

RuggedPCReview.com

If it's rugged, we review it and write about it

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Greetings!

Wow. What a first couple of months it's been this year. More and more companies are entering the rugged space. Even companies like Dell are discovering that their customers want rugged computers!

There's been a flurry of new product releases and here at RuggedPCReview we've been working overtime to add it all to our site. Apparently, people notice the depth and quality of our reviews. Type "Rugged PC" into Google, and we're #1.



This month we're welcoming a new premier sponsor, [Juniper Systems](#). We reviewed their ultra-rugged Archer handheld and it's one tough machine. It kept working even underwater!

In this newsletter I'll tell you what's been going on in the rugged space, what major reviews we've added, and what companies are on the up-and-up.

Juniper Systems Archer ultra-rugged Field PC



The [Juniper Systems Archer Field PC](#) may look friendly with its pumpkin-orange cladding (gray is available) and big round buttons, but it is an entirely serious machine that's as tough and rugged as they come.

A very intelligent design combines a rock-solid magnesium core with easily-replaceable exterior elastomer protection, making for both superior durability and above-average connectivity and onboard expansion. The Archer is ergonomically designed, too, and its strong battery easily lasts a full shift or even two. Electronics and software are tried and field-proven. Overall, the Archer Field PC is a superbly designed, ultra-rugged handheld computer. It's tough enough to handle virtually any abuse, yet small enough to be carried anywhere. This and its powerful battery make the Archer a convincing choice for any number of demanding field applications. [\[Check our review of](#)

[General Dynamics Itronix](#)
[GETAC](#)
[Juniper Systems](#)
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[the Juniper Systems Archer](#)] (and yes, we did a video of how we abused the machine. Did it hold up?)

MobileDemand T8700: when Total Cost of Ownership matters



[MobileDemand's xTablet T8700](#) is a compact rugged Tablet PC slate based on a reliable platform that has seen duty in various vertical markets for years. There are significant technology enhancements in the new T8700 model that make this versatile tablet more useful than ever. The latest version of the xTablet is faster, especially with the optional Solid State Drive, and even handles Windows Vista efficiently with its Intel Core Duo processor and generous base RAM.

The sunlight viewable display is a huge productivity enhancement for those who use the machine outdoors. MobileDemand's xView display technology is amazingly good both in making the display easily readable outdoors as well as cutting down on excessive glare and reflection. What remains unchanged is the inherent ruggedness of the design with its magnesium alloy housing, the big 77 watt-hour battery that can last through an entire shift, the dual digitizers, the integrated numeric keypad, and the scanner/imager and radio options that make the T8700 a desirable hardware platform for various fields and industries. What the xTablet T8700 proves is that you do not have to give up advanced features in order to get the kind of versatility, reliability and ruggedness that lower total cost of ownership (TOC), and that's what it's all about. [\[Read our full review of the MobileDemand xTablet T8700\]](#)

Small and handy, yet rugged: the GETAC E100

Need a ultra-light tablet? [GETAC](#) has one. Weighing just over three pounds, the E100 was designed for field service and customer service applications. Though it is small (11.1 x 7.2 x 1.26 inches), the E100 with its full magnesium housing and rubber bumpers is as tough as the heavyweights in GETAC's lineup. It is tested to MIL-STD-810F standards and carries an IP54 ingress protection rating. IP54 means it is dust-proof and can handle water spray from all directions. The E100's 8.4-inch TFT SVGA (800 x 600 pixel) transmissive display has a touch screen panel. Optionally available is a sunlight-readable display with very strong 800 Nit backlight. Also available is an array of expandable "mission boxes" for customized market applications that use RFID, barcode and magnetic strip readers or digital cameras. A computer with this kind of ruggedness and superb battery life is hard to find. [\[Read description and specs of the GETAC E100\]](#)



GD-Itronix Duo-Touch II -- Successful tech makeover for rugged, compact Tablet PC



The latest version of the [General Dynamics Itronix Tablet PC](#), the Duo-Touch II, represents a significant update over the earlier Duo-Touch model without straying from the basic design concept. Technology upgrades increased overall performance by 64% in our benchmarks, and the [DynaVue](#)



[display technology](#) makes for very good outdoor readability. We like the dual-mode digitizer, the compact size and light weight and the many wireless configuration options in what remains an excellent computing platform choice from one of the industry's most respected and reliable vendors.

I hope you enjoyed this update. Stop by at RuggedPCReview.com and get the latest news on rugged and mobile technology (we now have reviews and data on almost 300 rugged systems). If you're a vendor, consider becoming a sponsor of RuggedPCReview.com. We have excellent Google visibility. As stated upfront (we're very proud of it!), type "Rugged PC" and we come up #1 in Google. Type "rugged slate" and we come up #2. View the [RuggedPCReview Media Kit](#) or email me with sponsorship/advertising questions.

Sincerely,

Conrad

Conrad Blickenstorfer, Ph.D.
Editor-in-Chief
RuggedPCReview.com

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