

Sony's game console to show 3-D movies, get wand

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In this Tuesday, Sept. 14, 2010 photo, the Sony PlayStation Move, a new wireless controller for the PlayStation 3 video game console, is shown. The Move device allows for precise motion control over characters and objects on the screen during game play by simply waving it. (AP Photo/John Bazemore)

(AP) -- Sony's PlayStation 3 game console will work as a Blu-ray disc player for 3-D movies and music videos, not just 3-D games, with a software update download starting Sept. 21.

The free-of-charge update for movies and other content had been promised for later this year. But the date is being moved up to ride on the momentum of 3-D popularity, Sony executive Hiroshi Kawano said at the Tokyo Game Show Thursday.

The annual event in this Tokyo suburb features game machines and the

latest offerings from game-software makers. It opens over the weekend for the public. A preview event was held Thursday for reporters and business officials.

"The appeal and impact of games will be definitely enhanced with 3-D technology," Kawano said during a two-hour presentation at the Sony booth.

Sony also showed a motion-controller wand for the [PlayStation 3](#) called Move, similar to the one already on sale from rival Nintendo Co.'s [Wii](#). Sony said Move will go on sale Sept. 19 in the U.S. and Oct. 21 in Japan.

A 5,980 yen (\$70) "starter kit" for the Move comes with software called "Beat Sketch!" which allows people to make computer-graphic paintings on the TV screen using the motion-controller stick.

A similar kit for the U.S., with a different game, costs \$99.99, and the wand by itself costs \$49.99.

Move is cheaper than Microsoft Corp.'s Kinect, which sells for \$150 in the U.S. and 14,800 yen in Japan.

Kinect is a system to control gaming motion without a wand. It doesn't require the player to push any buttons, and the game is controlled by the player's movements.

The PlayStation 3 already plays 3-D games with an upgrade that could be done over the Internet earlier this year.

Some 38 million of the PlayStation 3 video game machines have been sold globally so far, according to Sony Computer Entertainment, the Japanese electronics and entertainment company's gaming division.

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