



## News Release

For Immediate Release

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### **‘Array’ Speakers Enhance Classroom Acoustics**

*PI-30 Series from Califone® Increase Signal-to-Noise Ratio, Minimizing Reverberation*

SAN FERNANDO, Calif. (Nov. 6, 2006) – Recent data indicates that the majority of American classrooms have a speech intelligibility rating of 75 or less, meaning that listeners with adequate hearing can only understand 75 percent of the words read from a list. The new array speakers from *Califone* International, Inc., the premier manufacturer of high-quality audio-visual technology for academic and professional use, targets the audience directly instead of losing valuable information in the classroom void.

Oftentimes sound generated by an educator is superseded by ambient noise in the classroom such as the humming of an air conditioner or by sounds transmitted from outside the room. Designed to increase the signal-to-noise ratio, all three of the array models narrow the sound distribution directly at the students while preventing sound waves from reverberating off walls.

“The key here is to efficiently use technology to create the most even sound distribution we can in the classroom,” said Tim Ridgway, vice president of marketing at *Califone*. “It is vital for students to hear both their educators and their audio-visual resources clearly, without significant reverberation or diffusion.”

The series is comprised of three speaker models:

**PI-30:** With 16 selectable UHF channels for wireless microphone or LCD projector compatibility, this powered speaker features dual line-in and RCA ports, volume control and microphone functions. The speaker is built with a rugged steel grill for protection and is available for \$199 per unit (including wall mounting hardware).

**PI-30PS:** A cost-effective alternative, this powered model delivers all the flexibility and reliability of the PI-30 without the added UHF capabilities for \$175 per unit.

**PI-30SP:** This model provides educators with basic array speaker functionality for \$99 per unit. In addition, the PI-30SP is included as part of the recently launched [Classroom Infrared System](#) from *Califone*.

All three models come with a wall-mounting bracket and the unique 6-year *Califone* warranty, which includes coverage for school, library and government use, typically not available for products purchased from consumer electronics stores.

To order, contact a *Califone* dealer. For more information on the full line of *Califone* products that are designed for the education market and are safe for school and library use, call 1-800-722-0500, or visit [www.califone.com](http://www.califone.com) to view and download the entire *Califone* catalog.

### **About *Califone***

*Califone* was founded in 1947 and continues to be a leader in the design, development and manufacturing of audiovisual and supplemental curriculum products for use in education, presentation and professional markets. The company offers a complete line of audio solutions, wireless systems and multimedia products for small, medium and large presentation needs. *Califone* serves millions of educators and children in the PreK through higher education school environments and has expanded to serve business and industry, houses of worship, parks and recreation and other presentation markets as well.

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### **Editor's Note:**

For a high-res photo, go to <http://www.califone.com/media>. After logging in using the username and password provided on the login page, click on product images and then click on PA Systems – Installed. Scroll to and click on PI30-IRSYS Color for the PI-30; PI30 Color for a high-res color photo of the PI-30SP; and PI30-PS Color for a high-res color photo of the PI-30PS. Black and white images are also available.