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## TOP PERFORMANCE – WHATEVER THE WEATHER!

THE PANASONIC TOUGHBOOK CF-29 IS PUT THROUGH ITS PACES  
BY GERMAN ENERGY SUPPLIER BADENOVA

With a workforce of 1,055 based at nine locations, badenova is one of the leading energy suppliers in southwestern Germany. The company's Natural Gas and Water divisions employ a team of 25 site managers responsible for planning and monitoring construction work all over the region, and Panasonic's extremely sturdy "Fully Ruggedized" Toughbook CF-29 is just what is needed to cope with the rough conditions on site.



[www.toughbook.eu](http://www.toughbook.eu)

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## THE TOUGHBOOK IN ACTION CHALLENGING TOUGH CONDITIONS

"Before deciding which notebook to go for, we put together a catalogue of requirements that they would have to meet for outdoor use. The most important of these were reliability, durability and screen readability in bright sunshine. In the end we opted for the Panasonic Toughbook CF-29, which passed all our tests with flying colours," says Frank Grether, Project Leader at badenova.

### „FULLY RUGGEDIZED“ POWER

Conditions at the construction site can be very challenging. Work has to go on even when it's raining, windy and freezing cold, but thanks to the "Fully Ruggedized" Toughbook CF-29, that isn't a problem. It performs superbly whatever the weather with a robust splash-proof design that can deal with temperatures as low as minus 20 and as high as 60 °C. Even with large excavators and other construction machines churning up dust and sand, work can just go on as normal with the CF-29. The magnesium alloy casing is ideal for protecting sensitive components such as the keyboard and the display against dust. That's not all though, Site managers need to keep their notebooks with them at all times – if they have to clamber down into a ditch, for example, to inspect water or gas pipes – and with the handy carrying strap they can do just that. In fact, you could drop this notebook from a height of 90 cm and still have nothing to worry about. The hard disk is protected against vibration and shock by a special type of foam padding, so there's no need to worry about losing data.

### FAST AND RELIABLE: DIGITAL DATA CAPTURE

Before it introduced the Panasonic Toughbook, badenova used to record site measurements on paper and would

then lose time having to type them out again later at the office. The decision to enter the data at source in digital form has helped to simplify the entire recording procedure and to reduce the number of errors.

To make sure data entry and transmission function smoothly, Panasonic Toughbooks relies on the software "smartface" from the firm badenIT, a wholly-owned subsidiary of badenova. "Thanks to Panasonic's Toughbook and our software, we have been able to shorten the period between taking on-site measurements and paying the construction firm by around 80 per cent, so our investment has really paid off," explains Otmar Bauer, Head of badenova's Engineering division.

### ADVANCED DISPLAY TECHNOLOGY

Data can be entered onto the notebook's 13.3 inch touchscreen by typing or using a stylus, and whether it's sunny or overcast, the CF-29 Toughbook gives you 500cd of brightness. The result is a crystal clear, high-contrast picture. The active matrix TFT colour display remains perfectly readable even in direct sunshine, and there is no interference from reflections even when viewed from different angles.

The battery lasts up to eight hours, so the CF-29 can handle an entire working day without having to connect to mains power and is ready for more when you get back from the construction site.

"To sum up," says Bauer, "we've had no trouble at all with the Panasonic Toughbook. We've been using it in operational production for 24 months without a single machine crashing. The notebook's robust design is also ideal for us. It copes with some really difficult conditions on site in all kinds of weather and we still

don't have to worry about it getting damaged. On top of that, it saves us a lot of time, so we can concentrate much better on our actual line of work."



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