

## Easy-to-see screen on battle-proven laptop

**Boasts technology direct from the desert war**

By Hamish Barwick, Auckland | Friday, September 21 2007



Road warriors could add a new notebook to their business arsenal, with the local arrival of a laptop featuring technology deployed by the US military in Iraq.

The semi-rugged General Dynamix GoBook VR-2 notebook is aimed at mobile workers who either spend most of their time outdoors or in a vehicle.

According to Dave Cawsey general manager of Australian-based distributor Avantec, which holds the General Dynamix agency on both sides of the Tasman, a unique feature of the laptop is a 13.3-inch screen that is viewable in direct sunlight.

"Most laptops are pretty much useless when you try to work outside in sunlight," he claims, "as you can't view the screen. The GoBook VR-2 has a colour touch screen that works perfectly in direct sunlight. New Zealand businesses can now benefit directly from this practical technology, which has

been proven in Iraq."

This feature is based on General Dynamix's patent-pending DynaVue display technology, says Cawsey. The main target audience for the product is mobile workers in sectors such as transportation, building and construction, mining, agriculture and emergency services, says Cawsey.

"It is ideal for workers who spend most of their time outside or in vehicles."

The laptop is also designed to cope with dust and moisture and can survive drops of 75cm and comes standard with a spill-resistant keyboard, says Cawsey. "This allows the GoBook VR-2 to perform in the event of several common workplace incidents – such as a person spilling a cup of coffee directly onto a laptop."

Ideal resellers for the GoBook are those who provide mobility and workforce management applications, says Cawsey.

However, he adds Avantec aims to keep the number of resellers for the range limited, but well supported. "We are not interested in having hordes of resellers who have to compete. In New Zealand we are looking at a maximum of around four to make it a worthwhile business."

An optional, biometric fingerprint reader allows access to secure information.

Optional office and theft-resistant vehicle docking stations are also available for the laptop, which retails at \$5950 excluding GST.

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