



# Presse-Echo

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DIGITAL CINEMA  
FILM TECHNOLOGY  
STUDIO TECHNOLOGY  
CUSTOMIZED SOLUTIONS  
360° DISPLAY SYSTEMS

[www.kinoton.de](http://www.kinoton.de)

# How Are The Standards Evolving?

Which new developments are there in digital cinema projectors after 3D?

**It goes without saying that on a moderately sized sector of the industry such as digital projectors there won't be a new device out every week. Nonetheless there were innovative products to be seen at the exhibitions in Las Vegas and Baden-Baden. Also, the industry makes technical improvements on and adds new features to existing technology. Currently, the central topics at the exhibitions are the growing use of media blocks and the new levels of quality brought about by higher frame rates.**

## Kinoton: 4K technology is here

The German company Kinoton has now used the first media blocks capable of delivering higher frame rates in its machines. „Basically, all Series 2 projectors are already designed to be retrofitted with HFR,“ says Harald Bergbauer, Head of Distribution at Kinoton. „Several manufacturers have started to offer so-called integrated media blocks (IMB) as well. You

need these blocks to play back images at a rate of 48 or 60 frames per second in 3D, as the bottleneck that limits the data exchange rates is not the projector but the ‚slow‘ connection between server and projector.“

Through the use of media blocks, technology is transferred from the server to the projector, especially the parts responsible for decoding and encoding the signals. Several manufacturers have announced new products in the run-up to CinemaCon in Las Vegas. Bergbauer: „It is a proven method to limit ourselves to a few reliable suppliers as it facilitates the supply management in daily business and leads to greater sustainability for our customers.“

Existing Series 2 projectors can be retrofitted and new projectors can be configured so they are HFR ready right away. Bergbauer has noticed that „most of the current orders are for projectors with media blocks.“ The only drawback being that there is no HFR content so far. All the more eagerly everyone is waiting for the release of „The Hobbit“ in December.

Kinoton's new 4K projectors are based on projection technology supplied by Barco and start shipping in June. „4K technology is here,“ says Bergbauer. „The individual delivery dates for a complete system depend on the accessories, especially with media blocks and the new 4K lenses there are delays right now.“

The DCP range will be extended to include the 4K versions. „The projectors remain unchanged on the outside, the pro-

ven, maintenance-friendly design has been kept. The significant difference is that light engines with a 4K resolution are used.“ Initially, there will be two models: „One is the DCP 30 MX II 4K projector for small to medium screen sizes, the other is the DCP 30 LX II 4K for medium to large screens.“

It is important, he says, that the operating concept, the illumination system, the spare parts supply, and the tie-in with the existing technology remain the same. „When you upgrade the system, the user experience remains unchanged,“ the Head of Distribution assures.

Kinoton also introduces innovations related to its Digital Cinema Automation system (DCA). The system enables modular, decentralized cinema automation and facilitates fast and cost-efficient system integration. The existing stock of modules is extended to include several new control panels and extra connections for scalers, fire detection systems and exhaust control. „The advantage is that the system is bus-based instead of relay-based,“ emphasizes Bergbauer, „this way it is very flexible in accommodating future additions and it is foreseeable that there will be more technology and network equipment in the projection room.“

The company also made improvements to its Kinoton Remote Service (KRS), which enables a rapid diagnosis of problems and assistance over the internet. Bergbauer says, the new functionality means „that the exhibitor can log on to a web interface via his KRS box and access the operating data of his D-cinema machines in real-time whenever he wants to, you can even do so with a tablet pc (such as the iPad) or a smartphone (the iPhone, for instance).“ This would greatly accelerate the correction of errors, shorten unpleasant downtime and considerably reduce the expenses for service calls.



The Series 2 projector by Kinoton.