

Pack Your Bags for CES

Written by Bob Snyder
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You may miss Bill Gates as the star of the CES but Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer will keynote address on Jan. 7th He's expected to show Microsoft's Windows 7 and maybe the future of Microsoft Office.

Attendance at CES 2009 may drop to 130,000 or lower and hotels (previously packed months before the show) now offer discounted rates. It's a great year for European buyers to attend a CES: not only will it cost much less, but you'll also get more attention as US domestic sales slip further and America's littlest dealers stay home.

More 2700 companies will be present at various locations but it's the innovation that makes CES the world's leading show for consumer IT products. **Lenovo** will show a first: its laptop with two screens. **Palm**, fresh from a new capital injection, will announce its Nova (Linux-based OS code) and its come-back new devices.

Silicon Image

will show Allio HD LCD TV with a built-in PC for simultaneous TV and Internet viewing on a split screen.

Intel

has prototypes running mini-apps to complement TV with Internet.

Tzero

will demonstrate wireless HDMI streaming between devices using UWB.

Tune Bug

will bring the ultimate audio product for any Tour de France wanna-be and other helmet sports enthusiasts.

We promise CES will be more relaxing and intimate with the floors less crowded. But no less productive.

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