KWORLD
PLUSTV TVBOX JET BLACK 1680EX

Most users probably have no idea what this product does; basically, if you have an LCD monitor with only an analogue VGA input, this gizmo will allow you to connect your game console, DVD player or any video playback device to the monitor.

The KWorld TVBox Jetblack Gamer's Edition is similar to the company's other products, but in this case, they've bundled cables for the Sony Playstation 2/3 and Nintendo's Wii. This particular model supports LCD screens with resolutions of up to 1,680 by 1,050 pixels, which is commonly found on 20 and 22-inch screens. Of course, it also supports lower resolutions, including those with a 4:3 aspect ratios (non-widescreen displays). There's also PIP (picture-in-picture) so you can (as an example) play a console game while having a game guide from www.

gamefaqs.com displayed at the same time.

Setting up the TVBox is a breeze; plug in the AC/DC adapter, a cable connecting the box to your LCD screen and hook up the output device with the correct cable and that's it. You can choose to use the supplied game console cables, or use the composite, S-Video or Component cable connectors. The TVBox also acts as a passthrough, so you'll need to connect the video signal cable from your video card to the TVBox. This allows you to continue using your LCD monitor without needing to swap cables each time you want to play your game console. There's no visible signal degradation by using the passthrough connection, which is what many users worry about.

In terms of video quality, the TVBox shines; there's no flickering or washed out colours on video playback. Build

quality is so-so and it does seem a tad light and tends to topple over even with the oversized vertical stand. The only real downside is its paltry speakers. I'd recommend sticking with a proper set if you want maximum enjoyment. Apart from that, the TVBox works as advertised and its ease of use make it a top choice if you're in the market for such a device. **ST**

VERDICT

Performance: **8/10**
Features: **8/10**
Value: **7/10**

Overall: **7.7** OUT OF **10**