

Looke TV-Box

- *very comfortable to use*
- *can be connected to a HD monitor for high resolution viewing*
- *doubles as alarm clock when in standby*
- *ideal for anyone living away from their home country*
- *Universal Plug and Play enabled*



The All-Inclusive Internet Talent

The LookeeTV box measures a mere 125 x 55.9 x 257.5 mm in size and its front panel is dominated by a high-resolution 7" TFT display in 16:9 format. To the left and right of the display are speakers rated at 2 watts.

The rear panel at first glance doesn't seem all too impressive; there's just an arrow ring button as well as three buttons to operate the TV box without a remote control.

It's only when you open up a small flap on the rear panel that the box reveals all of its various connections. These consist of an HDMI output, an RJ45 network jack, a mini USB port (also serves as the power input), a headphone jack, an SD card reader,

CVBS video and stereo audio outputs and last but not least a jack to connect the included FM antenna with the LookeeTV box. The on/off button can be found on the top of the box and is therefore very easy to reach.

The remote control included by the manufacturer completely fulfills all of the requirements that would be placed on it and also in terms of its workmanship, ergonomics and the labeling of the buttons.

A detailed manual guides the user step-by-step through all of the functions of the box; the box also comes with a very logical and easy to understand OSD such that most users could easily get by without the user manual.

In addition to the remote control and the power sup-

ply, the manufacturer also includes in the package a CVBS/stereo audio cable and a mini-USB cable to link the box with a PC. All in all, the overall workmanship of all the hardware left us with a very good impression.

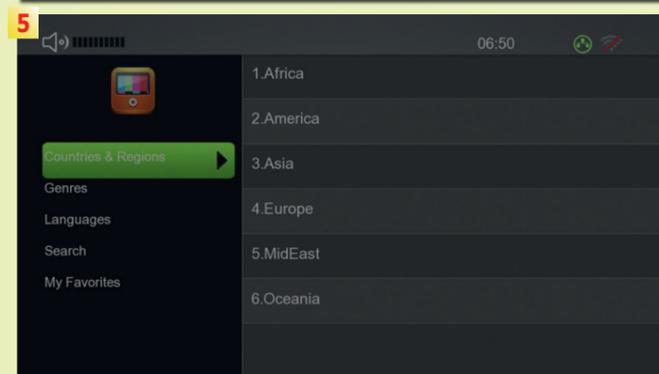
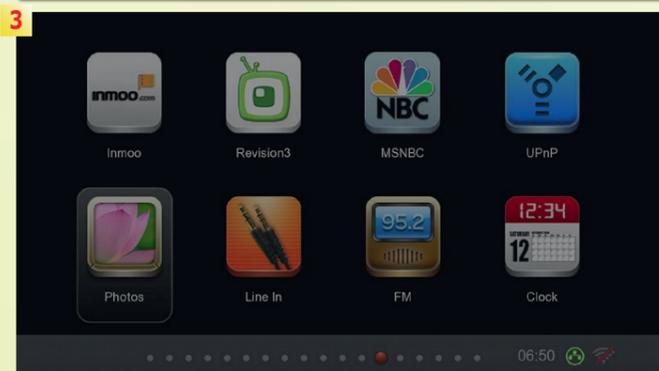
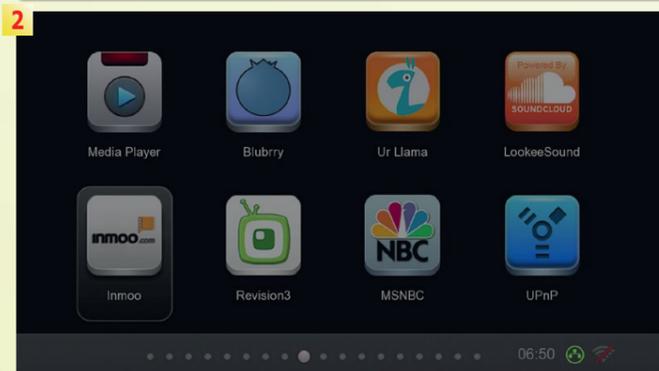
In order to be able to use all of the LookeeTV box's functions, the first step would be to create a link with your router or high-speed modem so that the box can operate with an Internet connection. To that end, all you need to do is take a look at the 18 different choices in the main menu whose entries are arranged in a similar fashion to

the Apps on a SmartPhone.

Selecting "Settings" lets the user choose a desired language (the box supports English, German, French, simple and traditional Chinese as well as Hebrew) and access the home network connection settings.

We liked the fact that in addition to the RJ45 interface, the manufacturer also included a WiFi receiver so that wireless connections can be set up. All of the necessary functions, such as, WEP or WPA2 encryption are available while the SSID of the desired WLAN can be entered manually or the box





can search for it automatically.

The acquisition of the required IP data via DHCP is for the most part standard today and is of course also supported by the LookeeTV box. Nevertheless, these parameters can be entered manually if needed. Even a connection set up with a DSL or cable provider via PPPoE is supported.

The LookeeTV box comes with an integrated screen saver that converts the TFT display into a radio alarm clock with a large time and date display. The alarm time can also be set in the Settings menu where you'll find two alarm timers available.

The necessary time signal can be received by the box via the Internet; the user then simply needs to enter in the time difference for his location. If the Internet is not available or if the user for some reason wants to enter in the time and date manually, this capability is also available.

1, 2, 3, 4. Lookee TV-Box Main Menu

5. The LookeeTV App sorts the channels by country/region, genre and language

6. You can even search by keywords

7. Results of a search for "travel"

8. Before playback begins, the box stores a portion of the video signal in its buffer memory to cover any momentary connection dropouts

9. Playback of a TV channel from Iraq

10. 4:3 channels can be expanded into 16:9 format

11. It's recommended to play back a channel in its original resolution especially if the picture quality isn't optimal

12. Radio channels are also sorted by country/region, genre and language

13. A total of 39 genres are available to choose from

14. Nepal FM 91.8 on the LookeeTV Box via Internet stream

15. The channel selection with Shoutcast is nearly unlimited

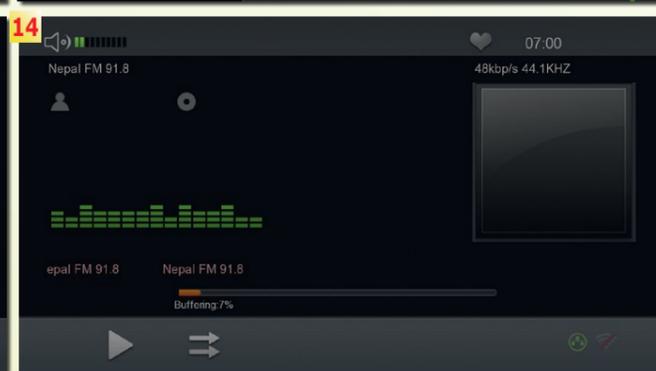
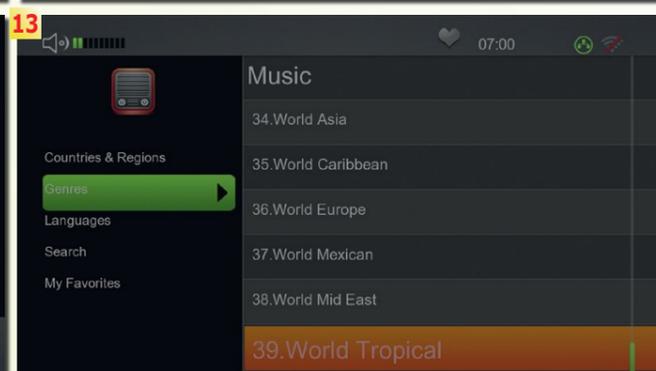
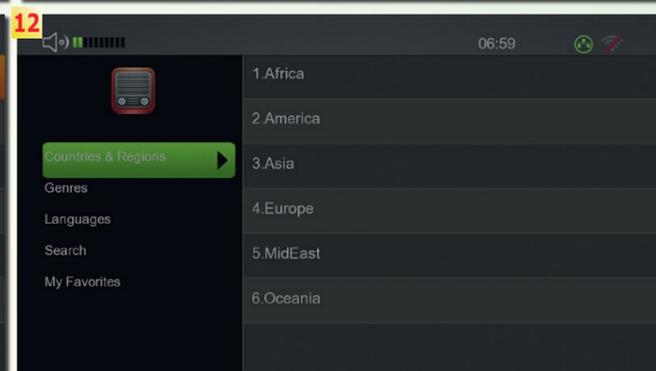
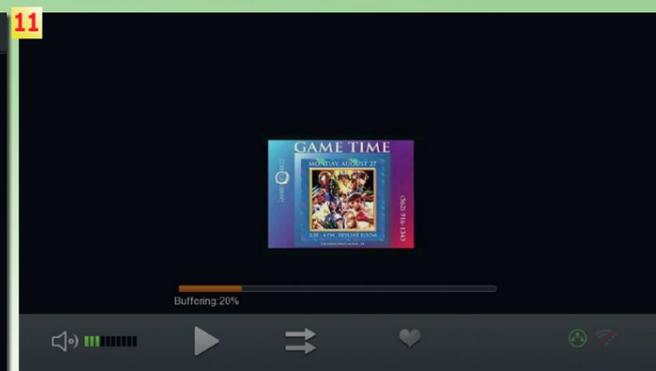
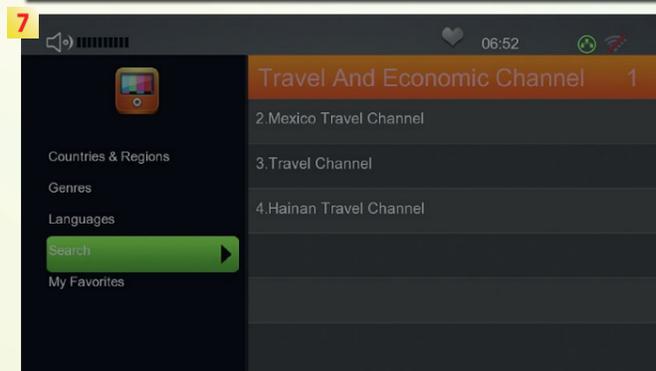
The various settings are further enhanced by an Auto Power Off function that will turn off the box after a pre-set time span. There's also the ability to update the LookeeTV box's firmware or return the box to its default settings via the Internet or via a local storage device.

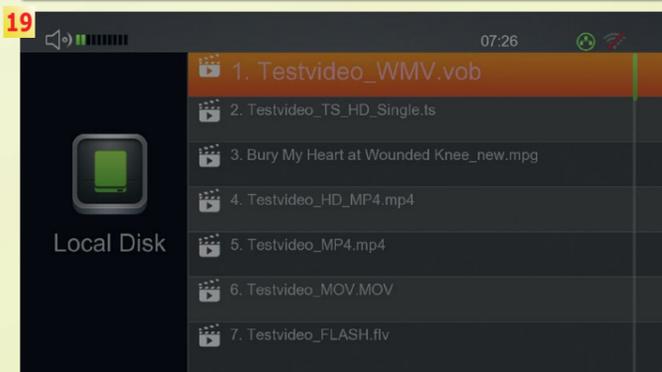
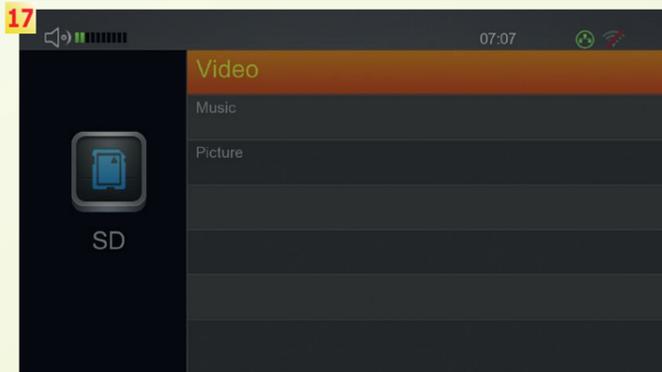
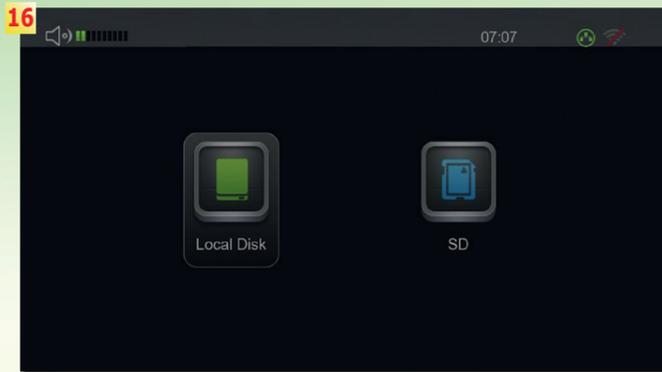
Next to all of these settings parameters, the menu selection "TV Out" instantly caught our eyes. Here the user can decide if the signal from the box should be displayed on the small integrated TFT monitor or if it should be routed to the two outputs (CVBS and HDMI) on the rear panel. Unfortunately, it's not possible to have both at the same time.

In our tests we were able to connect the box to a 42" LED monitor via the HDMI port as well as via the CVBS jacks and thus be able to enjoy the signal on a large display. While the display via CVBS was not quite optimal, the HDMI display in 720p HD was especially pleasing to the eye. Even the small 7" TFT monitor was bolstered by brilliant colors, high contrast and interference-free image construction.

Now let's take a closer look at the individual functions and Apps in the LookeeTV box: Lookee TV and Lookee Radio. These two programs are the central components of the LookeeTV box and even have their own dedicated access buttons on the remote control.

Both of them contain prepared lists from the manufacturer with all Internet-based freely receivable TV and radio stations from every possible region of the world. These lists can be sorted by country and region as well as by genre and language for a better overview of what's available. Add to that a search function as





well as the ability to place favorite channels in their own list.

While looking through the lists we could hardly contain ourselves; the regional overview included entries from Africa, Asia, America, Europe, Oceania and the Near East. Each of these regions is then sub-divided into individual countries.

All of the TV and radio broadcasters in the lists could easily be accessed. This speaks for the care that LookeeTV put into these lists; obviously, the company doesn't provide all of these services directly, rather, they simply collect all of the content distributed by the broadcasters and place them all in one large database.

Once a channel has been chosen, the box creates a connection via the Internet with the appropriate server from the provider and begins to show the content.

This process, depending on the Internet connection speed and on the selected channel, can take as long as ten seconds although on average the user will see the first picture much sooner than that.

During playback there are numerous options available for the user, for example, how the received picture should be displayed. Many broadcasters still transmit in 4:3 format and some of the content is even transmitted in poor quality. The user has the choice of watching it all in its original size, in a zoomed-in version with the

correct aspect ratio or in full-screen mode with stretched 4:3 broadcasts.

During playback, the currently running channel can be paused at any time although a time shift function is not available.

We were also surprised at the number of available radio stations. Regardless if it is Radio Maria Tanzania, The Voice of Russia or Maitri 99.4 FM from Nepal, the selection was essentially unlimited.

The video and audio quality of each channel depends, as suggested earlier, entirely on the individual provider. All-in-all though, we only found a few TV channels and almost no radio channels where the picture and audio quality would be something to complain about.

Thanks to the really enormous selection of channels, the LookeeTV box would be ideal for anyone living away from their home country who is searching for TV and radio channels from home.

The free Internet streaming service Shoutcast from Nullsoft is a familiar name to most radio fans and so it only made sense that the LookeeTV box was also fitted with the Shoutcast App. It provides hundreds of radio streams from all over the world sorted into a total of 36 main categories. It doesn't matter if you're looking for modern country music, oldies, classical music, techno, pop or other music styles, you'll be able to find what you're looking for.

On top of that there are also the hundreds of radio stations that don't have a specific music format but offer rather a mixed format.

Our tests of the Shoutcast App showed that it functioned without any problems. We especially liked that if a particular channel only played back audio, you

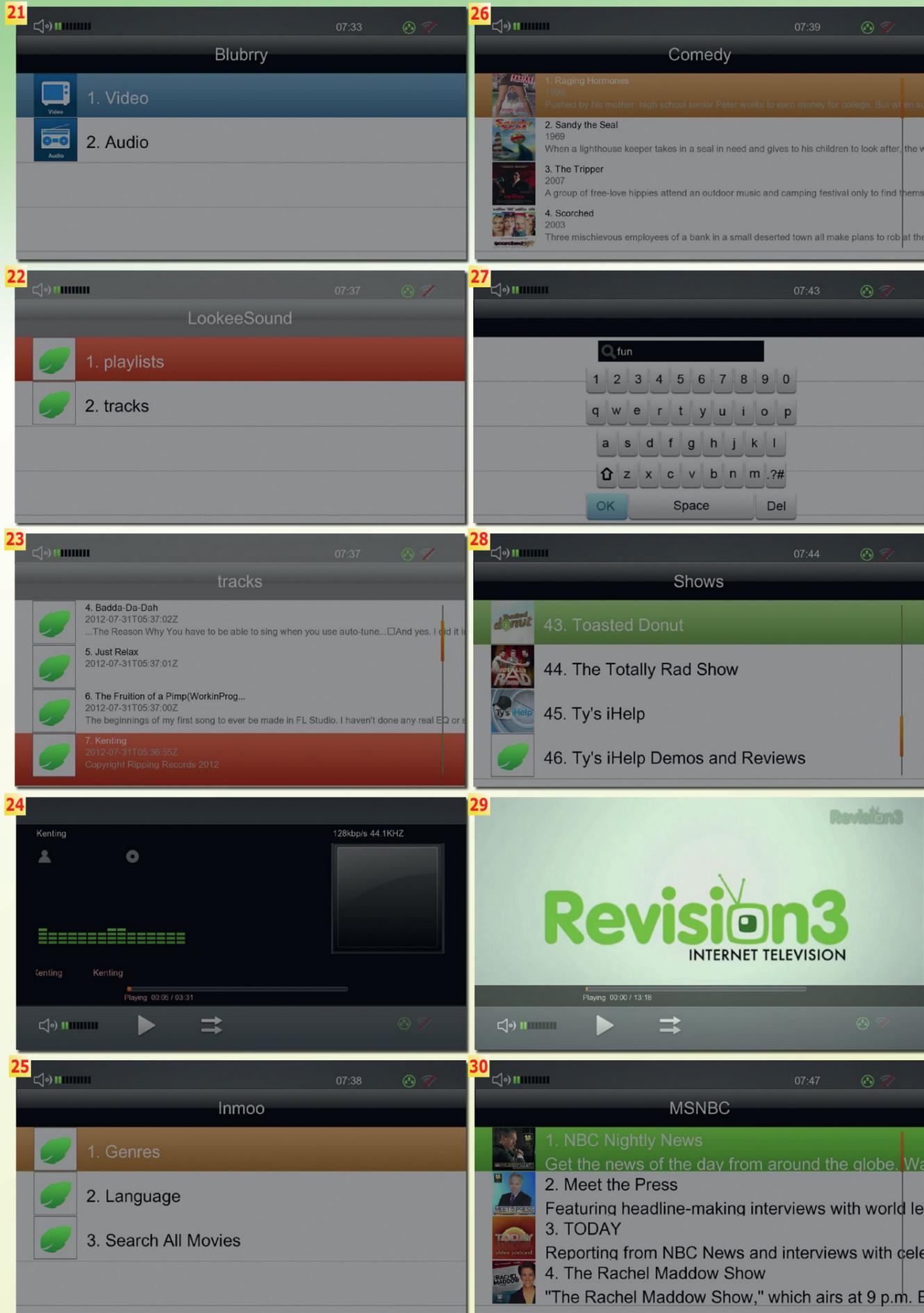
16. Videos, music and pictures stored internally or on an SD card can be made available

17. Videos, music and pictures from an SD card

18. Playback of WMV videos

19. An overview of our test videos in their various formats

20. MP4 HD playback



could exit the respective App without any interruption in the audio playback. After pressing the OK button, the user can go back to the main menu and start up other services on the box while the music continues to play in the background.

Podcasts have become a trend in the Internet and it's not only large companies, authorities, governments and celebrities that use this luxury to make public information in the form of pictures with audio or just audio all by itself, more and more private users are taking advantage of this service and creating their own themed podcasts. It could be the latest pasta recipe or it could be something even more serious such as current reports of the political situation in countries where the local media doesn't always tell it like it is.

In all, the LookeeTV box's podcast function offers access to hundreds of freely available podcasts that are sorted into 43 different categories. And if you're having a hard time choosing, you can simply call up the list of most popular providers with names like BBC.

The LookeeTV box comes with an integrated 1.14 GB storage device. Audio, video and picture files can be transferred to the box via the USB port. Note that the PC in this case will be providing the power to the LookeeTV box and that because of this two USB ports will be occupied. The necessary cable for this is included with the LookeeTV box.

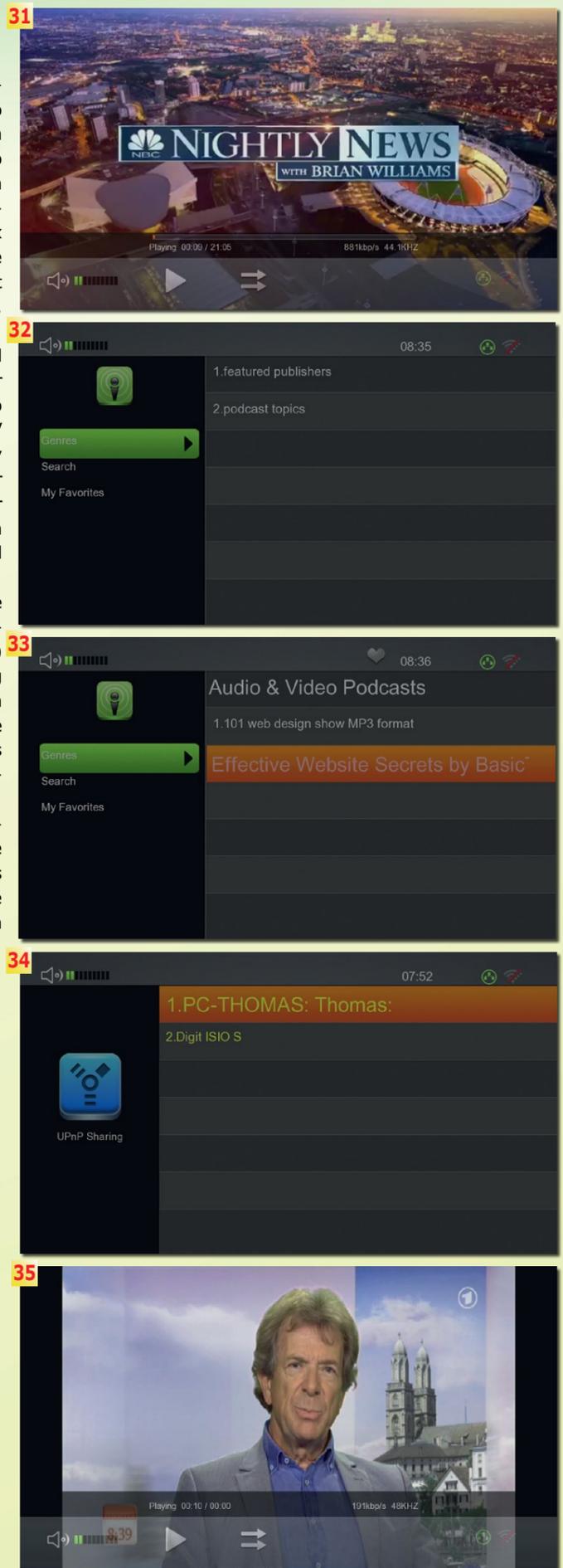
We tested this feature with WMV, MPEG, MP4, HD-MP4, MOV, Flash and AVI videos - all of the content could be played back without any problems. The box also had no difficulties with WMA, MP3, MP4 and AAC audio

data. If you have a stereo system, you can enjoy the audio output from the box through the stereo system thanks to the stereo audio outputs. In other cases the little speakers on the LookeeTV box have to take over; we were actually quite surprised at the audio quality in our tests.

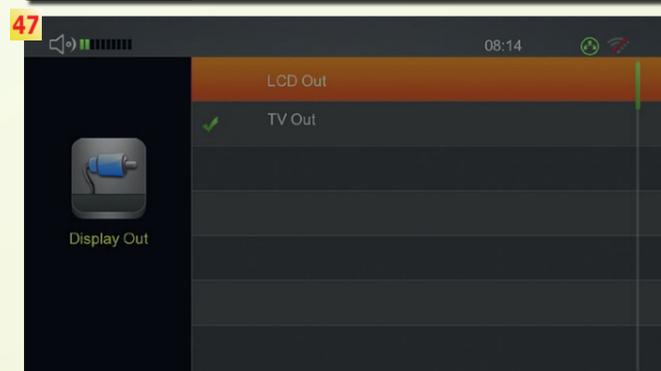
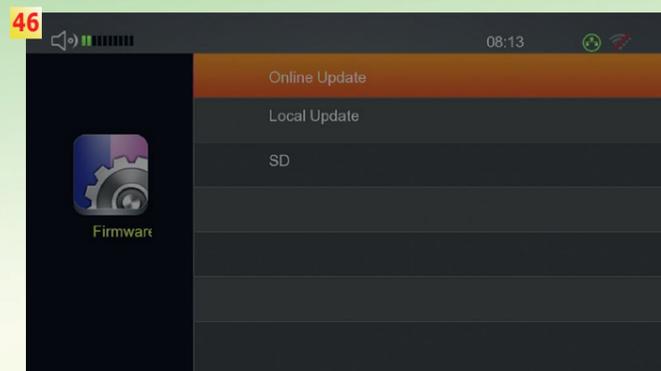
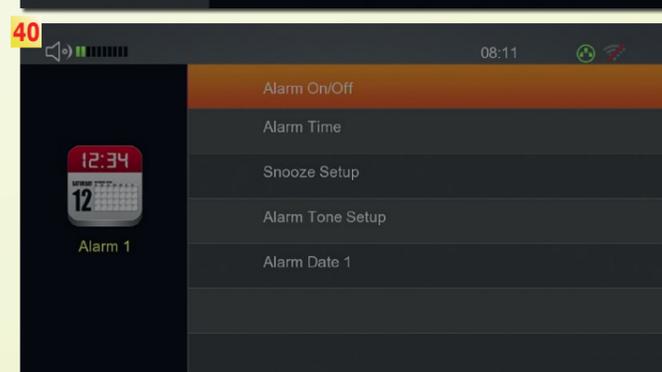
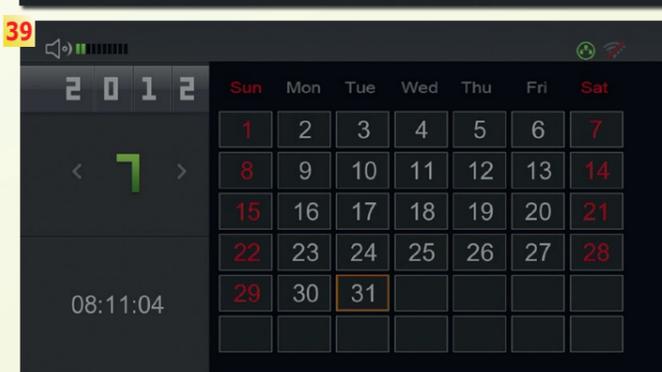
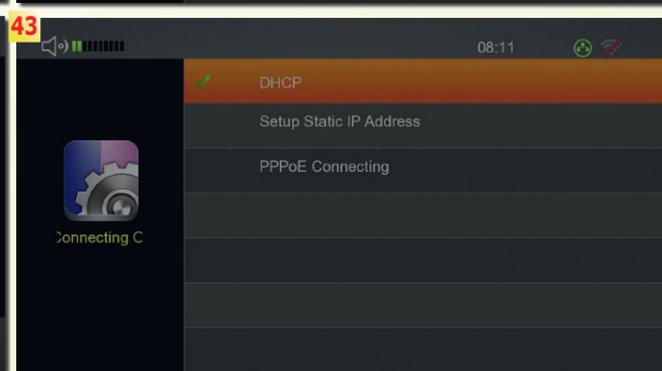
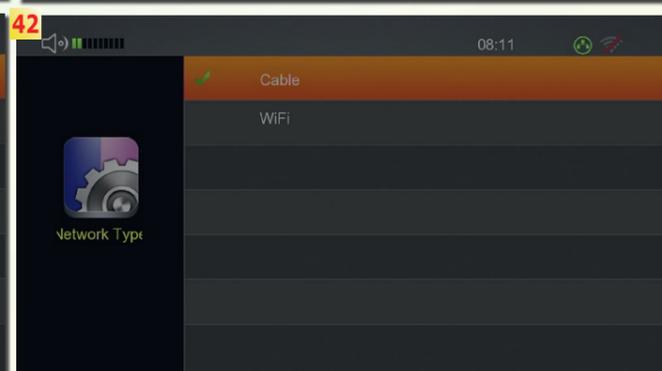
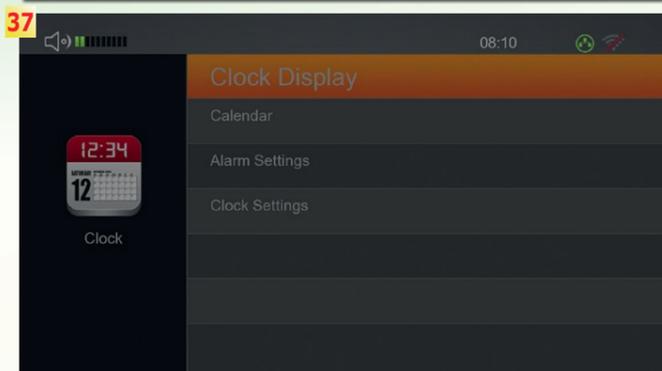
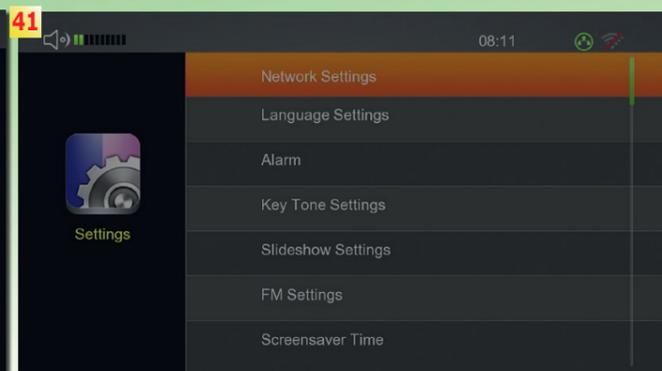
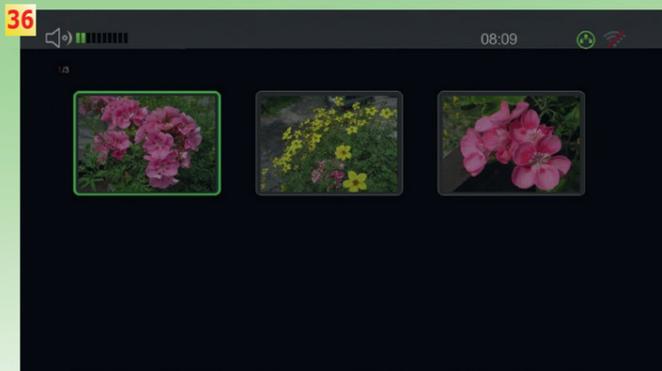
In addition to the internal memory, the manufacturer thought of yet another two ways to supply the LookeeTV box with content. One way would be the SD card reader on the rear panel that in our tests allowed content on an 8 GB SD card to be played back.

The other method is the UPnP function. With Universal Plug and Play (UPnP) it involves an overlapping standard of devices that can be used to further distribute video and audio content as well as pictures via the Internet.

Since this function is already integrated into the Windows Media Player, users with a Windows PC can make their entire media collection



- 21. Blubrry access
- 22. Lookee Sound
- 23. Lookee Sound title display
- 24. Playback of a song via Lookee Sound
- 25. Hundreds of freely available titles are available through the Inmoo video service
- 26. A portion of the Inmoo titles in the Comedy category
- 27. Inmoo also comes with a search function
- 28. Programs with the most diverse subjects are available in HD quality
- 29. Revision 3 on the LookeeTV box
- 30. MSNBC
- 31. NBC Nightly News via the LookeeTV box
- 32. The Podcast App
- 33. Podcasts all about Web design
- 34. Without any configuration the LookeeTV box instantly recognizes any available UPnP servers
- 35. Video playback via UPnP. The picture quality is as good as the original



36. The integrated picture viewer shows an organized summary of all the available pictures

37. Settings for the calendar and time

38. The screen saver on the LookeTV box resembles an alarm clock

39. Calendar display

40. Two alarm timers can be set up individually

41. Settings

42. The LookeTV box can set up a network connection via cable or WiFi

43. DHCP, static addresses as well as PPPoE are supported

44. Multiple OSD languages are available for the user

45. The FM radio range can be switched between 87.5-108 and 76-90 MHz

46. The LookeTV box's firmware can be updated via Internet or local storage device

47. The video signal is displayed either on the integrated TFT monitor or is made available at the CVBS or HDMI outputs

able to access all of the recordings that were stored on the DVB-S receiver.

The quality of the content received via the network was exceptional and could easily be mistaken for the original. Thanks to Plug & Play, all of this functioned correctly without any complicated settings or preparations.

The Blubrry App is a social network with thousands of podcasts with the most diverse of subjects. Subdivided in the main Audio and Video categories is content available to the user from the most unique subject areas in 18 different categories such as vacations, health, politics or art.

The Looke Sound App gives users access to the SoundCloud service. This platform was founded in 2007 by two Berlin artists and since then has been operating with the goal to provide free music to as many people as possible. Anyone can take part in SoundCloud and not only as a listener but also as a musician, interpreter or composer.

This worked perfectly in our tests with a Windows 7 PC. By coincidence we even had a DVB-S receiver set up in our test center that also worked with the UPnP function; to our surprise, the LookeTV box instantly recognized it and was therefore

Individual works can very easily be uploaded to the Internet through the platform's website and are then available to every user.

LookeTV box owners also have access to Looke Sound's extensive archive and can search for music from well-known or just up-and-coming artists. In our tests we found a really good title and we can only hope that this artist finds his way into the limelight.

Another App: Inmoo. Imagine that you're an up-and-coming filmmaker and you want to reach as many viewers as possible without a large marketing machine to back you up and with limited finances. What if you had a platform like Inmoo that would allow you to do just that?

This platform would be ideal even for movie lovers that are looking for something out of the ordinary and would also like to enjoy movies other than those from Hollywood.

So what did the manufacturer of the LookeTV box do? What else but integrate the Inmoo App into their box! Divided into genre and languages, it provides access to thousands of freely available movies on the Inmoo platform. Thanks to the integrated search function, you can look for very specific content.

A total of 18 Genres from Cartoons and Thrillers up to Action, Comedy and many more are at the user's fingertips. The movie selection seems to be endless. This App turns out to be one of the highlights of the LookeTV box due in large part to its outstanding picture quality.

If you place high value on exceptional picture quality, the Revision 3 App is right

for you. This Internet service founded in California in 2005 works with its content and the quality of their offerings almost on the same level as an established TV station, it's just that the producers of the content are typically private people or at the least not so commercially oriented as larger studios.

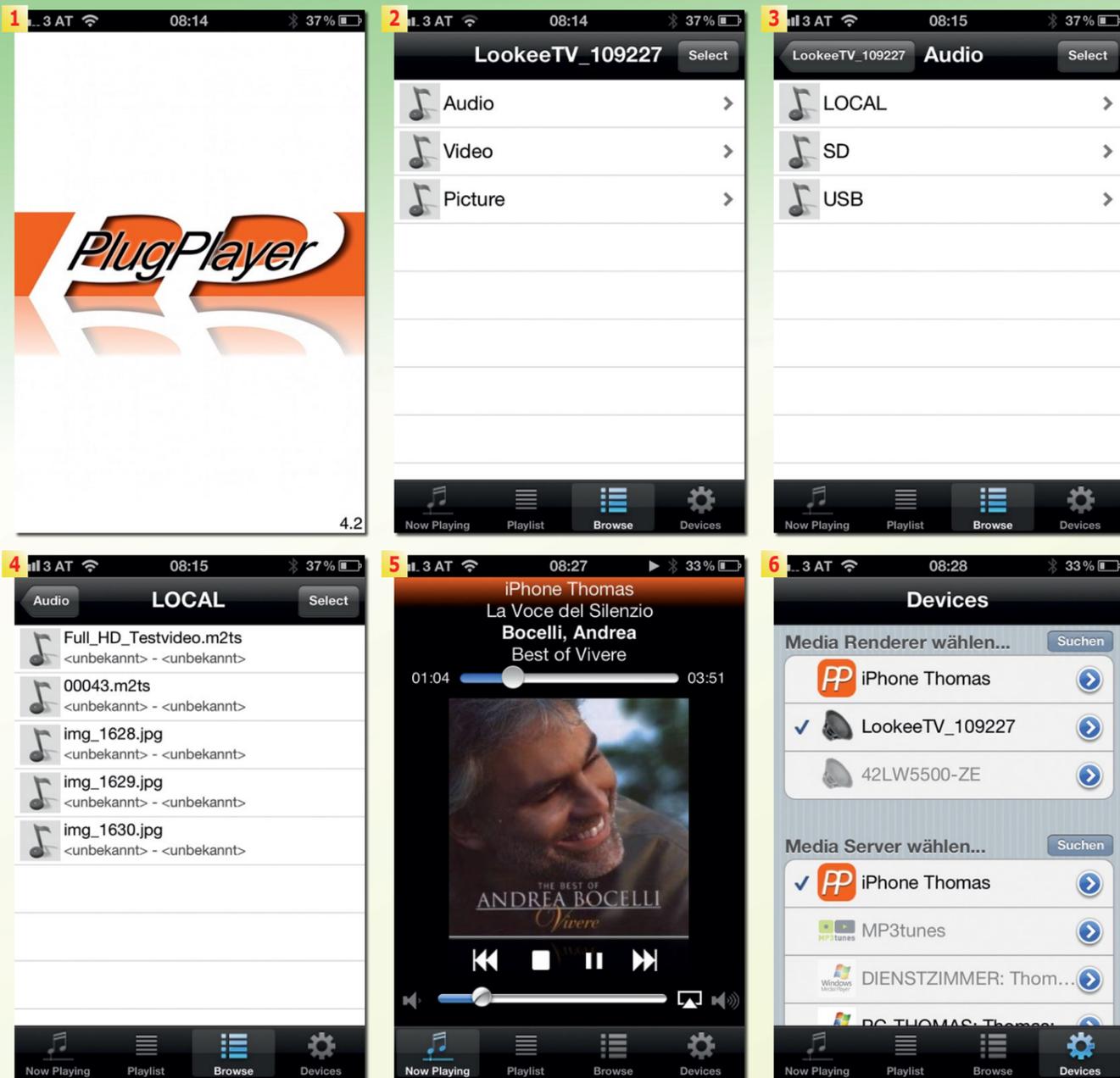
Thanks to the many different subject areas and shows with such obscure titles like "Toasted Donut", this provider quickly reached cult status. Those that have a LookeTV box but no PC can now also enjoy these kinds of titles directly on their TV.

During the course of our tests, we had a lot of fun surfing through all of the different shows; the perfect HD picture quality made it all that much more enjoyable.

In addition to the current content, there's also an extensive archive of Revision 3 carried content. So, if you happen to miss an episode of the mostly weekly programs, don't worry, all of the content is archived and is available to be accessed for quite some time.

In the old days, you got your morning news from the radio; today it's the up-to-date news broadcasts via Internet from those large news networks like MSNBC. For all those who want to stay informed on what's going on in the world, the LookeTV box has a dedicated App for access to MSNBC content. There you'll find not only up-to-date MSNBC news broadcasts, but also popular shows like NBC Today and Meet the Press.

Unfortunately, we weren't all too happy with the picture quality of the programs, if MSNBC wanted to there would be great potential for improvement here. Thanks to the small 7" TFT monitor



1. The iPhone App PlugPlayer can control the LookeeTV box via a network and transfer content to it
2. Without any kind of configuration, the LookeeTV box is instantly recognized
3. Access to the media on the box
4. It doesn't matter if it's videos, pictures or music, you have complete access to the box via PlugPlayer
5. Content can be played back directly on an iPhone
6. IContent can also be sent from the iPhone to the LookeeTV box

on the LookeeTV box, this low quality wasn't all that noticeable on such a small screen, however, trying to watch MSNBC on a 42" monitor was no fun at all.

Actual printed photographs are no longer the norm today. It should come as no surprise that the LookeeTV box comes with a pic-

ture viewer that can display any pictures stored on an SD card or in the internal memory on the integrated TFT monitor or on an external TV.

The images can be shown full-screen if desired. While viewing pictures, they can be zoomed in on, zoomed out from, rotated or shown in slide show format. Thanks to

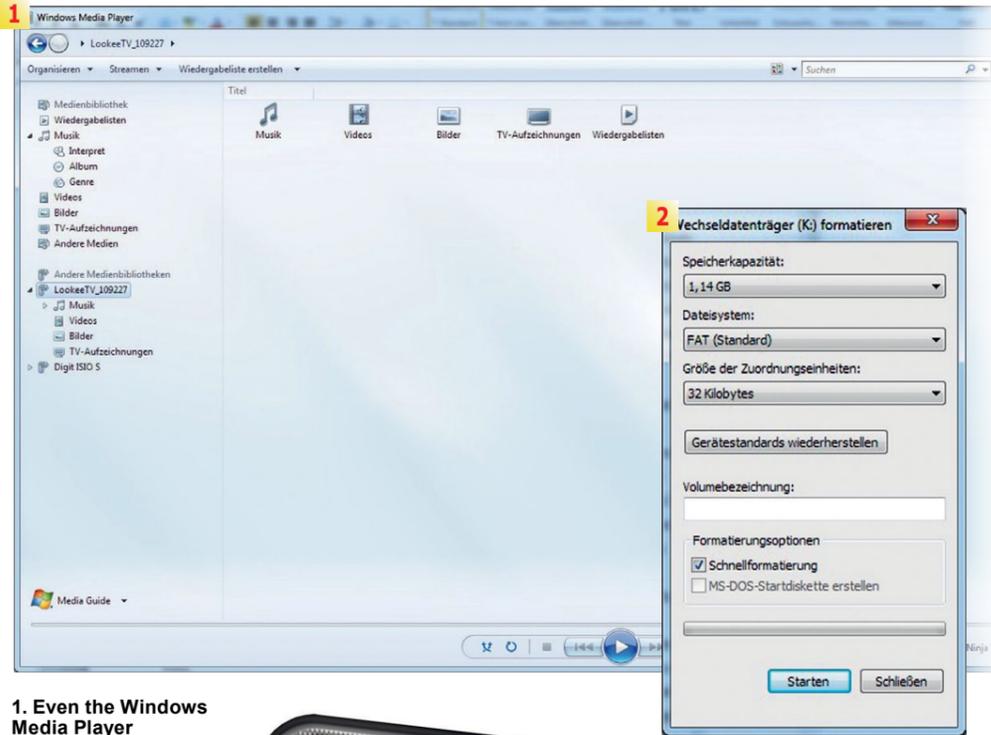
the UPnP interface, the user can even show pictures that are stored on a PC through the LookeeTV box on a TV. This all worked perfectly in our tests.

The FM antenna jack located alongside the other connections on the LookeeTV box can also be used as an input for external audio sources such as from an MP3 player, discman, etc., the audio would then be played back through the internal speaker in the box.

The FM reception mode tops it all off; it lets you receive local over-the-air FM

radio stations. Once the antenna is connected, an automatic scan can be performed after which all of the available FM radio stations within range will be shown in a list. Unwanted stations can quickly be deleted leaving only the desired ones in the list.

It's a nice little extra feature since not all of these stations might be receivable via the Internet. Despite the small size of the included antenna, it had no trouble in our tests providing interference-free reception of our local FM radio stations.



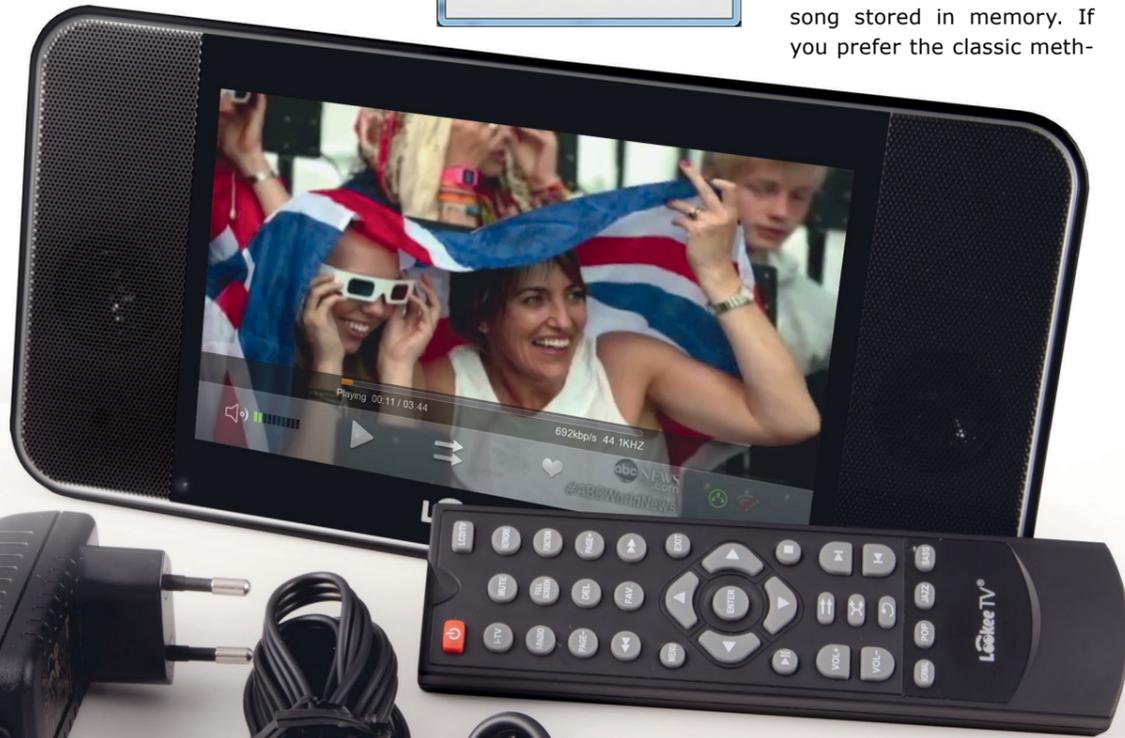
1. Even the Windows Media Player instantly recognizes the LookeeTV box and displays its content

2. The internal memory of the box can be filled via PC and in that way can also be formatted and/or deleted

The manufacturer even thought of including an integrated calendar that can also display the time directly on the display. In this way the user can always have the current time or the calendar in view; it's a nice alternative to those desk calendars that are still in use today.

A total of two alarm settings are available that can be individually activated and are useful in waking you up at the right time in the morning and helping you avoid missing that important appointment during the day.

The alarm itself is actually quite pleasing to the ear; it can be set to play your favorite radio station via the Internet or FM or a favorite song stored in memory. If you prefer the classic meth-



od, a normal alarm tone can also be used.

The LookeeTV box still has yet another especially practical feature. We saved the best for last! The box not only has the capability to access video and audio files via UPnP from external sources, this content can also be actively sent to the box via



The display on the box is enhanced by brilliant colors and high contrast

UPnP! The manufacturer has developed corresponding Apps to do this for Android SmartPhones (LookeePlayer) and also for iPhones/iPads (PlugPlayer).

After starting one of these Apps, the LookeeTV box is instantly and automatically recognized as long as both devices are connected to the same network.

Now you can control the LookeeTV box remotely via your SmartPhone and also, for example, activate, pause or stop the playback of audio and video files or even stream audio and video files directly to the box.

What could be easier than sitting on your couch and playing back your favorite music or an exciting movie via your SmartPhone to the LookeeTV box and then further on to your TV?

In our tests this functioned perfectly and we had a lot of fun playing around with this. Up to five devices can be linked in this way.

Overall we thoroughly enjoyed putting the LookeeTV box to the test but there's still one problem that needs to be solved: every one of our editors wanted to take the box home and "test" it themselves.

Expert Opinion



The box's software functioned reliably; throughout all of our tests we couldn't find any problems or other errors.

+ Thanks to the exceptional TFT monitor on the box and the ability to play back TV content on an external TV monitor via the HDMI output, HD programs were a real pleasure to watch.

With the help of various buttons on the remote control (for example, switching between the TFT display and video out or the recalling of titles) the LookeeTV box is very easy and comfortable to use.

- The FM radio only works when the HDMI output is deactivated
No YouTube
UrLlama App not activated



TECHNICAL DATA

Manufacturer	LookeeTV Inc., #277 - 5489 Byrne Road, Burnaby, BC, Canada, V5J 3J1
Phone / Fax	Tel: 1-604-438 6680, Fax: 1-604-326 5832
Email	inquiry@lookeetv.com
Internet	www.lookeetv.com
Model	Lookee TV-Box
Function	Multimedia Player for various content via local media or Internet
RJ45	yes
WiFi	yes
HDMI	yes
HDTV	yes (up to 720p)
CVBS	yes
Stereo Audio out	yes
USB Port	yes
Internal Storage	1.14 GB
SD Card Reader	yes
Display	7" TFT 16:9
Headphones	yes
FM Radio	yes
Line In	yes
Internet services	Lookee TV, Lookee Radio, Shoutcast, Podcast, Blubrry, Ur Llama, Lookee Sound, Inmoo, Revision 3, MSNBC
UPnP	yes

ENERGY DIAGRAM



The first 7 minutes active operation although without any content playback; the next 8 minutes with video and audio playback, the last 15 minutes in standby with current time display