



## Itronix Case Study:

# GoBook II Beta Test



### Product:

*Itronix GoBook II*

### Application:

*Testing to simulate incident response for government customers*

### Itronix Solution:

- *Itronix GoBook II with 1.6 GHz processor*
- *Daylight viewable transflexive touchscreen*
- *Notebooks optimized for use with multiple wireless networks*

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Itronix designs, manufactures and deploys mission-critical wireless, rugged computing solutions that maximize the productivity of mobile workers.

For more than 15 years, Itronix has worked extensively in the utilities industry. Today, the company works with roughly 90% of the largest utilities in the United States, as well as organizations in the commercial field services, telecommunications, government, public safety and EMS markets.

More information about Itronix and its products are available at [www.itronix.com](http://www.itronix.com)

### Overview:

When Itronix announced plans to update their best-selling GoBook computer, Defense Group Inc. jumped at the chance to be among the first to put it through the paces.

DGI develops cutting-edge software and solutions used by government customers like the FBI, the U.S. Armed Forces and public safety organizations. In fact first responder FBI teams at the 2002 Salt Lake City Olympic Games used an Itronix GoBook loaded with DGI's C.O.B.R.A. software to react to bomb and terrorist threats

And Itronix was equally enthused about working with DGI, who puts incredible demands on equipment from both wireless and rugged perspectives. Itronix wanted to put the new GoBook II through a field test to challenge all aspects of the hardware.

Applications for DGI customers would be right at home in a Tom Clancy novel, and typically include multiple wireless networks, use in weather ranging from desert heat to arctic cold, and even punishing decontamination procedures.

For software like DGI's C.O.B.R.A. to be truly effective a computer needs to be powerful, rugged and configured for a variety of wireless needs.

### Testing GoBook II: Impressive new features

Upon booting up the GoBook II, DGI wasted little time getting their fingernails dirty.

"We jumped past the normal beta test procedures pretty fast," said Brad Gardner, Deputy for Product Development at DGI. "We immediately went into testing in real world scenarios and deployments."

One of the first thing engineers at DGI scrutinized was the GoBook II's wireless capability. Designed specifically with mobile users in mind, it comes standard with two bays for wireless radios, plus 802.11b connectivity.

"The wireless is absolutely outstanding," Gardner said. "We tested a federal government agency's proprietary encryption software and used both CDMA and GPRS wireless networks."

"The dual radio capabilities make it exactly what we need for incident commanders. We'll never need to swap wireless cards and it was easy to set up—even for non-technical personnel."

DGI even used the GoBook II as a mini-server when they created a mock on-scene response network. Field technicians running ultra-

rugged GoBook MAX notebooks with GPRS radios were linked with the incident field commander's GoBook II.

This computer was connected with a command center via a CDMA network and linked observers at headquarters with field technicians' data via the GoBook II. Perhaps more importantly, it allowed reports to be "pushed" to different field computers quickly and securely.

DGI was also impressed with Itronix's newest generation of its touch screen display. Now available with a transflexive coating, the GoBook II is outdoor viewable—an important quality for technicians in the field.

"It's the perfect laptop for working outdoors," said Gardner.

"The display is amazing. And higher resolution means that more information can be displayed on the screen—something critical for the applications we need to run."

DGI also liked the GoBook II's "stealth mode" for the display. Users can choose to dim the monitor or have it remain unlit when the computer boots up.

"This is important for applications like using night-vision goggles, or for users that can't give away a strategic position, like SWAT teams or even a police officer in a car."

### Powerful computing performance:

When it comes to mobile computing, in the past customers often had to choose between a powerful machine and one that was rugged.

But DGI's customers need both. New applications require robust performance, and the GoBook II delivers.

"It's faster than anything I've seen from the competition," said Gardner. "No one I know of has anything that comes close. During our tests, applications were flying on this thing."

Overall, DGI is enthusiastic about the new GoBook II and expects even skeptical customers to be interested.

"They're the types that say 'Prove it, let's see it work'," Gardner said.

"We think this is a major technological jump, even from the units we used to help secure the Olympic Games."

"The new GoBook II is a commander-level machine. Itronix is way ahead of the game."