

WHAT'S NEW

Looking for higher education technology products and services? Start here.

Edited by Michele Herrmann



Servicing Community Colleges

CardSmith has developed *FastStart*, a multifunctional campus card service specifically for community colleges. The Application Service Provider campus card solution does not require services or software or even on-campus staff for operation. It works with campus ID cards produced locally and can be launched at more than one campus. Applications include dining point-of-sale and paying for services such as printing/copying, bookstore purchases, and laundry. CardSmith will fix service costs for a three-year minimum and guarantee that programs can be launched within six weeks from the start of their implementation. Pricing is based on factors such as institutional size and could begin at around \$10,000 per year. Learn more at www.card-smith.com.

Self-Retracting Screen

The *Manual SRM projection screen* from **Elite Screens** has a slowed retraction mechanism (SRM) that enables the screen to gently retract in and out of its casing. A safety feature, SRM eliminates the risk of retracting the screen too quickly, which could cause damage to the unit. The screen's end cap design can accommodate installation on a wall or ceiling. An auto-locking mechanism adjusts to various height settings. Screen



sizes range from 85 to 120 inches with a choice of 1:1 and 4:3 NTSC aspect ratios. Pricing starts at \$119. Learn more at www.elitescreens.com.

Display Monitors Suit Signage

Sharp's new *PN-E series of professional LCD monitors* can be best applied to digital signage and display use in high-traffic areas. Available in four screen sizes, the Energy-Star qualified line has a thin bezel design for easier mounting and placement with 1080p resolution from just about any analog and digital RGB source, as well as HD video for sharp images. The monitors also provide contrast ratios up to 5,000:1 and multiple color adjustments and include a 10-watt audio stereo system with built-in speakers. A lockable key panel and power-on delay function is also offered. Add-ons such as an optional expansion board and a signage controller are sold separately. Pricing ranges from \$1,795 to \$7,550. Visit www.SharpUSA.com/monitors.

Mounting Strong Sound

Sanyo has introduced two new ultra-short-throw projector mounts that eliminate the need to use the projector's internal speakers or a separate audio system. Instead, they provide a high-output audio playback system. The *MT-EDU101* (priced at \$949) and *MT-EDU102* (\$999) integrate a 50-watt, two-channel amplifier and two 25-watt-rated two-way speakers into the chassis of the wall mount for optimum sound. The mounts can handle weights up to 50 pounds and



have multiple external audio sources. For short throws, the *MT-EDU101* can extend 7 to 27 inches from the wall. For longer throw distances, the *MT-EDU102* adds an extension pole to place a projector 37 to 67 inches from the wall. An integral cable routing system conceals signal and power cables. Check out these mounts at <http://us.sanyo.com>.