.nortek-inc.com](http://www.nortek-inc.com)), a multinational manufacturer and distributor of building products for residential and commercial markets. Nortek, established in 1967, is headquartered in Providence, Rhode Island.*

*For additional information about Xantech and its innovative products, please visit [www.xantech.com](http://www.xantech.com).*

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