

FireFly® vs i-Zombie

	FireFly			i-Zombie			COMMENTS
Model	FF-501	FF-201	FF-101	MC2401	ST2401	SC1201	
MSRP	\$349.00	\$249.00	\$149.00	\$294.95	\$214.95	\$129.95	
Total channels	Five (5)	Two (2)	One (1)	Four (4)	Two (2)	One (1)	FireFly FF-501 has dedicated dimming plus 4 lightning channels. i-Zombie's 4-channel unit, the MC2401, does not offer dimming.
Modes	Six (6)	Three (3)	Two (2)	One (1)	Two (2)	Two (2)	i-Zombie units are single mode, except for dimming on 2 models. FireFly FF-501 provides 6 modes plus a dedicated dimming channel. The FF-201 offers full stereo, mono with dimming and full mono w/3000 watts.
Total power handling	3,000 watts	3,000 watts	1,500 watts	2,400 watts	2,400 watts	1,200 watts	FireFly has 20% greater maximum power rating.
Dimming	Dedicated channel	Selectable (front panel)	Selectable (front panel)	NO	Selectable (internal)	Selectable (internal)	FireFly FF-501 offers dedicated dimming channel, front panel switchable for other models. No dimming on i-Zombie MC2401. Other i-Zombie models have switch on circuit board and require removing screws and opening cabinet to select.
Lights supported for lightning	LED, Dimmable Compact Fluorescent, Cold Cathode, Incandescent, Halogen				Incandescent, Halogen (per manufacturer's website)		FireFly supports five (5) light types for lightning. i-Zombie supports two (2). FireFly's support for LED, CFL and Cold Cathode bulbs prevents obsolescence.
External Threshold control	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	External threshold control is essential for using multiple light types. i-Zombie's internal factory setting is a compromise that does not provide for fine tuning by the user for specific light types, such as LED, CFL or Cold Cathode.
Microprocessor	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	FireFly FF-501 microprocessor offers more features and options.
Test button	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	All FireFly models have test button to actively check internal circuits and connected lights. FF-501 has startup test routine. i-Zombie provides passive testing, but no test button.
Power switch and power-on indicator	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	FireFly provides a front panel power switch with power on indicator. i-Zombie units are always on when plugged in. No power switch or power on indicator provided. Must be unplugged to power down.
Warranty	5 year	5 year	5 year	1 year	1 year	1 year	FireFly offers 4 more years of warranty than i-Zombie.
Upgrade path	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	FireFly owners are guaranteed 50% trade-in value when upgrading models. FF-501 firmware is upgradable as new features are available.
Selectable dual range audio filter	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	FireFly's selectable dual-range filter makes using 3rd-party CDs easy not only for lightning but for many other special effects. i-Zombie's dedicated low-frequency filter restricts it to lightning simulation.
Auto audio switching	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	FireFly's internal audio switching eliminates the need for "Y" adapters, barrel connectors, and patch panels
External lightning or dim switch	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	Front panel switch on FF-201 and FF-101. Dedicated dimming channel in FF-501. i-Zombie has switch on circuit board inside ST2401 and SC1201. Dimming not available on the multi-channel i-Zombie MC2401.
Isolation methods	Two	Two	Two	Two	Two	Two	Both manufacturers provide two excellent methods of electrical isolation.
Optimized for line outputs from modern audio devices?	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	FireFly's higher input impedance more closely matches the line out of modern consumer audio equipment and does not create excessive "loading" that can reduce system volume. i-Zombie has a low input impedance.
All controls external	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	FireFly case is closed with security screws to keep users away from high voltages. i-Zombie requires opening case to access dimmer switch.

SUMMARY

FireFly offers more features, greater power handling capacity, all external user controls, support for more types of light sources, superior audio compatibility (higher impedance), better safety precautions (power switch + power on indicator, never required to open case), selectable dual range audio filters, automatic audio switching, dedicated dimming channel (FF-501), microprocessor control (FF-501), a five (5) year warranty and an upgrade path.

DISCLAIMER

This comparison was compiled by Lights Alive with information obtained from the manufacturer's websites, details supplied to us by i-Zombie and other sources deemed reliable and accurate as of 12/01/2009. If errors are found, please notify Lights Alive immediately (Ron@LightsAlive.com). Be sure to include evidence to substantiate your claim. We will investigate and promptly correct any information demonstrated to be inaccurate.