

VARSHOWCASE

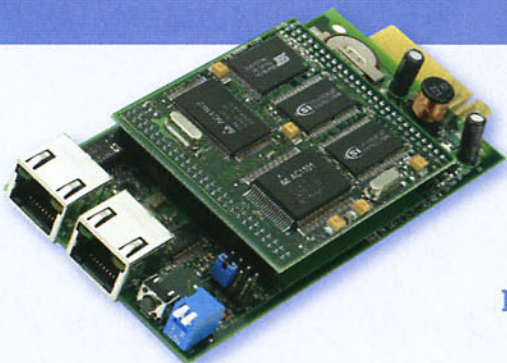


VIEWSONIC
VX2245wm 22"
Widescreen LCD: \$449
www.viewsonic.com

ALTHOUGH STYLE IS VERY MUCH subjective, whitebox systems are faulted for a lack of flair, if anything. Viewsonic's VX2245wm has the potential to jazz up even the blandest build, though, through a combination of sharp design and smart features.

Since functionality matters most, the screen's 22" wide format gets top billing. Despite its massive 1680x1050 resolution, Viewsonic quotes a typical 700:1 contrast ratio and 5ms response time, suiting the display to high-impact video playback and after-hours gaming. Analog and digital inputs accommodate a wide variety of output devices, while built-in speakers and a miniature subwoofer play back sounds from an audio input and the built-in iPod dock that sits front and center.

The price is right on Viewsonic's VX2245wm. A big screen, great specs, plenty of extra features, and PC/Mac compatibility make the display an overall winner. A lack of HDCP support is the only ding to an otherwise well-rounded upsell.



BELKIN
SNMP Card for Small Enterprises UPS: \$279
www.belkin.com

POWER PROTECTION IS A MUST ANY TIME YOU ROLL OUT A SERVER. But most of the time, battery backup is one of those fire and forget subsystems. You plug in the UPS, connect critical components, maybe install some bundled hardware, and assume relative safety. If there's any sort of remote monitoring tied to the UPS, it's usually through Terminal Services.

But what happens when a customer calls you after-hours, unable to remote into his server? Or what if you need to monitor the charge remaining on an operational UPS from miles away? Belkin's SNMP Card for Small Enterprise UPS opens the door to communication with some of the company's small business battery backup products using a 10/100 Ethernet connection and a browser-based interface. Rather than open a remote desktop connection with the server, the SNMP card talks directly to the UPS. In mission-critical environments, that's a reassuring upsell.



ADDONICS
AESNAPMRS Snap-in SATA Mobile Rack: \$27
www.addonics.com

SMALL BUSINESS SERVERS RELY INCREASINGLY ON RAID ARRAYS TO safeguard sensitive information against mechanical failure. At a basic level, RAID 1 does the trick for enabling redundancy, but because the technology simply mirrors data, half of your customer's storage is spent on protection. RAID 5 is a popular alternative since it frees more of the installed disk hardware for storage. A RAID 5 array requires no less than three drives, though. On servers already running two-drive arrays, that means adding another.

Perhaps the easiest way to install highly accessible storage is through a hot-swap bay, such as Addonics' new Snap-In Mobile Rack. Natively outfitted to work with SATA hard drives, you'll also find options to interface with IDE, SCSI, and USB ports. Taking the hot-swap route simplifies hardware replacements should one drive go out. Or you could even install a second hot swap bay for local backups that can then be taken off-site for physical security.