

Hands-on With 4 New Flash-Based Camcorders

Contributed by Popular Mechanics
Thursday, 07 February 2008

Popular Mechnics - By Seth Porges

LAS VEGAS — Shooting high-definition video on a camcorder used to require lots of time, lots of cords, and extremely powerful computer processors. Now, a slew of new video cams from different manufacturers hope to take some of the pain out of shooting HD by allowing you to easily transfer your video from the internal memory (most use flash, one uses a hard drive) to memory cards. Once your video is stowed on the card, you can easily view it (many new TVs feature memory slots), share it, or edit it, without ever having to plug into your PC. In addition, because you can offload all of your shots, these cams allow for essentially endless shooting in the field without running out of space (assuming you have a decent stash of memory cards, that is.)

And with virtually all of the leading camcorder manufacturers announced dual-format camcorders at CES, it is a certifiable trend. Lets take a look at four of them.

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