



## **Panasonic's Latest Hot-Rod Toughbook Tops Fully Ruggedized**

Speed Charts; Upgraded CF-28 Gets 1GHz, 133MHz Bus CPU & Under \$2,700 Price Tag

Business Editors/High-Tech Writers

SECAUCUS, N.J.—(BUSINESS WIRE)—Oct. 15, 2002—Panasonic Computer Solutions Company, the leading provider of ruggedized portable computers, today announced the release of an upgraded Toughbook(R) CF-28—the world's fastest MIL-STD 810F -tested notebook computer and the first fully shock-and-water resistant model in the company's history with an estimated street price starting at under \$2,700.

Featuring Intel's(R) latest 0.13-micron, copper-interconnect 1GHz/733MHz Pentium(R) III Enhanced-SpeedStep(R) CPU, the CF-28 automatically shifts bus ratios, core-operating voltages and processor speeds between full power and power-conservation modes based on workload demand. Other battery runtime enhancements include an ultra-low-power hibernation mode and Intel's Advanced Transfer Cache architecture for faster L2 cache data transfers and reduced system power consumption.

"The new 1GHz CF-28 is a direct response to the evolving needs of our customers for faster processing speeds in a bulletproof, cool-running notebook that can be affordably deployed to their entire field force," said Rance Poehler, Panasonic Computer Solutions Company President. "It is also a reaffirmation of our commitment to do whatever it takes to retain our position as America's largest and most respected supplier of ruggedized computing solutions to industry and public-service agencies."

Poehler cited Panasonic's(R) unprecedented control over virtually every aspect of the CF-28's design and construction for the company's ability to solve heat buildup issues that have stymied competitors' attempts to break the 1GHz speed barrier in a dust, dirt and watertight standard-size, under-nine-pound notebook.

"Panasonic is the only manufacturer building ruggedized computers able to run higher-end Intel processors without a cooling fan," Poehler said. "At Panasonic we don't define units with fans as fully ruggedized. We design and build our own magnesium-alloy cases, most of the key components inside those cases, and the proprietary heat-dispersal systems for those components. One of our major competitors offers a Taiwan-OEM-made 'rugged' unit that needs a fan and outside air intake to keep from burning up. That kind of design would never meet our case-integrity standards.

"When we decide to upgrade a model, we don't call some third-party vendor and say 'Hey, Charlie, toss a faster CPU into that model starting with serial number 1025598.' We do new design studies, build new prototypes, and test every conceivable combination of CPU and chipset to ensure the computer exceeds all our temperature control, power efficiency and durability standards.

"That's why we can guarantee that the 1GHz CF-28, the fastest fully ruggedized Toughbook ever made, is as rock-solid and dependable in a crisis as any of its predecessors."

The new Toughbook CF-28 features 256MB of PC133 SDRAM (512MB maximum), a 30GB stainless-steel-encased removable HDD with polymer damper, an integrated drive bay for a 1.44MB floppy (standard) or optional CD-ROM, CD-RW, DVD-ROM, or DVD/CD-RW combo drive, a lithium-ion battery pack, integrated GPS capability, and a wide-array of integrated wired and wireless connectivity options. Screen options include a 12.1-inch SVGA anti-reflective TFT active-matrix color LCD, a 12.1-inch SVGA transfective TFT active-matrix color LCD touchscreen, and a 13.3-inch XGA transmissive, anti-reflective, TFT active-matrix color LCD touchscreen.

Legendary Toughbook durability is assured by a full magnesium-alloy case with elastomer-protected corners and bottom cover, the shock-mounted hard drive, a string-silicon seal between case halves, seamless rubber gaskets around component doors, fully sealed display screen, keyboard, touchpad, port and hinge fittings, stay-tight case hinges and a bonded scratch-and-mark resistant finish.

Visit USAT at [www.InTruckComputing.com](http://www.InTruckComputing.com)

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## About USAT

The products, people and business of USAT are entirely dedicated to the needs of the mobile professional since 1992. USAT provides technology solutions to empower workers in the field, to improve the efficiency and performance of vehicle fleets, and to connect the mobile elements of an enterprise together. USAT solutions include rugged laptops, steel vehicle mounts, wireless connectivity, global positioning systems (GPS), automatic vehicle locations systems (AVL), rugged printers, and computing accessories. USAT also provides comprehensive installation and setup services to help your investment work for you.

*Information on USAT's field computing solutions are available at [www.intruckcomputing.com](http://www.intruckcomputing.com) or by calling 888-550-8728 or [info@intruckcomputing.com](mailto:info@intruckcomputing.com).*

## About Panasonic Computer Solutions Company

Panasonic Computer Solutions Company is the leading provider of ruggedized notebook PCs for mobile professionals in the USA. The company is a unit company of Matsushita Electric Corporation of America, the principal North American subsidiary of Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd. of Japan (NYSE: MC), which recorded annual sales of \$51.70 billion in the most recent fiscal year. Matsushita Electric is one of the only manufacturers today that directly controls the process of design, manufacture and quality assurance of its notebook PCs. Many key components, including LCD panels, Lithium Ion batteries, DVD and CD-ROM drives, and board-level electronics are the products of its divisions. The products, people and business of Panasonic Computer Solutions Company are entirely dedicated to the needs of the professional user, including Fortune 1000 business and government professionals. Panasonic also supplies mobile computing solutions to over 2,000 police departments in the United States.

Note to Editors:

All brand and company/product names are trademarks or registered trademarks of the respective companies. All specifications are subject to change without notice.

Information on Panasonic's full line of notebook PCs for the mobile professional can be obtained by calling 888-550-8728 or at <http://www.toughbook28.com>

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INDUSTRY KEYWORD: SOFTWARE HARDWARE COMPUTERS/ELECTRONICS PRODUCT

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