



# Stay Up and Running with Toshiba EasyGuard® Technology

## Introduction: The Challenges of Mobility

The large increase in mobile workers has caused most organizations to consider notebook computers as a primary computing platform, and many research firms indicate that laptop purchase growth, year-over-year, is eclipsing desktop purchase growth.

This means that many companies are more concerned with the quality and durability of PCs traveling with their employees than they are with those sitting on their desks. After all, there may be IT personnel on hand or on-call who can take care of a desktop in an office, but laptops in the field aren't as easy to support and maintain.

Notebooks are more popular than ever, but they present some challenges for users who need durability, security, and reliability in a device that moves around with them and is not always treated with "kid gloves." That's where Toshiba EasyGuard® technology comes into play.

EasyGuard, now in its fourth generation, has been created to address these challenges and to provide a competitive

differentiation for Toshiba notebook systems, making them more reliable and even self-correcting, lowering overall costs, and improving the user experience.

EasyGuard is a feature-rich set of hardware and software components that provide superlative user support in four key areas: *Protect and Fix*, *Secure*, *Connect*, and *Manage*. Through a combination of software utilities that monitor system health and recommend corrective actions where warranted, and a notification system to tell users that problems may exist, EasyGuard has become an indispensable aid to keeping machines up and running in almost any usage scenario and through all kinds of potential problems.

Since being launched in 2005, EasyGuard has been growing to include more and improved features that provide tremendous value to the end user, including Toshiba's latest innovation for the fourth generation of EasyGuard, PC Health Monitor.

## Inside EasyGuard

Let's take a look at some of the capabilities and functions delivered by EasyGuard:

*Protect and Fix* is targeted at supporting the rough-and-tumble life that most notebooks endure. Features to keep the laptop running include:

- **Toshiba PC Health Monitor** - The latest of Toshiba's innovations for keeping notebooks running reliably. PC Health Monitor is an intuitive suite of software tools and technologies that provides users with a "health dashboard" of their system, and an early warning system that helps predict and solve potential problems before they become serious enough to impact functionality or cause a failure.
- **Shock-resistant design** - The need to isolate hard drives from the everyday shocks and bumps of normal laptop use is paramount, if you want your mobile PC to operate reliably

for years and keep your data safe and accessible. Toshiba's hard drives are mounted in shock-absorbing materials to minimize wear and tear on the sensitive internal

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components of the drive. Further, the LCD and motherboard are surrounded by shock zones, so they are less likely to be damaged in case of a drop.

- **Spill-resistant keyboard** - Keyboard issues are one of the leading causes of notebook failures, and inadvertent spills are a leading cause of such problems. With EasyGuard, users can conduct an orderly shut-down even after a moderate spill of coffee, water, soda, or beer.
- **PC diagnostic tool** - In the rare event that a failure occurs, it is important to diagnose the problem quickly to minimize user down time. Toshiba's extensive and intuitive PC diagnostic tools provide a key advantage here.
- **Key component access** - This design-for-repair feature allows any failed components, or components being exchanged or upgraded, to be replaced quickly and easily—often without tools—making Toshiba notebooks among the easiest to repair and upgrade.

Security remains one of the most important and often hardest to implement capabilities in mobile PCs. EasyGuard's *Secure* set comprises the most important functions meant to protect Toshiba notebooks from data theft:

- **Multiple-level password utilities and fingerprint reader** - This allows companies to provide high-level log-in protection for their machines. Toshiba's AuthenTec EntréPad® TrueSuite® of security software can be used to implement multi-factor authentication and ensure that only authorized users are logging on and gaining access.
- **Infineon TPM Software Professional Package** in software plus **Trusted Platform Module v1.2** in hardware - The TPM provides Toshiba notebooks with a one-two punch in setting up highly advanced security capabilities. Toshiba has eliminated the complexities of TPM setup, allowing companies to leverage robust encryption and data protection features.
- **Reinforced security cable lock slot** - Complementing the internal software and hardware security is the ever-important cable lock slot, ensuring that notebooks don't simply "grow legs and walk away."

*Connect* provides an enhanced user experience that maintains a connection to whatever network the user needs. Features of this capability include:

- **Diversity antenna** - Toshiba notebooks will offer the best possible connection no matter what types of wireless networks are available.
- **Toshiba ConfigFree®** - This stores connection profiles and implements them intelligently, letting users connect in the office, at home, or at wireless hot spots automatically.

- **Voice-over-IP-ready design** - With the extreme popularity of VoIP technologies like Skype, it is important to optimize a notebook for VoIP quality and ease of set up. Toshiba enables connections to almost any VoIP solution the user may choose.
- **Bluetooth® stack** - Many users now connect Bluetooth-enabled devices—like smart phones and headsets—to their laptops. Toshiba's reliable and easy-to-use Bluetooth connection provides users with a most convenient way of synching with wireless accessories.

The *Manage* feature set includes many of the most important tools and technologies required to optimize productivity and keep machines running, like the Windows Mobility Center Button, Toshiba's Zooming Utility, an LCD Rotation Utility, a One-touch Resolution Change, a Wireless On/Off Switch, and Function Shortcut Keys. It also includes:

- Intel's **Automated Management Technology (AMT)** - For the many companies and service providers that use standards-based remote maintenance features, Toshiba and Intel provide a built-in capability that integrates laptops into the exiting management infrastructure.

## Conclusion

There is no doubt that more and more companies will acquire notebooks in the future, and that the majority of firms—large and small—are looking to replace desktop PCs with flexible and mobile laptops. Toshiba is committed to making this notebook transition simple and affordable, while delivering all of the features necessary to set up and manage the devices. Toshiba's aim is to provide the most durable and reliable notebooks available, with EasyGuard playing a key role in this philosophy. For more information, visit <http://explore.toshiba.com>.

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