

Sleek and Chic Blu-ray Disc™ Deck from Onkyo Gets More from High-Resolution Video and Audio Formats

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OSAKA, JAPAN: Home entertainment specialist Onkyo has unveiled a new BD-SP353 Blu-ray Disc™ Player, a slimline deck with DivX Plus™ HD, AVCHD™, and Hi-Res Audio playback capability. Partnered with one of the company's high-value home theater systems, the player brings the clarity and detail of 1080/24p video and multi-channel audio to entertainment spaces at an affordable price.

A raft of user-friendly inclusions adds value to a device that is engineered above all for excellent audio-video fidelity. These include a Quick Start function to reduce disc-loading time, a Continue Mode that bookmarks and resumes video playback after the unit has been powered down, Quick (1.5x) and Slow (0.8x) viewing modes, and a Short Skip/Replay function. Together with the full-sized remote controller (featuring large, well-spaced keys), operation is smooth and intuitive for people of any age.

The BD-SP353 is also highly versatile, playing retail and R/RW-format DVDs (upscaling standard resolution to 1080p via HDMI®) as well as CDs, MKV video files via USB, and AVCHD-encoded DVDs containing Full HD footage shot on video cameras. The front-panel port also supports FLAC and WAV audio files up to a maximum 192 kHz/24-bit resolution.

Furthermore, the player is capable of decoding high-resolution Dolby® TrueHD and DTS-HD Master Audio™ Essential multi-channel soundtracks encoded on Blu-ray Disc™, or can alternatively pass them through to an A/V receiver for decoding via direct bitstream output. An optical digital audio output is also included to send Dolby® Digital and 5.1-channel DTS® formats to legacy A/V receivers with no HDMI input.

The interactive and up-to-date content offered by BD-Live—such as film previews, games, and live peer-to-peer interaction—is ready to unlock via Ethernet, and joins BonusView™ functions such as a picture-in-picture mode.

Backed by Onkyo's reputation for uncommonly high quality, the BD-SP353 presents as a cost-effective and versatile playback solution for the most popular A/V formats available today.