

A Nod Towards Gesture-Based Control

Written by Marco Attard
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Nod Labs proposes a wearable means for the futuristic gesture-based control of connected devices customers desire-- the Nod, a "smartring" promising accurate and elegant control without need for remotes or cameras.



Crafted out of jewelry-grade stainless steel and powered by the combination of select Broadcom silicon and Nexus-Trellis software, the Nod ring reportedly detects spatial motion with over 0.1mm accuracy point. It connects to devices via Bluetooth, and is already supports Windows, Mac and Android platforms as well as connected home solutions from the likes of Nest, Hue, WeMo and GoPro.

Control gestures include a familiar variety of swipes, waves, taps and pinches.

A rechargeable battery provides juice for up to a "day of active use," with control signal range clocking at around 10m.

"Nod's technology builds on the inherently human behavior of pointing—but aims to eliminate the archaic ways we interact with our home technology," the company states at the NCTA's The Cable Show. "By integrating with Broadcom's Bluetooth SoC and Trellis application framework, we are able to offer an intuitive new way for consumers to control their favorite TV and video content via STB, as well as other connected home devices including smoke alarms, light bulbs and more."

Will the Nod work "just like magic" as its makers claim? We will know once it starts shipping sometime during Q3 2013 in a variety of sizes.

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