



A familiar, full-fledged remote returns



DVICO TViX HD N1 (Cafe)

A CUP OF TEA

TEXT // KEVIN BOEY

AT A GLANCE

STORAGE
External (up to 1.5TB)

RESOLUTION
1080p

FILE FORMAT
NTFS / FAT32

PRICE
RM550

Not contented with the success of their TViX series, enterprising Korean media player manufacturer DVICO has released an even smaller and cuter media player named the TViX HD N1 or Cafe, as it is colloquially known. Built as a smaller version of their popular TViX player, it is nicknamed the Cafe as it looks like a large mug. Cute euphemisms aside, this small device packs quite a punch, with features rivaling its bigger cousins.

Packaged in the form of the previous-generation TViX, the Cafe is no larger than a generous tankard of lager. This makes it inconspicuous enough especially when it's placed beside a large-screen TV. It is not light despite its size, although the omission of an internal hard drive makes this device a solid-state offering. Storage devices can be connected via any one of the three USB ports, one of which is delightfully hidden under the pop-up top along with a multi-card reader.

It also has an Ethernet jack for UPnP network connectivity, theoretically enabling it to function

without the need for a local storage option. This enables users to scan their multimedia folders on any computer within their network, and it even comes with an optional Wireless-N adapter. Additionally, it also has NAS-like capabilities, allowing us to rearrange, add or delete media with ease using the remote control or when the Cafe is connected to a computer via the network.

Like other TViX models, it offers a comprehensive range of output options for any display, making it a great, full-featured portable media player. Naturally, we only require a HDMI out for full video capability. There's also an optical output for DTS or Dolby Digital pass-through purposes to one's AV receiver.

The interface has changed from the regular TViX look, allowing us to view our media in their full cover art glory – a nice touch from the usual text on the screen. With properly-archived media, user friendliness has jumped a couple of notches. Apart from the sleek interface, it also sports an Internet Media Service feature, a handy thing to have short of propping-up a netbook beside your TV. It is able to search for media in services

such as YouTube or Picasa and you can even setup your RSS feeds for real-time updates - on your living room screen. Of course, your Internet connection does play a critical role in ensuring this feature works.

Playback is a non-issue; we usually mention that TViX players are robust and you can rarely find fault with them if you stick to their playback capabilities and this is also true of the Cafe. Full 1080p videos played without a hitch and even the notorious RMVB looked smooth. It even plays lossless audio such as FLAC and Ogg, making it a versatile HD media player in both, audio and visual aspects. Despite its small size, it's hard not to love the TViX Cafe!



The standard connectors seen on a TViX is also available on the Cafe

SPECIFICATIONS VIDEO FORMATS MPEG 1/2/4, H.264, RM/RMVB in MP4, MOV, XVID, AVI, DIVX, MKV, RM, RMVB, TS, M2TS, MPG, VOB, AVC-1, FLV file formats **AUDIO FORMATS** Dolby Digital, DTS down mixing, WMA, WMA Pro, FLAC, AAC, MP1, MP2, MP3, LPCM, Ogg Vorbis **PHOTO FORMATS** JPG, JPEG, BMP, PNG, GIF, TIF **SUBTITLE FORMATS** SRT, SUB, SMI, IDX+, SSA, ASS, ssmi, smil, sub, sub/idx, srt, .ssa, .ass, MKV internal subtitle **CONNECTIVITY** HDMI, Composite Video, Composite Audio, Component Video, S/PDIF optical (digital audio), Ethernet, 3x USB2, SD/MMC card Memory Stick, Memory Stick Pro, Duo **DIMENSIONS / WEIGHT** 109 x 144mm / 500g (no HDD) **WARRANTY** One-year **CONTACT** Ideatools Technology Sdn Bhd **TELEPHONE** (03) 5121 7245 **URL** www.tvix.co.kr



Verdict:
9.0

GOLD HMM MALAYSIA

PHYSIQUE: 9.0
FEATURES: 9.0
USER FRIENDLINESS: 9.0
PERFORMANCE: 8.5
VALUE: 8.5

A mini TViX for DVICO fans

VERDICT SCORES ARE OUT OF 10.