

Tom DeVesto, Founder and CEO COMO AUDIO

**BIOGRAPHICAL DATA** 

Tom DeVesto has been designing and introducing quality consumer electronics brands for more than 40 years. He recently founded Como Audio in 2016, where he is founder and CEO, and prior to that was responsible for launching companies and innovative brands at Advent, Kloss Video, Cambridge SoundWorks, and Tivoli Audio, LLC. He is an entrepreneur, Hall of Fame audio designer, and visionary with a history of innovative, never-before-tried marketing, manufacturing, and sales principles. Mr. DeVesto introduced the concept of selling electronics to consumers on a Web site (hifi.com) – today viewed as the industry standard for the selling of audio products.

Today music is everywhere and is streamed through so many content sources that keep expanding and evolving. In founding Como Audio, Tom DeVesto's goal was simple: to make it easy to access all of the music content available through one device that would deliver multi-room, true high-fidelity, Wi-Fi sound in a compact wooden design. The Como Audio products are designed to not only produce great room-filling sound, but have the ability to sync music throughout the house.

The first Como Audio's products, aptly called "Solo" and "Duetto," are designed to make all of the music content available today accessible, simply by touching a button. Listening to music from an iPhone, Spotify, Bluetooth, the Internet or FM Radio just become easier with the multi-room Como Audio Solo and Duetto hi-fi audio systems that let you access all of your music content with the press of a button. With Solo and Duetto, there is no need for a phone, device or remote control to listen to music from all content sources including: Spotify, Internet, Bluetooth or FM radio.

The next generation of Como Audio products introduced in 2017 includes Musica – a complete Wi-Fi, multi-room music system with CD Player that streams to all other Como Audio products and Amico – a portable Wi-Fi, multi-room audio system for indoor, outdoor, anytime or anywhere music. Musica allows listeners to access music from one device and a multitude of sources, throughout multi-rooms and with an integrated slot-loading CD player. With the press of a button, all music content is available from a variety of sources including Internet radio, Spotify, Connect, Tidal, Deezer, Napster, and Amazon Music. Amico was designed for those who want to listen to music from room to room or wherever they go. It is portable, battery-powered and lightweight featuring great sound with eight hours of playback. This small "friend" as the name Amico implies is designed to play Internet radio, Spotify Connect, FM RDS, Bluetooth and aptX, and makes it easy to bring music from room to room indoors, and is the perfect solution for outdoor entertainment.

Prior to founding Como Audio, Tom DeVesto founded Tivoli Audio in 2000. The company originally introduced the Model One Radio in four wood finishes and colors that sold on the Website. Under Mr. DeVesto's design guidance, the company continued to manufacture and market award-winning signature audio products that delivered high-fidelity performance in a unique range of colors and furniture grade woods to look as good as they sounded. It became an overnight success and grew to sell as an iconic brand in 50 countries worldwide.

The concept of factory-direct selling was pioneered by Tom DeVesto and first introduced when he co-founded Cambridge SoundWorks in 1988 with Henry Kloss, the Audio Hall of Fame member and nationally-acclaimed inventor. Mr. DeVesto proved that an audio manufacturer could be successful in factory-direct selling by offering the customer the highest quality audio products at the best prices, backed by outstanding customer service and money-back guarantees. His concept of selling factory direct to the customer is one that is widely practiced today with all manufacturers of audio products.

Prior to heading up the management and research and development operations of Cambridge SoundWorks, he was a consultant to ITT Corporation and represented ITT in connection with its relationship with Kloss Video Corporation, the first company to introduce projection television to the mass market. From 1978 to 1985, he was Senior Vice President of Sales and Marketing of Kloss Video Corporation. From 1976 to 1978, Mr. DeVesto held various sales management positions in the international and domestic divisions of Advent Corporation, a major manufacturer of stereo components and large-screen TVs. Prior to that, he successfully started and ran several retail operations selling audio products. Mr. DeVesto was instrumental in bringing public Cambridge SoundWorks and Kloss Video.

As for the future, Mr. DeVesto plans to introduce innovative marketing, sales and manufacturing techniques for the purpose of bringing new audio products to market that offer high performance and extraordinary value. He also plans to open a manufacturing facility to produce his products in the United States.

In addition to Founder and CEO of Como Audio, Tom DeVesto is on the Board of Overseers of WGBH Radio in Boston, MA, and is on the Board of Directors of WMVY Radio in Martha's Vineyard, MA.

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