

by Frank Legato

## Alfred Hitchcock Presents International Game Technology

While IGT's latest themed game on the premium CrystalCurve Ultra cabinet carries the title of legendary director Alfred Hitchcock's iconic TV series from the late 1950s and early 1960s—the familiar theme song, Gounod's "Funeral March of a Marionette," can be heard during spins; there are stills and video of Hitchcock from the set of the mystery/horror series—the game's bonus features draw on the director's most famous motion pictures.

The base game is a five-reel, 40-line video slot with a 75-credit cost to cover, featuring frequent base-game features. The bonus features reference the Hitchcock films *Psycho*, *Vertigo* and *The Birds*.

Free games are triggered when two bonus symbols land on reels one and three and either the *Psycho*, *Vertigo*, or *The Birds* theme symbol appears on reel five.

The Director's Cut Wheel Bonus is triggered randomly during the base game and can award credits, bonuses, or "Hitchcock's Jackpot."

**Manufacturer:** International Game Technology

**Platform:** CrystalCurve Ultra

**Format:** Five-reel, 40-line video slot

**Denomination:** .01

**Max Bet:** 375 or 600  
(operator configurable)

**Top Award:**  
\$5,000 w/ 600 credit max bet;  
\$2,500 w/ 375 credit max bet

**Hit Frequency:**  
Approximately 50%

**Theoretical Hold:**  
4%-14.1%



## 999.9 Gold Wheel Ultra Stack Lion Gold; Dragon Gold Aruze Gaming America

These companion games reside on Aruze's Cube-X Ultimate cabinet, which adds a physical wheel to the premium Cube-X video format, which players can spin for credit amounts or one of four progressive jackpots.

999.9 Gold Wheel Ultra Stack Lion Gold (pictured) and 999.9 Gold Wheel Ultra Stack Dragon Gold are both five-reel, 50-line video slots. Players can choose to add Gold Reels, which unlock progressives and add one solid reel of wilds, by increasing their bet. Max bet unlocks all progressives and adds the possibility of a 2X wild multiplier for the wild reel.

Betting up also makes it possible to trigger the mechanical "Gold Wheel," which awards free games played on special reels with a greater number of the top-paying symbol.

There is a free-spin bonus triggered by scattered

bonus symbols on the three middle reels. This triggers eight free games, and the feature can be retrIGGERED within the free games.

Three scattered SPIN symbols on the middle reels trigger the 999.9 Gold Wheel Feature. The physical wheel will spin and award eight, 10, 15, 20 or 50 free games, or award a spin on the Jackpot Wheel. If the Jackpot slice lands on the physical wheel, the top LCD monitor displays a large Jackpot Wheel—it contains only the four progressive jackpots as slices.

The jackpots levels change according to the amount bet. At max bet, the progressives reset at \$10, \$50, \$500 and \$5,000.

**Manufacturer:** Aruze Gaming America

**Platform:** Cube-X Ultimate

**Format:** Five-reel, 50-line video slot

**Denomination:** .01 (multi-denomination available)

**Max Bet:** 250, 500, 750, 1,000, 1,500, 2,000

**Top Award:** Progressive; \$5,000 reset

**Hit Frequency:** Approximately 50%

**Theoretical Hold:** 3.6%-12.42%

# Willie Nelson Everi Holdings

One of the first major licensed brands by Everi Holdings celebrates the life and music of country legend Willie Nelson. The company has launched two initial games in the series, called “Shotgun Willie” and “Whiskey River,” on its Player Classic traditional mechanical stepper series.

The base games are mechanical three-reel, nine-line steppers, in quarter and dollar denominations. The quarter version carries an 18-credit max bet; the dollar version, nine credits. The games feature a five-level progressive jackpot, with the top prize available in both local-area progressive (LAP) and wide-area progressive (WAP) versions.

The top progressive resets at \$10,000 (LAP) and \$100,000 (WAP) in the quarter versions. In the dollar version, the top prizes reset at \$100,000 (LAP) and \$1 million (WAP). The two initial titles are being shipped together as a leased product, and both link to the same progressive jackpot.

The base games feature classic reel-spinning features, with multiplying wild symbols in both. In Shotgun Willie, certain bar and “7” symbols display a 2X, 3X, 4X or 5X multiplier, applied in winning combinations. Two or



more multipliers on a payline multiply together, for a potential maximum of 40X on a single win.

Whiskey River features a straight multiplying wild symbol. Whiskey River symbols are wild, and double the pay in a winning combination. Two wild symbols in a win multiply the payout by four. Three title symbols in Whiskey River or Shotgun Willie pay the top line jackpot or, if landing on the ninth payline, return the top progressive jackpot.

The simple, traditional game features are backed by audio of Nelson’s biggest hit songs.

**Manufacturer:** Everi Holdings

**Platform:** Player Classic

**Format:** Three-reel, nine-line stepper slot

**Denomination:** .25, 1.00

**Max Bet:** 9, 18

**Top Award:** Progressive; resets—

\$10,000, \$100,000 (LAP)

\$100,000, \$1 million (WAP)

**Hit Frequency:** 28%-34.27%

**Theoretical Hold:** 6.55%-14.59%

# Hot Shot Inferno Scientific Games

This latest iteration of the long-popular Bally Hot Shots theme places the familiar “mini-game” bonus in a 50-line video slot on the Alpha Pro Wave cabinet, including a digital bonus wheel.

Like other games in the series, the central feature is a group of “game-in-game” symbols that are miniature versions of the play areas of several classic Bally reel-spinning slots—in this case, Triple Blazing 7s, Triple Blazing 7s Diamond Line, Double Jackpot Triple Blazing 7s, Triple Jackpot Triple Blazing 7s, and Triple Blazing 7s 7x Pay. When three or more like game symbols land on a payline, the miniature reels spin once for each symbol, with winning combinations accumulating the bonus amount.

This newest version of the game combines this feature with “Golden Game-in-Game Enhancements.” When one or more of these symbols land on an active payline, the player spins the digital “Enhancement Wheel” to land on free spins, extra games, “Frenzy Games,” “Spin ‘Til You Win” or the Jackpot Wheel.

Frenzy Games stack the Golden Game-in-Game symbols up



to seven high for more chances to win. Spin ‘Til You Win triggers continuous spins until a winning combination is achieved.

The Jackpot Wheel spins once to award one of the five progressive jackpots, the top prize resetting at 4,000 times the denomination, times the total bet. In the penny version of the game, that’s \$40,000.

**Manufacturer:** Scientific Games

**Platform:** Alpha Pro Wave

**Format:** Five-reel, 50-line video slot

**Denomination:** .01-1,000.00

**Max Bet:** 400

**Top Award:** Progressive; reset at 4,000 times denomination times max bet

**Hit Frequency:** 55%

**Theoretical Hold:** 3.97%-14.57%