

**Technical editor DAVID SCHLOSS has some smoking-hot products this month.**

If you have a product you want to tell David Schloss about, please contact him at [pdnobjects@davidsschloss.com](mailto:pdnobjects@davidsschloss.com).

### D-Link 3G wireless camera

My dad liked to say, "Just because you're paranoid, it doesn't mean they're not after you," advice clearly understood by the engineers at D-Link who were responsible for the new 3G Securicam DCS-2120. Like many wireless security cameras, the Securicam has a built-in Web server, designed to provide a stream of video accessible from any Web browser, and it includes 802.11g wireless networking for streaming of its 640 x 480 video. Unlike most cameras though, it's able to stream this video over high-speed "3G" cellular networks so the hyper-vigilant can keep an eye on their lair from a 3G-equipped phone or handheld.

Despite the silly, Robocop-sounding name, the Securicam can help provide instant surveillance with nothing more than a power cord to plug it in.

Cost: \$300

Further information: [www.dlink.com](http://www.dlink.com)

### Linksys EV-DO Router

Getting online just got a lot easier, thanks to the new Linksys EV-DO Router, which provides high-speed Internet access anywhere that's covered by Verizon's new ultra-fast cellular network. Plug in a slim PC Card and the router connects to the network and distributes the signal via Wi-Fi. Anyone within a few hundred feet will be able to surf the Web and send e-mail and FTP files at speeds much faster than dial-up, without a traditional broadband connection anywhere in sight.

You'll need to pony-up for a card and a service plan from Verizon (price varies depending on service and plan), and be within the coverage range of the new high-speed service (so it's more likely to work in midtown Manhattan than in downtown Dubuque), but the Linksys Router can get a whole group of road warriors online using the same card and service plan that previously would have been single-use only.

Cost: \$200

Further information: [www.linksys.com](http://www.linksys.com)



### TDS Recon X-Series Rugged Handheld

The TDS Recon X-Series "Rugged Handheld Computer" might be the most armor-clad computing device this side of a SWAT team's bomb sniffing robots. The top-of-the-line Recon 400x boasts a 400 Mhz processor, 256 mb of flash memory enclosed in a casing that meets the military's MIL-STD-810F standard for drops, vibrations and temperature extremes. Even better, it's designed to be impervious to water and dust.

Like the previous models, the new Recon has two CompactFlash slots, either of which will work with add-on devices like GPS receivers or bar code scanners. The handheld Windows Mobile 5.0 device features a built-in microphone, a new keypad and a great color touchscreen. The 400x is available with optional Bluetooth and 802.11g wireless (go for it, you know you want it) and all programs and data on the device are stored to "nonvolatile" flash memory, eliminating the risk of data loss due to hard drive crashes.

Cost: \$1,699

Further information: [www.tdsway.com](http://www.tdsway.com)

### Sticky Yard

Early on in the history of man, the ability to measure things was the domain of the monarch or a priest, and everyone else had to rely on arbitrary systems to ensure accuracy. That's how we got a "baker's dozen" after all. Nowadays anyone can go to the local hardware store and pick up a tape measure, but figuring out the length of something still involves a good degree of accuracy and some legwork.

Enter Sticky Yard, an adhesive yardstick that attaches (temporarily) to any smooth surface for precise digital measurement via digital image capture. I know, that doesn't make sense, but it's a truly neat trick.

Once you've got Sticky Yard on an object, take a shot of it with any digital camera



and then load that image using the included software. Click on the end points of the yardstick and the software will automatically calculate the dimensions of whatever object it's attached to, displaying measurement marks on the image. It's a great tool for anyone from the hardcore eBay user to the do-it-yourselfer trying to figure out exactly how much paint to buy to cover a wall.

The Sticky Yard system comes with yardsticks and software and it can be reused. It also comes as a refill in a package without the software, for those who've already purchased it.

Cost: \$50

Further information: [www.stickyyard.com/how.html](http://www.stickyyard.com/how.html)

