



The

Broadcasters' Desktop Resource

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Tools You Can Use

Targus Carries the Day – and Your Computer

[May 2010] Flying is definitely a challenge these days; just going through an airport screening can be a real pain. On the other hand, a new product from Targus can make things better in a couple of ways.

For some years now, I have used a Targus laptop case for my computer when travelling. Targus has long been known for their high quality cases. I like the way the case holds the computer, power supply, mouse, a lot of papers, and still has plenty of room for pens, business cards, earphones, and more. The case is well padded, protecting the laptop and other contents well.

Of course, when you pack “everything” for a trip, things may start to unravel a bit at the airport. As anyone who flies knows, after you have taken off your coat, shoes, belts, and anything metallic, you are usually instructed to pull your computer out of your bag. This is not only inconvenient, but it can expose exactly what computer you have to any onlookers – making it a target for thieves.

A GREAT SOLUTION

A new Targus model line has been released this year, one you may wish to know more about, especially if you find yourself on airplanes very often: the Targus Zip-Thru™ line of Checkpoint-Friendly Air Traveler Laptop Cases.

Checkpoint-Friendly means the case has been approved by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). Under new rules adopted last summer to help streamline the security process and better protect laptops the TSA will now allow passengers to leave their laptop computers in bags that meet their "checkpoint friendly" standards. The Targus Zip-Thru cases meet the standard.



The key is in two parts: the way the zipper allows the case to be opened into two flat halves, isolating the computer and reducing the potential for theft loss or damage, and the nylon polyester materials used in the case - Ballistic 1680 Denier Nylon - are transparent to X-ray machines, so the contents of the case can be seen clearly.



The computer goes right through the airport scanner while flat inside the case.

As you can see, when used as directed, there is no need to pull your computer out of the case.

PADDED AND STRAPPED FOR TRAVEL

Furthermore, these smartly-designed Zip-Thru, Checkpoint-Friendly cases have plenty of padding, to reduce the shocks that might otherwise affect the computer. Combined with the dual file folder compartments and the zip down “workstation” in the front of the case, it is easy to organize and carry your work. Ergonomic shoulder straps and a trolley pass-through allow the case to be carried or attached to luggage.

There several models available that will handle laptops up to 17 inches, including a backpack style and one with wheels and a telescoping handle. More information about features and specifications can be found on the Targus’ website. [You can click here to see them.](#)

These are well-made products that will serve you well, whether you are on your way to the studio, transmitter, or running to the airport!

UNDERSTANDING THE TSA

A few words may answer questions about the TSA. Their main requirement is that the X-ray machine has a clear view. Not all cases allow that. So, the TSA recommends that you make sure to check that:

- Your laptop bag has a designated laptop-only section that you can lay flat on the X-ray belt with nothing above or below the laptop-only section
- There are no metal snaps, zippers or buckles inside, underneath or on top of the laptop-only section nor are electronic items, including power supplies, stacked on top of each other
- There are no pockets on the inside or outside of the laptop-only section
- There is nothing in the laptop compartment other than the laptop

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