

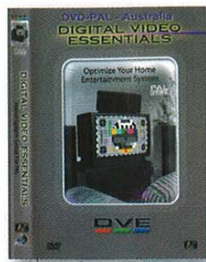
## TWEAK YOUR TV

People spend plenty of money on TVs, but few realise that when a display comes from the factory, it is most likely falling well short of its potential. Potential that can be easily realised with a tuning device such as *Digital Video Essentials (DVE)*, a video calibration solution that costs \$69.

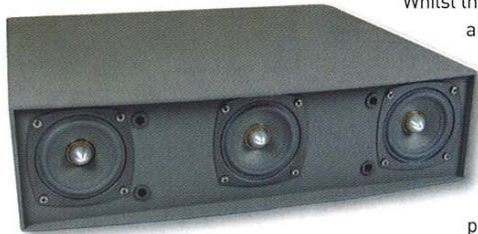
*Digital Video Essentials* is a DVD that provides powerful tools to optimise your display, and, to a lesser degree, audio system settings. DVE includes instructions and test patterns that help you milk the most from a display and audio tweaking assistance. It also provides demonstration material you can use before and after you tweak to see the difference.

DVE is optimised for PAL (Phase Alternating Line), the Australian video system, and provides standard-definition video content. It includes basic, intermediate and advanced levels of video calibration.

DVE's downside is that its menu interface leaves a lot to be desired – it can be hard finding the test pattern stuff if you want to jump to it directly. But it's well worth the time spent persevering with it.



## THAT'S A BIG SOUND FOR A LITTLE BOX



Whilst the Zvox 315 is never going to beat a full component and separate speaker system, for the money (\$499) it does a pretty good job of imitating one.

One of Zvox's claims is that it delivers big sound from a small package. The propeller-heads behind the 315's design, Tom Hannaher and Winslow Burhoe, are widely experienced in the audio industry and have slipped some

clever features into what at first glance seems to be a fairly simple device. The 315's 13cm woofer, driven with 20 watts, combines with three 8 cm full-range drivers, hopping along with 10 watts each, to present some authoritative beef.

The Zvox 315 is a convenient and clever one-box solution that provides a generous amount of sound quality for its asking price. There will be plenty of plug-and-play fans who'll find a good home for it.

"THEY'VE SLIPPED SOME CLEVER FEATURES INTO WHAT SEEMS A FAIRLY SIMPLE DEVICE"

## LOOKING INTO THE FUTURE

A new high-tech mirror is offering on-the-slide Aussies a look into their future.

Accenture's experimental mirror shows unhealthy eaters what they could look like in the future if they fail to improve their diets.

The device – known as the Persuasive Mirror – is aimed at developing technologies that encourage people to maintain healthy lifestyles in to avoid obesity and related health problems.

The prototype was built to look like a standard bathroom mirror. Users do nothing more than look

at their 'reflections'.

The mirror uses two cameras placed on the sides of a flat-panel display and combines video streams from both cameras to obtain a realistic replication of a mirror reflection. Advanced image processing and proprietary software are used to visually enhance the person's reflection.

The mirror can also be configured to accept other health-related data. For instance, it can show the consequences of too much time spent in the sun or of drinking, smoking or drug use.

