

Briefs: New XM radio device also plays MP3 tunes

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Music lovers can now add their own libraries to their already-loaded satellite-radio service.

Audiovox and XM unveiled the XM Passport, a portable satellite receiver that can also play MP3 files, at Thursday's opening day of the Consumer Electronics Show.

The predictably small Passport has docking capabilities that allow XM subscribers to plug it directly into not only vehicle stereos, but home units, boom boxes and even clock radios.

"The XM Passport is a tiny little tuner that is going to make a big impact on satellite radio," said XM Vice President Dan Murphy. "Millions of home, car, and portable products will use the XM Passport as the gateway to XM Satellite Radio."

XM Passport will come bundled with the upcoming Samsung NEXUS XM/MP3 digital audio players that can connect to both a supplied home docking station and the optional car dock, which will retail for about \$30.

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