



Approved by HETMA

Pearl Mini

Pearl-2

Pearl Nano



HETMA

HIGHER EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGERS ALLIANCE

The HETMA Approved program was created to provide a service to evaluate products through the lens of higher education technical managers. A diverse group pooled from our membership allows for different perspectives to shape the out come of any approval. The following is the findings of the Approved Committee and the evaluating members.

Company: Epiphan

Product: Pearl Mini

Over all score: Exceeds Standards

Approval Status: Approved - UCC

Results of this evaluation are good for the term that the product is in its current production state as outlined in the [terms and conditions](#). Any major change in build, firmware, or software could result in a need for re-evaluation.

Please respond to this email with permission to post results on HETMA social media and contact information for marketing team for Approved Program media packet for posting on company websites, social media, and print media. Please indicate also if attending InfoComm and if this product will be featured.

Evaluator Demographic Information

Institution/University size:

Small(less than 5000): 1

Medium(5000-10000): 2

Large(greater than 10000): 2

Evaluator Certifications: CTS, CTS-I, Extron A/V Associate, Crestron Master Technology Architect, CompTIA N+, Dante, Extron DSP, Project Management or A/V-AVIXA, QSYS



Evaluation Results and Notes

Questions asked in the evaluation

1.Verification: How we tested the product or service.

The evaluators tested the Pearl Mini in a variety of situations and conditions. It was used with a camera, and tested the production features and connected to a lecture capture instance in a studio setting. We also tested connected to a classroom control/switcher system for recording of class presentation.

2.Quality: Does the product or service meet quality standards? Does it have a warranty or replacement program?

The box has a high quality build and a large and responsive touchscreen, and the way it angles downward, make it the perfect solution for a table/desktop remote recorder. The unit feels well-built and seems like it would stand up to the wear and tear of a classroom or studio. We would love to see the warranty standard moved to the 3 year optional plan instead of the 1 year it comes with.

3.Performance: Does the product or service perform below, at, or exceed expectations?

Everything we were able to evaluate was smooth and responsive. We had no problems with local recordings or RTSP streams. We were surprised by some of the more advanced features. It was very easy to set up and connect to LMS, and it had additional production features that we were impressed with. One thing we would like to see is a mounting bracket or option for tabletops or lecterns that helps with cable management. Overall the Pearl Mini exceeded our expectations for performance and our evaluators were very happy with the unit.

4.Network and Security: If networked, how is it deployed? What network standards does it follow? How secure is it? Is there any physical security options?

There is a port for a Kensington style physical lock and it connects with Ethernet. It offers multiple 802.1x EAP options, including PEAP, EAP-TLS, and EAP-TTLS. Admin and web accounts all use HTTPS for security. The device has admin, operator, and viewer accounts to limit access to system functions. It also supports LDAP integration. All these features make the Pearl Mini an easy install and passes what most of our network teams would like to see from a device.



5. HETMA+: What about this product or service makes it a good fit for higher education and for technical managers?

The point of the Approved Program is to provide higher education technical managers with recommendations for products that can better the lives of students, faculty, and staff by providing a better learning and teaching environment. With that in mind, we evaluate products not just for the specification and performance review but for how it fits into our space and the impact it could have. The Pearl Mini exceeds the HEMTA expectations for performance and quality. The only things which we feel could be improved is the warranty to include the 3 year option included in purchase and a mounting option for table tops or lecterns. A few of our evaluators have already added this to their classroom build outs. Some comments:

Initially I intended to put the Pearl Mini through its paces in the same way that I did with the Pearl 2. However, just a couple days after receiving the boxes an issue with our currently install product brought every remote recorder on our campus offline with a number of high profile events that needed to be recorded. The Pearl Mini literally saved the day as we were able to install and easily move it from auditorium to auditorium as needed for the aforementioned high profile events. Not only that but it also appears to be a much better solution for our needs in terms of a remote recorder as it includes functionality that we don't currently have implemented but would like to.

As noted above the unit was used more as a remote recorder rather than an all around recording/streaming box as I initially planned but it performed at this task so well that it looks like we will be adjusting our equipment standards accordingly moving forward.

It works flawlessly as a remote recorder for LMS and has a whole host of other features useful for classes and events at a competitive price point.

It's simple to set up, integrates well with our LMS system, and advertises that it connects to others. It's portable, and has an easy to understand UI. We like it and didn't want to send it back.

This seems like a great device with a very reasonable feature set. The company seems to have a good reputation, and their support is all North American based. The Mini is a great fit for mobile production with its large touchscreen and multiple inputs.

We are happy to give the Pearl Mini our HETMA Approval. We are confident in the product and with recommending it to our membership.

HETMA Approved Program Chair.



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Company: Epiphan

Product: Pearl 2

Over all score: Exceeds Standards

Approval Status: Approved - UCC

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Evaluator Demographic Information

Institution/University size:

Small(less than 5000): 1

Medium(5000-10000): 1

Large(greater than 10000): 3

Evaluator Certifications: CTS, CTS-I, Extron A/V Associate, Crestron Master Technology Architect, CompTIA N+, Dante, Extron DSP, Project Management or A/V-AVIXA, QSYS



Evaluation Results and Notes

Questions asked in the evaluation

1.Verification: How we tested the product or service.

The evaluators tested the Pearl 2 in a variety of situations and conditions. It was used as a multi camera streaming unit as well as a one touch recorder for e light board studio. We tried it installed with a control system and integrated into a lecture capture location.

2.Quality: Does the product or service meet quality standards? Does it have a warranty or replacement program?

Build quality is extremely high and performance has been solid and reliable. While we tested the desktop model only, we found the touchscreen to be bright and responsive. The Pearl 2 seemed to meet all the specifications that Epiphan has set for it. One disappointing factor from all evaluators was the length of warranty, being only 12 months. We would love to see a longer warranty.

3.Performance: Does the product or service perform below, at, or exceed expectations?

Over all it performed every task we threw at it and still has so much more functionality that we have not had cause to utilize. Plenty of room for future growth and specs accommodate higher quality video than is needed for most current application. Our evaluators were very pleased with the Pearl 2.

4.Network and Security: If networked, how is it deployed? What network standards does it follow? How secure is it? Is there any physical security options?

There is a port for a Kensington style physical lock and the box captures 802.1x compliant video and supports PEAP, EAP-TLS, and EAP-TTLS authentication access control methods on 802.1x. The Pearl 2 also supports LDAP configuration. The Pearl 2 offers encrypted streaming and HTTPS for secure admin access. All of these features are what we look for in a product that could be used for a variety of streaming and recording projects.



5. HETMA+: What about this product or service makes it a good fit for higher education and for technical managers?

The point of the Approved Program is to provide higher education technical managers with recommendations for products that can better the lives of students, faculty, and staff by providing a better learning and teaching environment. With that in mind, we evaluate products not just for the specification and performance review but for how it fits into our space and the impact it could have. The Pearl 2 exceeds the HEMTA expectations for performance and quality. The only category which we feel could be improved is the warranty. A few of our evaluators have already added this to their classroom build outs. Some comments:

The product works great and fills a need for Higher Ed in terms of recording/streaming events, classes, and anything else that may come up. The Pearl 2 is quite an advanced box and has a high price tag to go with it so this is more of a niche product for us that something we would use in a widespread manner. While disappointing that it's an additionally purchased add on, the remote production sets this apart in terms of maintenance and remote support.

Ease of integration, ease of use, lots of features. Complex operations are hidden on front UI. This is a heavy hitting device best used for a permanent installation in a large space.

I don't really have the capability to test everything the manufacturer says it can do, the Pearl 2 accomplished every task I threw at it. We used it to record and stream a Summer graduation event with multiple cameras and a content feed that came from our DM switcher and included multiple laptop/PC sources as well as the audio feed from a live keyboardist, the stream link was relatively easy to set up and we had no issue with the recording or streaming.

Was able to be used out of the box and with minimal setup as a high-end recorder. Easy integration with CMS or LMS. Offloading video is very simple.

We are happy to give the Pearl 2 the HETMA Approval. We are confident in the product and recommending it to our membership.

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Company: Epiphan

Product: Pearl Nano

Over all score: Meets Standards

Approval Status: Approved - UCC

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Evaluation Results and Notes

Questions asked in the evaluation

1.Verification: How we tested the product or service.

The evaluators tested the Pearl Nano in a variety of situations and conditions. Tested a variety of recording and streaming situations and all worked well and as expected per the manufacturer's specifications. It was also tested integrated into LMS and taking in an RSTP stream. Overall it met the specifications that Epiphan has set for the Nano.

2.Quality: Does the product or service meet quality standards? Does it have a warranty or replacement program?

Physically it has a solid build quality using a steel chassis and a fast responding front panel UI. The look and feel of the unit seems fairly robust and does not feel it it would have issues with wear and tear being in a classroom or studio. We would love to see the warranty standard moved to the 3 year optional plan instead of the 1 year it comes with.

3.Performance: Does the product or service perform below, at, or exceed expectations?

Everything we were able to evaluate was smooth and responsive. We had no problems with local recordings or RTSP streams. For a unit this small and compact, it has more features than we initially expected and they all work very well. The built-in adjustable audio delay was not a feature we expected but was pleased to see. Audio input selection is very flexible. Fast response to starting the recording or stream. The control API is well documented. One thing we feel is missing from this unit is native camera support for usb cameras. That would elevate this unit to an easy recommended product.

4.Network and Security: If networked, how is it deployed? What network standards does it follow? How secure is it? Is there any physical security options?

There is a port for a Kensington style physical lock and It connects with Ethernet. It offers multiple 802.1x EAP options, including PEAP, EAP-TLS, and EAP-TTLS. Admin and web accounts all use HTTPS for security and you can enable a PIN code for front controls. The device has admin, operator, and viewer accounts to limit access to system functions. It also supports LDAP integration. All these features make the Pearl Mini an easy install and passes what most of our network teams would like to see from a device.



5. HETMA+: What about this product or service makes it a good fit for higher education and for technical managers?

The point of the Approved Program is to provide higher education technical managers with recommendations for products that can better the lives of students, faculty, and staff by providing a better learning and teaching environment. With that in mind, we evaluate products not just for the specification and performance review but for how it fits into our space and the impact it could have. The Pearl Nano meets the HEMTA expectations for performance and quality. The only things which we feel could be improved is the warranty to include the 3 year option included in purchase native usb camera support. A few of our evaluators have already added this to their classroom build outs. Some comments:

For a unit this small and compact, it has more features than I initially expected and they all work very well. The built-in adjustable audio delay was not a feature I expected but was pleased to see. Audio input selection is very flexible. Fast response to starting the recording or stream. I selected "exceeds expectations" for performance because as I thought of new situations or configurations to try, there were ways to do what I wanted plus several other ways I hadn't thought of (especially with regard to automatic file transfer). Overall it solves a number of problems we currently have with our existing streaming workflow.

It's easily managed both individually and at scale, easy to operate, secure on the network, tons of integration options, gets the job done well, and it's reasonably priced.

This seems like a great device with a very reasonable feature set. The company seems to have a good reputation, and their support is all North American based. The Nano is a great fit for simple systems or for pairing with a video production switcher in larger venues.

Works as advertised but isn't something I would recommend for higher ed applications. Needs to be have native webcam capability.

Mostly useful when paired with a Pearl 2. Of limited use by itself compared to lesser priced alternatives. USB webcam capability would elevate this to an easy recommendation.

We are happy to give the Pearl Mini our HETMA Approval. We are confident in the product and with recommending it to our membership.

HETMA Approved Program Chair.