

The First Sony UHD Blu-ray Player

Written by Marco Attard
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Sony unveils a reference standard UHD Blu-ray player at CEDIA 2016-- the ES Series model (UBP-X1000ES) offering full custom installation (CI) compatibility and features making it a home A/V centrepiece.



The X1000ES is compatible with UHD Blu-ray discs as well as 4K and HDR video streaming. UHD Blu-ray playback comes in 4K resolution, twice the colour range of existing Blu-ray players and HDR technology, with up to 100 times the dynamic range. In addition it also uses a Sony-developed Precision HD drive to maintain consistent performance with every other optical disc format, including DVD Video and DVD Audio, CD and SA-CD, Blu-ray 3D and BD-ROM.

A variety of video codecs allow it to deliver 4K streaming from services including Amazon Video and YouTube, among others. A dedicated HDR content picture mode is provided, while advanced video processing upscales 1080p content to near 4K 60p resolution. A unique Sony algorithm reproduces proper brightness and colour gradations when playing 4K HDR content on a 4K SDR TV.

On the audio side the X1000S carries a 32-bit DAC compatible with both native DSD (up to 11.2MHz) and LPCM (up to 192kHz) high-res music files in a number of different formats, and should be a great match with Dolby Atmos and DTS:X/TM object-oriented audio compatible receivers.

Since it promises to be CI-compatible, the the player is certified for use with automation systems from the likes of Control4, Crestron and Savant, with connectivity options including IP control over CAT5 cable or wifi, RS232C two-way control and IR-IN. A web browser interface is offered together with ihiji cloud-based management support.

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The X1000ES ships exclusively to the custom installer channel from Q2 2017.

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