

300 USD laptop to USA

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The capital is designed for poor children in developing countries, but eventually, laptops costing less than \$ 300 are coming to US and European users. According to Intel chip giant, the second version of the low-end Classmate PC will cost between \$ 250 and \$ 350.

Cheap but good quality!

Still using Intel chips, the Classmate PC 2.0 will have some higher features and configuration adjustments to suit the average consumer in developed countries.

" *This price is really attractive* ," Yankee Group analyst Laura Didio commented. " *The remaining problem is the face of the product* ", because up to now, the upgrade version is still being kept secret by the manufacturer.



Intel's Classmate PC laptops will cost between \$ 250 and \$ 350. *Source: Ubergizmo*

Laura also said that the introduction of products like the Classmate PC will boost the trend of low-cost computing in the world. With the same modest money, consumers will be able to hunt more powerful laptops than in previous years.

" *Especially in the economic period, there are signs of recession like this, cheap products with good quality are always good prospects* ," expert Rob Enderle said.

" *The most important key to selling products is quality* ". However, Enderle predicts that low-cost laptops will be difficult to sell in the US and Europe before Christmas this year.

The price of laptops is under tremendous pressure after Taiwan's Asustek Computer launched the EEE PC line for \$ 399. Not only selling well in Asia, EEE has also landed in North America since early March.

The original EEE version uses the Linux operating system so it can be difficult for many people who are familiar with Windows or Mac OS X. Therefore, Asus decided to release an upgraded version of EEE, replacing Linux with Windows. and has a larger memory capacity.

Cheap race



Classmate PC "pitted" with OLPC. *Source: Wirednews*

With Classmate PC and EEE constantly improving, the challenge ahead of the project "Every single laptop child" (OLPC) of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology is even bigger.

Last November, the project began shipping the first batch of XO laptops at a price of up to 188 USD, nearly double the original target. However, in the US and Canada markets, the price of XO laptops is up to 400 USD due to the initiative " *Buy one, give one for poor children* ". At this price, it is difficult for users to accept that they only receive Linux open source operating systems and low-end AMD chips.

Back to Intel's Classmate PC project. This product will be sold for testing in schools in Texas, Oregon and California. So far, Intel has sold less than 100,000 Classmate PCs, but it intends to boost sales in 2008.

Although the second version has yet to be revealed, it seems that Intel has embarked on a third model.

" Later versions will allow manufacturers the flexibility to choose laptop configurations, from memory, screen size to peripheral devices like cameras, " Intel said.

Scientist Mary Lou Jepsen, a member of the XO laptop development team, took a break from the OLPC project from the end of last year to open her own company called Pixel Qi. Her goal is to create laptops at an incredible price of 75 USD in 2010.

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