

## **The 10 Coolest Technologies –Electronic Gadgets at CES 2017**

### **1) LG'S SIGNATURE W OLED TV**

It's the new LG's products that was the showstopper at CES 2017, showing off a slew of new high-spec sets, not least its amazing new LG Signature OLED W7. LG's Signature W7 OLEDs stand out even by the standards of a CES where extraordinary TVs seem to be lurking around every corner. The company describes it as the "lightest, thinnest, and most beautiful TV on the planet."

It's pretty cool and an absolute stunner as well. Measuring a wafer-thin 2.57mm, it's a true "picture-in-wall" telly, as LG has chosen to describe it, and will come available in 65-inch and 77-inch models running a new version of LG's custom TV software, webOS 3.5 – generally regarded as the best on the market.

### **2) Sevenhugs' Smart Remote**

Sevenhugs' Smart Remote aims to master all of your smart devices even at home or out. When our homes are getting smarter, from hue-shifting lightbulbs to thermostats that know your commute we definitely require a remote to control all these. And Sevenhugs Smart Remote aims to be the single, contextually aware remote control you need to master them all. Point the Smart Remote at a Philips Hue smart lightbulb and you can tap on its touchscreen display to turn off the bulb. Then, point the remote at your Sonos speaker and the screen's display will not let you crank up the volume, or switch tracks. Here's the "contextually aware" bit: point it at your fireplace, and you can bump the temperature up on your Nest Thermostat. Or maybe you just want to know if you need to tote an umbrella -- point the Smart Remote at your window, and it'll show you the weather forecast.

For those after an actually useful connected gadget, the highlight of CES 2017 was definitely the new Smart Remote from Sevenhugs. In the middle of the slew of connected crap being hawked at CES – everything from Bluetooth-enabled hotpants to a 'smart' hairbrush – this was the one gadget that restored our faith in the IoT future we couldn't avoid if we wanted to.

### **3) SAMSUNG'S 'QLED' TV RANGE**

At CES 2017, Samsung launched its new class of 'QLED' TVs which was long awaited. There are three new high-end sets coming in all: the flat Samsung Q9F, curved Q8C, and the Q7, which is available in both flat and curved models. On display were three models, the Q9F (flat), the Q8C (curved) and the Q7 that comes in both flat and curved options. All three looked nothing short of spectacular, but we're going to focus here on the flagship Q9F. It will be available in sizes of 55, 65, 75 and 88 inches – look for the Samsung 55Q9F, 65Q9F, 75Q9F and 88Q9F, respectively. The model previewed for CES

was the 88-inch version. Pricing and a release date have yet to be confirmed, but we understand the new QLED sets are likely to start shipping to select regions in March 2017.

The QLED TV was most impressed though this was a limited demonstration and among the "most anticipated" new TVs of 2017, according to our Samsung Q9F hands-on review.

#### **4) ASUS ZENFONE**

KEY FEATURES: Google Tango AR and Daydream VR support

5.7-inch WQHD display ,Snapdragon 821,8GB RAM,USB-C

3,300 mAh battery,23-megapixel camera w/ f/2.0 lens, Motion and depth sensors

Handsets aren't front and centre at CES like TVs are, but 2017 produced a few interesting new phones, not least the Asus ZenFone AR.

Asus managed to unleash a couple of phones that are pretty exciting at CES 2017. Asus in fact unveiled two new mobiles, but while there's plenty to like about the ZenFone 3 Zoom, it was the firm's augmented reality effort that really stood out, as it's just the second phone to integrate Google's Project Tango AR tech.

It also supports Daydream VR, and while Asus' insistence on adding a truly hideous skin to Android Nougat hinders the overall experience slightly, Mobile Editor Max Parker said it was the first time an Asus device had left him genuinely excited, which is no small feat.

#### **5) NVIDIA'S NEW SHIELD TV WITH 4K HDR**

The new model has an updated design and support for 4K HDR streaming. It now comes with both a remote and game controller and is available for preorder. Nvidia says the new Shield TV has three times the performance of any other streaming box on the market. It runs Android TV and has access to 4K content from Netflix, Google Play Movies, and Vudu. Nvidia has also added Amazon Video in 4K HDR — a rarity for Android TV boxes.

This cool innovation was launched with interesting CES 2017 reveal from Nvidia, which updated its Android-powered Shield TV box with a number of new features. While specs were thin on the ground, the Shield, Nvidia has got a case of the Apples and wants us to call the refreshed box simply 'the Shield' – now boasts full-fat 4K HDR capabilities. A 2016 firmware update allowed the device to stream limited content from YouTube in 4K and Netflix in HDR, but now it now offers built-in support for Netflix as well as adding Google Play Movies, Amazon Video, and games streaming (for those with powerful enough PC rigs) to its 4K arsenal.

In fact the new Shield also comes with Google Assistant built in, complete with the usual array of voice-based music control and video playback functionality, plus things like Samsung SmartThings. There's even an accompanying peripheral – Nvidia Spot. Similar

to Amazon's Echo Dot, you plug it in anywhere in your home and it picks up your voice commands.

### **6) The AE1 OLED TV from SONY**

Sony finally joined the OLED party at CES 2017, announcing its first OLED TV, the AE1 (A1 in the UK). Sony's Bravia OLED A1E is gorgeous, it's slim, and it sports a cool stand so you can prop it up like a giant picture frame. This 4K HDR panel supports Dolby Vision content, runs Android TV, and provides built-in Chromecasting. And you can control it by shouting at your Google Home. Quite apart from being an OLED TV, which is awesome, it has a 'unique' way of producing sound. Instead of speakers or a soundbar, which is the common way many slim TVs give you sound, the AE1 literally vibrates the TV panel to produce sound.

### **7) Kingston's - USB FLASH DRIVE**

The new DataTraveler Ultimate GT -- the GT stands for Generation Terabyte -- is the world's highest capacity USB flash drive, and comes in 1TB and 2TB offerings for those who want to transport large amounts of data with them without relying on hard drives or cloud storage. On top of the high storage capacity, the new drive is USB 3.1 Gen 1 compatible, which means excellent read/write performance.

Kingston's DataTraveler Ultimate GT offers superior quality in a high-end design as it is made of a robust zinc-alloy metal casing for shock resistance. I own a number of the previous-generation Kingston DataTraveler flash drives and can attest to how robust and reliable they are.

### **8) DELL 2-IN-1 XPS 13**

Intel Core i5 or i7 Y-series (Kaby Lake) processors

Weight: 1.24kg, 8-16GB DDR3 RAM, Full HD or QHD+ screen

Infrared webcam and fingerprint scanner, 2x USB-C (1x Thunderbolt 3), MicroSD, 3.5mm headset

The new XPS 13 is a 2-in-1 convertible designed to rival some of the devices in Lenovo's Yoga range and features a touchscreen display comes with Full HD and QHD models will be offered – plus a foldable hinge that allows you to use it in a variety of positions.

The package consists of the latest Intel Kaby Lake architecture (Core i5 or Core i7) and offer two USB-C ports.

### **9) Huawei - HONOR 6X**

A new Tango phone is important for bringing AR technology closer to being a part of our day-to-day lives and it would be the most coolest phone ever could be made. The most immediately accessible new smartphone that broke cover at CES this year looks like the Honor 6X from Huawei sub-brand Honor.

The mid-ranger, which is set to retail for £225/\$250, features average (but competent enough) overall specs, with one major exception – the dual-camera configuration found on the back. At present, this is the kind of feature that's normally only found on high-end handsets like the iPhone 7 Plus, which is a good thing, because some of the other key talking points are less positive.

Namely, the 6X's dull design doesn't quite fit with Honor's strained (and at times, frankly embarrassing) efforts to appeal to teens and millennials.

### **10) WIRELESS HTC VIVE**

An amazingly cool and something fairly big from HTC at CES 2017, and it is significantly bolstering its Vive range. It's not quite 'Vive 2', but there's a slew of new accessories to play with, not least the semi-mythical TPCast-designed add-on that makes the HTC Vive VR experience completely wireless. Using the new superfast WiGig standard this is set to solve one of PC VRs current biggest bugbears – being tethered to a rig. The key features are a 6,000 mAh battery that powers the Vive for up to two hours .

The company also launched a bunch of new software, most notably the world's first VR subscription service, which it claims will be "Netflix for virtual reality."