



## ACCESSORY OF THE YEAR English Electric 8Switch



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**T**he English Electric 8Switch is an eight port gigabit switch in a rather nice machined aluminium enclosure that has pinpoint LEDs in the front panel to show which ports are in use, a marked difference to the constantly flashing port lights found on regular switches. It is driven by a customised temperature optimised clock (TCXO) which is said to be accurate to 0.1ppm. The power supply and clock generation circuits each have two isolation circuits and an EMI absorber is included to help keep electromagnetic noise at bay. Power is provided by a medical grade SMPS plug top supply.

Jason Kennedy felt that, “Going from a Cisco Catalyst 2960 S1 to the 8Switch resulted in a considerable increase in high-frequency detail and better timing.” He also said, “The degree to which the upper end of the spectrum was cleaned up was quite a revelation, making the tone of voices and instruments far more appealing. It also opened up the soundstage really nicely, increasing its scale and depth.” +

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