

Gadget turns table-tops into stereo speakers

January 9 2012



Roger Arnold, a member of a WOWee One team at the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas, unveiled a "Pro" model portable speaker that uses a conductive gel backing to transform hard surfaces into attention-grabbing woofers.

Roger Arnold reached into his jacket pocket and pulled out a gadget that turned an ornate wooden table in a Las Vegas nightclub into a booming stereo speaker.

Arnold is part of a WOWee One team at the [Consumer Electronics Show](#) in Las Vegas this week to introduce a "Pro" model portable speaker that uses a conductive gel backing to transform hard surfaces into attention-grabbing woofers.

"The gel serves as an acoustic coupling that is actually resonating the

table," Arnold said as he gave AFP a look, and listen, as CES prepared for its formal opening on Tuesday.

"If you are looking for a really good, pocketable speaker for your music this is it," he maintained.

The WOWee One Pro will be priced at \$150 when it is released in [Apple Stores](#) around the world in March as an accessory for iPhones, [iPads](#), or iPods.

The gadgets pair wirelessly to smartphones, tablets or MP3 players with Bluetooth connections over which digital audio is streamed.

WOWee in 2009 launched what is now a "Classic" model of the gadget that required a wired connection to devices holding music files.

When linked wirelessly to a smartphone, a Pro will also act as a hands-free [speaker](#) for incoming telephone calls, according to Arnold.

The company also provided a glimpse at a "Vue" pocket-sized projector that uses an energy-sipping green light laser to display digital video on any surface from as far as 20 feet away.

"If you are a businessman you can just turn up at a meeting and do a presentation," WOWee sales director Andrew Caddick said while demonstrating the Vue.

"If you are a family man and your kids are really annoying you, you can pull this out and your kids are watching a movie; hopefully nice and quietly."

The Vue, which claimed a four-hour [battery life](#), will be priced at \$369 when it is released globally in February. A light cable is used to stream

data-rich video files from smartphones or tablets to the projectors.

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Citation: Gadget turns table-tops into stereo speakers (2012, January 9) retrieved 27 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2012-01-gadget-table-tops-stereo-speakers.html>

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