

# Rotel Electronics' RSP-1098 Preamp/Processor



*"We can spec this device...and know it will handle all the switching and processing, while providing excellent sound"*

by **kenneth bosley**  
World Premiere Home Theater  
Mechanicsburg, PA  
[www.worldpremiere.net](http://www.worldpremiere.net)

### How long have you been a dealer for the manufacturer of this product?

We had an ongoing dialogue with the manufacturer, for about two years, before signing on about a year ago. We took the time to make certain we could meet their needs and expectations, and that they could meet ours. We are both very satisfied with the relationship.

### Describe the features on this product that are most beneficial to you as a custom installer.

We can spec this device into nearly any mid- to high-end home theater and know it will handle all the switching and processing, while providing excellent sound. The RSP-1098 allows us to name each input, so our client knows that they are on the TIVO input, rather than having to remember that VCR3 is really TIVO. We can also individually preset the volume level of each input and then utilizing RS232 or discrete IR, we can make sure the unit always switches to the proper surround mode. The final result is that the client scrolls through the inputs and sees XBOX, TIVO, DirecTV, DVHS and DVD. This instantly reinforces for them the advantage of having a system that has been truly customized for them.

### For what types of installations is this product most suited?

Mid to higher end home theater systems, where the client is looking for great sound while maximizing his A/V dollar. Due to the reputation of Rotel and the pre-press on the unit, we had several of these units proposed into systems prior to

its initial shipping. Ultimately, one of the systems was finished, save for this model, so we loaned the client a more expensive alternative to use in the interim. When our technician finally installed the RSP-1098, both he and the client immediately heard a noticeable improvement in sound. The client was delighted, as were we!

### What problems does this particular product model solve for you as a custom installer?

Often, installing and calibrating a preamp/processor in a projector environment requires that we bring along a small monitor to navigate the onscreen displays. The built-in LCD monitor makes setup very quick and easy. It also allows the client to view the source while the projector is warming up or if the equipment is in a closet away from the main theater. In addition, we never have to worry about running out of the "right type" of inputs, because every input on the unit is completely assignable. For instance, Input 1 can pull component video and digital audio from the DVD player and Video 2 can pull the same video along with a six-channel audio input for DVD Audio.

### What feature or features on this product would you like to see added or changed in the future?

More and more video source components have DVI outputs, so DVI switching would be nice. The ability to display 480P and HD sources on the video display would also be an improvement.

## PRODUCT SPECS

- Features a full-color TFT display integrated into its front panel for system control and on-screen menu navigation—or for monitoring a video source or even a remote entryway or security camera
- Crystal Semiconductors 24-bit/192 kHz digital-to-analog converters for all channels, and the latest-generation, ultra-high-speed Cirrus Logic 32-bit signal processing
- Eight assignable digital inputs and five analog A/V inputs
- Independent main/remote IR inputs, a full-functional RS-232 computer-style interface, discrete on/off command structure and four individually assignable 12-volt triggers
- For more information, visit [www.rotel.com](http://www.rotel.com)

