

Press Release

Toshiba's new low-end notebook PC fills a space in the market

**Neuss,
June 1994**

As an innovative marketing move, Toshiba today launched a new basic version of its standard notebook line called the T1900S. This monochrome-only, A4 notebook is a 25 MHz 486 SX model with 120 MB hard disk and 4 MB memory. "Our new product shows that Toshiba can build to a price point," said Fumio Yamashita, Toshiba Europa's Vice President in charge of mobile computers. "We have not neglected quality – this is part of the Toshiba brand of mobile PCs – but we have designed a no-frills notebook PC that will extend Toshiba's appeal into areas which were previously too price sensitive."

In the major European markets the new T1900S will market at or under DM 3000 (or £1000, or FF 10,000) depending on market conditions and local tax rates. This brings the proven quality and build of Toshiba mobile PCs to a price level that Toshiba believes will be very interesting for many new customers. Small offices, home offices, education uses and private individuals are among possible new users who need reliability without all the extras of a fully-featured business product. For fleet use, the T1900S offers the power needed for on the road computing at a price that means everybody in a company can have a PC.

To reach the low price point, Toshiba asked users what they needed as an absolute minimum today. The SL Enhanced 486 SX processor running at 25 MHz is currently the minimum 486 processor. The 120 MB hard disk is a standard size, enough for a wide range of text and finance-oriented programs. The VGA monochrome screen shows 16 grey scales – sufficient for road usage with colour on an external monitor possible in the office. MS-DOS 6.2 is installed as standard.

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In other ways the T1900S is a demonstration of the top quality hardware and user-friendliness that mobile computing now offers. It has a full range of ports: parallel, serial, external screen, PS/2 mouse and keyboard, as well as memory expansion and a Type III (14.5 mm high) PCMCIA slot for credi-card-format PC expansion cards. It even has a QuickPort™ connector for a cable-less BallPoint® mouse which is available as an option. The T1900S thus offers users a taste of the benefits of full mobile computing without the full power and cost of a business machine. Toshiba believes that this combination will appeal to many new customers.

In the highly competitive lower end of the mobile PC market, Toshiba expects the T1900S to compete with clone notebook producers and various far-eastern "no-name" products. In some European countries the T1900S will also be used to broaden Toshiba sales channels. Its price/performance point compares favourably with other products now being offered through department stores and computer sales chains.

For more demanding users who work in Windows and advanced business programs, Toshiba's full range of basic and advanced business notebooks (the T19XX Series and the T4XXX Series) offer more powerful processing, with more data storage space, sound systems, colour screen versions and extended expansion options.

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T1900S specifications

Processor

- SL Enhanced Intel 486 SX
- 3.3-volt technology
- 25 MHz clock speed
- 8 KB cache on chip

Memory

- Standard 4 MB RAM
- Expandable to 20 MB

Hard disk

- 120 MB
- Less than 17 ms ave. access time

Diskette drive

- 3.5" 1.44 MB/720 KB diskette drive
- Media-type checking

Monochrome display

- 640 x 480 dot resolution
- B/W STN LCD
- 9.5" diagonal

Graphics adaptor

- VGA compatible
- 16 grey scales
- Graphics accelerator

Keyboard

- 84 sculptured keys
- Standard layout
- 12 function keys
- 8 cursor keys
- Inlaid numeric keypad

Interfaces

- Centronics compatible parallel/FDD port
- RS-232 serial port
- PS/2 mouse port
- PS/2 keyboard port
- Analogue VGA port

Expansion

- PCMCIA 2.0 Type III slot
- Credit card format memory expansion

Special features

- AutoResume™ Mode
- MaxTime™ Power Management
- Advanced Power Management
- Flash BIOS

Software and hardware

- MS-DOS 6.2
- Socket and Card Services PCMCIA software support

Power supply

- Autosensing 100-240 V AC adaptor for world-wide usage

Battery

- Rechargeable and removable NiH₂
- Up to 4.5 hours battery life
- Recharges in 2.3 hrs

Size

- 299 x 215 x 51 mm (11.7" x 8.3 x 2.0")

Weight

- 2.9 kg (6.4 lb.)

Options

- Carrying case
- Extra battery packs
- 4, 8 and 16 MB memory cards
- PCMCIA high-speed data/fax modem (where approved)
- External 5.25" diskette drive
- BallPoint™ Mouse