

The New York Times

© 2008 The New York Times

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2008



TV's Future Technology Available Now in Tiny Size

OLED TVs are the promise of the future, offering a startlingly vivid picture while consuming little energy (but at the moment a lot of money). You can, however, have the same kind of technology (organic light-emitting diodes) in a pocket-size picture viewer right now without taking out a second mortgage. Digital Foci has produced a 2.8-inch OLED-screen photo viewer. The player uses modest power, playing for up to five hours from its built-in lithium-polymer battery, the company says.

The player holds about 4,000 pictures on its 128-megabyte memory. Pictures are resized by the included software. That software isn't the smoothest — downloading required a few tries — but the device eventually displayed bright, colorful photos that can be set to play in a customized slide show. The OLED screen is viewable from oblique angles, so a few friends can see the show at the same time. The company says the \$99 player will be available online from Digital Foci, B&H, Amazon and Wal-Mart by the end of October. Affordable OLED TVs will take a little longer.

ROY FURCHGOTT