



SPECIFICATIONS

Formats	Time Shift	Interface	Remote Control	Price
WMV, DivX, XviD, AVI	Yes	USB2	Yes	S\$159

Input Ports: S-Video, Composite, TV Antenna Coaxial, Audio, IR Receiver

User Interface: Infrared Remote Control, Application Software

Digital Recording: DVD (NTSC, PAL), SVCD (NTSC, PAL), VCD (NTSC, PAL), DivX, MPEG-4, WMV Streaming

Price: S\$159

Website: www.snazio.com



Small and handy, the bundled remote lets you time-shift your videos.



Ports include inputs for S-Video, composite and stereo audio.

Saving Your TV Shows

ON TEST SnaZio* TvPVR USB2 Personal Video and TV Recorder

BY TECHTOYER

Setup And Tuning

SnaZio*'s TvPVR USB2 is a new innovation from V-One and it incorporates all in one elements of TV tuning, video recording and scheduled programming into a single package. Since it uses USB2, the ease of detecting TV signals and the speed of transmission are seamless and smooth. The package comes with an external box about the size of a book and it has connectors for video-in on composite and S-Video, as well as stereo audio.

On one corner of the TvPVR USB2, is a TV tuner port and USB2 port. Basically the setup is a simple connection of plugging the RF TV connector and USB2. You must however install the USB2 drivers first before plugging the TvPVR to your system. Once you've installed the SnaZZi TvPVR USB2 software, you can tune your channels and fine-tune them.

Recordings And Watchings

While the TvPVR comes with a remote, you will

find yourself controlling it via your PC. The interface of the TvPVR software is familiar if you've been using SnaZZi* or SnaZio* products but additional options include presets for screen brightness, contrast and so on for viewing on LCD monitors, conventional TVs or plasma TVs. There are four video encoding formats—WMV, DivX, XviD and AVI. This means that you can auto-encode your TV streams into any of the four formats you want, specifying directory, profiles and in the case of DivX, the psychovisual environment and so on.

You can resize the viewing window size via a button on the remote and control playback of live TV (timeshifting) while recording. While there is an option to program scheduled recordings, including TV programs, playback of TV shows on programmed recordings seem to have audio synchronization problems while direct manual recordings don't. Another issue we faced was when we switch encoding format, say from DivX to WMV, the fine tune setting

on the bar gets reset to the middle position and you might need to re-fine tune your TV channel.

Great Expectations

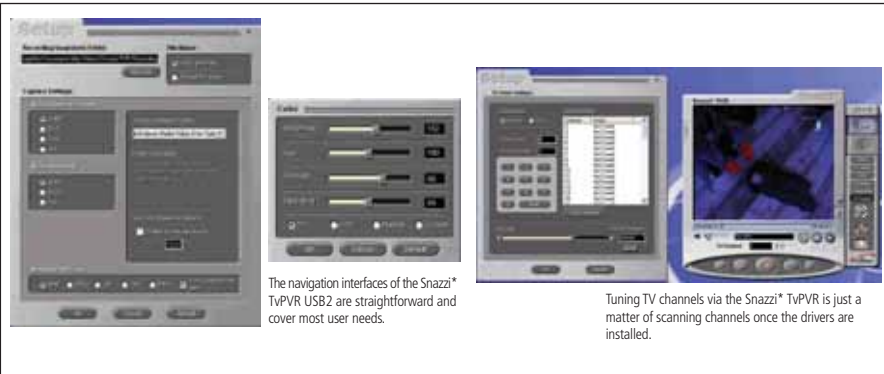
A simple one-minute DivX clip of a TV program took up about 15MB of space. The quality of the clip was just as good as the actual TV program and there were no jitter, jerkiness nor hiccups in the process. Ultimately, the TvPVR USB2 is a unique device to record TV programs (or videos via an S-Video or composite source) and it works best if used with a notebook PC.

Of course, if you've recorded your videos in AVI, you can encode your recordings into DVD via the WinDVR program that comes bundled with the utility CD.

In A Nutshell

Easy to tune, setup and navigate, the SnaZio* TvPVR USB2 allows notebook users to record TV shows, time-shift videos and encode them into popular formats.

OUR RESULTS



The navigation interfaces of the SnaZZi* TvPVR USB2 are straightforward and cover most user needs.

Tuning TV channels via the SnaZZi* TvPVR is just a matter of scanning channels once the drivers are installed.

HWM's Rating

- Physique: **7.0**
- Features: **8.5**
- User-friendliness: **8.0**
- Performance: **8.5**
- Value: **9.0**



Encode your favorite TV shows in four popular formats and use it on your notebook.

8.0

Overall Score Out of 10