

Panasonic Beefs Up Toughbook

By Jennifer Lawinski, ChannelWeb
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Panasonic beefed up its line of Toughbook 19 notebook computers on Tuesday, releasing models that incorporate Intel (NSDQ:INTC)'s Core 2 Duo processors and more memory than previous incarnations.

Panasonic's Toughbook 19 now comes with Intel's Core 2 Duo U7500 processor running at 1.06 GHz and 2 MB of L2 cache. It has an 80 GB hard drive and comes in standard with 1 GB SDRAM, expandable up to 4 GB. It comes in two models, a 550 nit tablet model and a 500 nit touchscreen, both of which are anti-glare and anti-reflective for easier viewing outside.

The Toughbook 19F, weighing in at 5.1 pounds, also has an optional integrated camera and are MIL " SPEC certified. Rugged features include: magnesium alloy cases, sealed keyboards and ports, hard drive heaters, flexible internal connectors and shock-mounting capabilities, Wi-Fi 802.11 a/b/g, Bluetooth, GPS wires and a backlit keyboard.

"Panasonic has always been at the forefront of engineering and building mobile solutions that incorporate enhancements in processing power while advancing durability, screen brightness, battery life and embedded wireless technologies," said Kyp Walls, director of product management, Panasonic Computer Solutions Company, Secaucus, N.J., in a statement.

"Panasonic engineers tackle reliability from the inside out and we manufacture and real-world test to ensure that our technology can withstand the conditions our customers face every day -- and over the long term. Panasonic's technical superiority is further supported by our deep network of channel partners and solution providers who understand the environments in which our customers work and the applications they require to meet the high standards expected of them."

The Toughbook 19 can run on battery power for up to 7 hours, according to the company.

Available now, the Toughbook 19F retails for \$3,199. The model with the integrated camera will be available in May for \$3,699.

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