

Panasonic recommends Microsoft®
Windows® XP Professional

TOUGHBOOK®

Computers for the Outside World™



Toughbooks in action

Over 10,000 flight hours and no sign of jetlag.



Starting out as Euravia in 1962, Thomsonfly has developed into a leader in the holiday and tourist market sector and now services over 37 countries across Europe and beyond. Managing a fleet of 48 Boeing aircraft, they now take some 8 million people each year to over 87 locations.

Thomsonfly recently introduced new services and innovations onboard their 757 and 767 aircraft during an extensive refit. Their ethos of constant innovation is also evident amongst their flight crew who rely on the latest Panasonic Toughbook CF-T2 to accompany them during flights.

www.toughbook-europe.com

"The flight deck can be a hostile environment with changes in altitude being a major problem for laptops. The rugged hard drive of the Toughbook was more than capable of handling the significant drop in pressure."

Chris Entwisle, Flightcrew Systems Project Manager.

Panasonic
ideas for life



Toughbooks in action

CF-T2 the ideal hand luggage for Thomsonfly pilots.

There are over 220 Toughbooks in action with Thomsonfly today. However, it wasn't always the case. After increasing failures with their previous laptops, they were forced to look for an alternative and found it in an unlikely place – their ground engineers were already using Toughbooks and found them to be extremely reliable.

Test flying the Toughbook

Thomsonfly carried out a number of rigorous tests on a wide selection of Toughbooks where they flew out models with various size screens. They came to the conclusion that the CF-T2, with its 12" screen, was the ideal size for flight deck duties. It's magnesium alloy case and reinforced metal screen case edges made sure it would stand up to the rigours of hours in the air. Flight decks can be a busy, compact environment increasing the risk of laptops falling on the floor. Tested to withstand a 30cm drop, the CF-T2 proved that it was more than capable of protecting pilot's data.

Toughbook passes with flying colours

Before Thomsonfly decided on the CF-T2s, Panasonic worked with them to ensure each Toughbook passed their guidelines and the strict regulations set by the Radio Technical Commission for Aeronautics (RTCA) as well as the Union. For starters, one of the stipulations is that pilot's

laptops should weigh no more than 1.4kg and always be transported in flight bags. At just 1,220 grams, the sleek, compact CF-T2 didn't pose a problem.

Ready for take-off

Thomsonfly pilots use their Toughbooks to perform take-off calculations, store flight information and for quick in-flight reference to manuals contained in the computer hard drive.

The CF-T2 is mainly stowed during flights, but when it is required, it's important that there is no interference with the aircraft's onboard systems. To achieve this, Panasonic adapted the CF-T2 to include an on/off switch specifically for the Toughbook's wireless function.

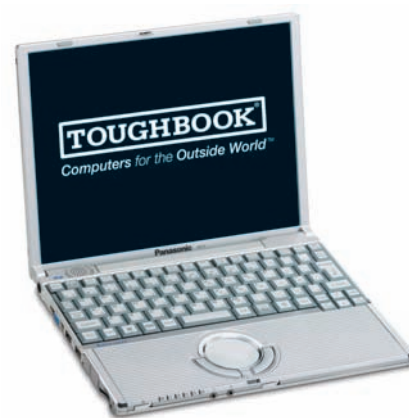
Checked and double checked

The CF-T2 provides pilots with a laptop that has a low failure rate, however, should anything occur, replacement Toughbooks are provided within 24 hours - again, these adhere to industry testing requirements.

"The approval process requires a series of different tests. To satisfy safety specifications, a lot of information had to be gathered about batteries, technical specification and repairs – in fact everything that could happen to a laptop during its lifetime."

Chris Entwisle, Flightcrew Systems Project Manager.

Panasonic have been working in partnership with Thomsonfly for 2 years now and are currently looking to supply the tour operator with the next generation of laptops that will ensure their flights leave on time. It's a partnership that already seems to have been successful, helping Thomsonfly win the AUC Crowns Award for the most punctual charter airline.



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