iRoom Adds Keypad to iTop iPad Dock

Written by Marco Attard
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iRoom aims to turn the iPad into a more flexible home automation control solution with the iTop-- a tabletop tablet docking station featuring an independently controllable keypad incorporated in the glass faceplate.

The iTop combines an aluminium base with a glass faceplate, and fits any iPad equipped with a Lightning port (be it the Pro, Air or mini) via adjustable connector. The faceplate features 6 customisable (via iRoom configuration app) backlit quick keys providing immediate IP control commands to any audio, video and electronic devices running on the network, eliminating the need to unlock the display, opening a control app and finding the right control.

In addition, an optional iO83 8-port high voltage power relay module connecting to the iTop via LAN or wifi allows control of devices lacking an IP control interface, such as lights or blinds, while a PoE+ Injector provides both power and connectivity control on a single Cat cable.

The company says installers can integrate the iTop with all major 3rd party control systems from the likes of Crestron, AMX, Savant, Control 4, RTI and Key Digital, among others, with free drivers enabling control functions and macros on the quick keys.

"We are very excited about iTop's ability to create a control network of its own, which we feel opens up a whole new affordable route for smaller scale apartments, board and meeting rooms and home theaters," iRoom says. "Basically it changes the product from a very nice iPad accessory, to an essential part of the control network."

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