Press Release

486 power with colour and ISA expansion - the new T6400 low weight portable from Toshiba

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"Simply put, there are applications and uses which can't be satisfied with either a notebook or a desktop PC. That is why Toshiba believes in mains-powered portable PCs and why we have launched the T6400." This clear statement of position and strategy was made by Mr S. Hiroe, the Executive Vice President of Toshiba Europa, at the launch of the latest Toshiba portable PC, the T6400.

The T6400 takes over the lead in the Toshiba range of mains-powered portables. It is based around the Intel 486 processor either in its 25 MHz SX form or the 33 MHz DX form. It would perhaps be more accurate to say that the T6400 is a collective name for a new range of 486-based portable PCs. Six basic T6400 models will be sold with additional options available across the whole range.

According to Toshiba, the T6400 marks a new departure in AC-powered portable design: "All the T6400 models are in a new compact format which includes several aspects of modular construction," said Mr Hiroe. "With this design Toshiba can offer users the full flexibility to choose a model which exactly meets their requirements," he continued. The basic configuration of the T6400 can be differentiated by processor type (SX or DX), screen type (plasma or TFT colour) and hard disk size (120 or 200 MB), with optional variations possible in memory and disc data storage (CD-ROM or floppy disk drive; internally or externally).

The "new compact format" of the T6400 is two-thirds the size of previous clamshell mains-powered models (390 x 267 mm compared to 395 x 370 mm in the T3200 and T5200 series). Both the plasma and colour versions of the T6400 are also a little slimmer than the corresponding models in the older series, measuring respectively 85 & 103 mm in height (99 & 110 mm for the older models).

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With the new size Toshiba has also managed to cut the weight by two to three kilograms. The plasma versions of the T6400 tip the scales at just 5.4 kg, while the TFT colour versions register 5.9 kg. (The T5200 and T3200 series weighed between 7.9 & 8.7 kg.) Nevertheless despite these savings Toshiba has fitted all models with a full 102 key detachable keyboard, enhanced Toshiba communications slot, full ISA expansion slot, two memory expansion slots (for up to 36 MB memory) and a complete range of external ports and connectors including a special multimedia interface.

"The T6400 is the most complete example yet of Toshiba's desktop replacement strategy," maintained Mr Hiroe. "Nothing is missing from this model: colour is there, a full keyboard is there, expansion is there, and power and storage are there. Other desktop features like a CD-ROM can also now be built in. But more than this, the T6400 is also portable, something no desktop can match."

As well as positioning this product in the mains portable and desktop markets, Toshiba has also opened up the possibility of a fully mobile multimedia computer with the T6400. The combination of the full desktop utilities, colour, expansion and CD-ROM drive, make the T6400 a strong contender in this market. The inclusion of the special multimedia interface, however, defines the T6400 as the most suitable portable PC yet for multimedia usage. This special interface allows stereo sound and full-screen moving pictures to be integrated via an internal board with other data sources. The results can be shown on the internal screen in real time, to produce fully interactive multimedia. The specifications for the board have been given to third parties and Toshiba plans to demonstrate a fully functioning internal multimedia solution in the near future.

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Product Specifications

Processor
- Intel 486 DX™/33 MHz or 486 SX™/25 MHz (SX upgrade to DX 25 MHz)
- 8 KB cache on chip
- Numeric data processor included in 486DX™

Memory
- Standard 4 MB RAM
- Expandable to 36 MB*
- LIM EMS 4.0
- XMS support

Hard disk
- T6400SX, T6400DX /DXC: 200 MB (15 ms ave. access time)
- T6400SX/SXC, T6400DX: 120 MB (19 ms ave. access time)

Diskette Drive
- Internal 3.5" 1.44MB /720 KB diskette drive
- Media-type checking
- Replaceable with 3.5" CD-ROM drive

Display
- TFT colour LCD or plasma
- 10.4" diagonal
- 640 x 480 dot resolution

Colour\Grey Scale Controller
- Over 185,000 colours for the TFT LCD panel
- 16 grey scales on plasma version

Graphics Adapter
- VGA compatible
- Up to 256 colours with 640 x 480 dot resolution

Keyboard
- Detachable
- 102 full-size sculptured keys
- Can be tilted at 6°
- Familiar layout
- 12 function keys
- 8 dedicated cursor keys
- Separate numeric keypad

Interfaces
- 25-pin bidirectional parallel/5.25" FDD port (Centronics compatible)
- Toshiba 3.5" FDD port
- 9-pin RS-232C serial port
- PS/2 mouse port
- PS/2 keyboard port
- 150-pin expansion connector
- 15-pin analogue VGA monitor port
- Internal multimedia real-time interface with up to 512 colours on TFT LCD.

Expansion
- Full length16-bit or half length 8-bit ISA slot
- Toshiba enhanced communications slot
- 2 credit card sized memory expansion slots

Security
- Power on password protection

Power Supply
- Autosensing 100-240 V AC adapter for world-wide usage

Size
- Plasma: 390 x 267 x 85 mm (15.4" x 10.5" x 3.4")
- TFT colour: 390 x 267 x 103.5 (15.4" x 10.5" x 4.1")

Weight
- Plasma: 5.4 kg (11.9 lb)
- TFT colour: 5.9 kg (13.0 lb)

Options
- Carrying case
- 2, 4, 8 & 16* MB memory expansion cards
- External 5.25" 360 KB diskette drive
- External 3.5" 1.44 MB diskette drive
- Toshiba ExpressWriter 201 portable printer
- Toshiba PageLaser 8
- Key caps for European languages
- MS-DOS 5.0

* 16 MB available from May 1992