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Matrox DualHead2Go Digital Edition

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With all the multi-tasking we do, it seems that we always run out of monitor space to view everything that we are doing. Of course getting a bigger monitor is an option but at work, we've started to pair our notebook computer's screen with our 17" flat screen monitor. This is possible with the help of our notebook's dock but when we travel, we're back to being limited by our notebook's 14" screen without the dock. So, we were pleasantly surprised to see a compact gadget that we could carry around with us to help us increase our monitor screen real estate. Check out Matrox's DualHead2Go Digital Edition at <http://www.matrox.com/graphics/en/gxm/products/dh2go/digital/home.php>.

To begin with, you would need to check your computer's compatibility before getting this gadget. We chose to get the digital edition (DVI connectors). There is an analog version for HD15 connectors. As for the unit itself, it's pretty light at 235 grams and small enough to tuck into our computer bag. The box comes with a monitor cable (HD15-to-HD15) and a USB cable to connect the DualHead2Go to our computer. The DVI monitor cables are assumed to be part of your monitors.

Setup is pretty straightforward and after installing the software, we ignored reading the instruction on the CD so we felt foolish when we couldn't activate our second 17" monitor. After we successfully stretched the screen across two 17" monitors at 2048 x 768 (maximum resolution 3840 x 1200), we started enjoying our wider monitor screen. Now that we had equally sized screens, it was nicer to look at web pages side by side or at full screen. The screen is split quite seamlessly and if only the borders of the monitor could be reduced, we would think that we were using a widescreen.

The Matrox Powerdesk-SE allows you to configure your multi-display desktop like where programs launched are placed. We were just content about being able to see more like side-by-side web pages that we are editing or monitoring our systems on one screen while working on another. If you want to have 3 screens, the notebook's screen can be thrown into the mix although we're back to mismatched sized monitors.

As of this writing, the unit supports Windows systems and Mac OS X. So if you're a Linux user, you're out of luck for now. If you're tired of viewing through mismatched screens and happen to have equally sized monitors, the DualHead2Go is a good investment to increase your monitor viewing size. It's best for notebook owners but if you happen to have a desktop that doesn't have dual monitors, you can also get this for the same purpose instead of getting an on-board card. We found it for \$206.40 at Amazon.com and we hope that you can enjoy the same screen experience we're getting from Matrox's DualHead2Go.