

Mobile Workforce Solutions that Enable Performance



As your workforce begins to return to the road and sky, are they prepared for today's connectivity challenges?

While available time onsite with customers is getting better, in new hybrid work environments it can still be limited. Your consultants, service and salespersons, or other traveling end users need the best opportunity to stand out among the competition. One way an IT Pro can help is by making sure the technology they carry sets them up for success.

Performance matters. Providing users with the right products ensures they can work on the go while minimizing support requests. In this article, we'll dive into key areas for enabling productivity on the go:

Connectivity, Charging, Protection and Organization.

Step 1: Connected

What type of environments are travelers going to meet and what are they doing while on site? Boardroom presentations are stressful enough, without having to worry about video/audio connectivity. Make sure your employees are carrying the right multiport adapter (like the <u>USB-C Multiport Adapter</u>) to easily enable connectivity in boardrooms, hotel rooms, temporary workspaces, and everywhere in between. Paired with a USB-C (or Thunderbolt 3 or Thunderbolt 4) laptop, multiport adapters make it easy to have the right video connection on hand in a compact and durable device.

It's likely your mobile workforce is carrying a slim device, such as an Ultrabook or 2-in-1, which most often have one or two USB-C ports at best, with one



of those being dedicated to power. Multiport adapters are ideal for users of Ultrabook and 2-in-1 devices that offer USB-C connectivity with USB-C Power Delivery, and DP Alt Mode for video. They come in handy when a host device does not offer enough connectivity like USB ports, SD card reader, ethernet interface, etc.



IT PRO TIP

The big advantage of DP Alt Mode is that it is native to the USB-C port, delivering uncompressed video and is ready out of the box with no software or added drivers to install. This also means users will not need to place support calls to sort out driver issues while far from the office.

The latest multiport adapter models also offer support for host devices with DP 1.4 for increased display performance up to 4K 60Hz. If your users are equipped with laptops featuring Intel 11th Gen, Intel 12th Gen, AMD Ryzen 6000 Series processors, or have Apple MacBook M1 / M1 Pro / M1 Max systems, they are all especially great candidates to pair with our performance-focused DP 1.4-capable multiport adapters which can support up to 4K 60Hz video resolution.

DP Alt Mode Required	Maximum Resolution
DP 1.2 Alternate Mode	Up to 4K 30Hz
DP 1.4 Alternate Mode	Up to 4K 60H

Easily compare multiport adapter options with our product grid

Reliable Performance: StarTech.com multiport adapters are designed to be used bus-powered or with power delivery pass-through allowing full flexibility for quick meetings or longer connectivity periods at your workstation. Power delivery pass-through allows the OEM laptop charger to be plugged into a multiport adapter and have it pass-through the adapter into the laptop for charging while only using one port. StarTech.com multiport adapters are engineered to optimally reserve the power needed for the multiport adapter to prevent overdraw, dropouts, and video flickering when bus-powered or through USB Power Delivery.

You can read more about USB-C Power Delivery Passthrough in this article on our IT Pro Community: What is USB-C Power Delivery (PD) Pass-through? community.startech.com

Multiport adapters are a terrific way to ensure your users have the connectivity flexibility they need to present, transfer, and collaborate on the go, no matter where they travel.



USB-C multiport adapters come in different shapes & sizes



Ranging from 2-in-1 to 8-in-1 models, for single and dual displays, with Windows, Chrome OS, or macOS.



Built-in cables at short and longer lengths for extended reach when used with 2-in-1's or laptops on a riser stand.



Some also offer cable wrap around for tangle free storage in a laptop bag.



Speaking of laptop bags, we'll dive into the importance of a thoughtfully designed laptop bag a bit later!



Step 2: Powered

The dreaded "low battery" warning can cause anxiety. It's crucial, especially when your users are on the go, to have the right charger and the right cable on hand to keep laptops, tablets, and smartphones powered and productivity enabled. A compact, reliable USB-C laptop wall charger from StarTech.com is broadly compatible and delivers 60W of power to a wide variety of connected USB-C devices such as the MacBook Pro 13-inch, XPS 13, Surface Book 2 and Lenovo ThinkPad X1 Carbon. Additionally, a 6 foot (2 meter) USB-C to USB-C cable is included.



A charger isn't helpful without a compatible cable to connect the mobile device. Likewise, a failed cable can result in frustratingly intermittent, slow, or unusable charging. The right cable can make a significant difference in device charging rates.

You can learn more about mobile device charging on our IT Pro Community here: How can I ensure my mobile device is charging as rapidly as possible? community.startech.com



For added peace of mind and to protect valuable connected devices, the WCH1C charger line is USB-IF and ETL Certified, featuring overtemperature protection, over-current protection, over-voltage protection and short-circuit protection. Even if travelling with the laptop's included power adapter, having a backup wall charger can ensure flexibility for keeping powered on the go.

StarTech.com rugged charge cables are built to last, reinforced with aramid fiber, shielded for EMI Protection, and are tested to exceed industry bend and insertion ratings. The cable jackets and strain relief are made of durable TPE which is soft and flexible. After pairing a reliable wall charger with a durable USB-C (like R2CCC-50C-USB-CABLE) or Lightning (like RUSB2CLT50CMBC) ccable, your users can top up portable devices whenever and wherever charging is needed. The Lightning cables are MFi certified for guaranteed compatibility with iOS devices.



Step 3: Organized & Protected

When every day involves moving from one place to another, being able to keep everything a traveler needs organized and in one convenient place can make all the difference. A well-designed durable laptop bag (like NTBKBAG156) not only protects the laptop but also keeps essential cables, adapters, external drive enclosures, chargers, and other key belongings organized and at hand. Both laptop and tablet pockets mean devices are protected and close at hand when needed.

Removable Travel Accessories Case



StarTech.com backpacks feature a removable travel accessories case, designed to be easily accessed using the lower side pocket of the backpack. Keeps cables, adapters, and other small items organized and easy to reach as needed.

In addition to the unique removable accessories pouch our backpacks also include travel-focused features such as additional drop protection, durable ballistic nylon materials, and a trolley sleeve to attach to rolling luggage. They're also checkpoint and carry-on friendly to meet TSA requirements and keep travel efficient.

Focused on comfort and organization of the business user carrying a laptop and a plethora of adapters and cables so often needed for today's connected travel, our bags are available for both 15.6" and 17.3" laptops.

IT PRO TIP

The bag and included accessories case is ideal for IT Pro's and IT technicians to use for carrying equipment, cables, adapters, and tools.

Laptop Backpack with Accessory Case



Your road warrior's data also needs to be secure. Since working on the road often involves public places like coffee shops and airplanes, a laptop privacy screen filter (like PRIVSCNLT15) can help keep confidential information private. These screen filters are magnetically mounted for easy removal when not needed and supply blue-light filtering to reduce digital eye strain when working for extended periods of time. Additionally, the filter is reversible to give either a glossy or matte finish, depending on the environment and clarity requirements. When data privacy is paramount, or users just need to enhance a laptop screen for top clarity or comfort, consider equipping them with a privacy screen filter.



If you have users who work in environments with a lot of dust like construction sites, factories, or manufacturing facilities, select a MIL-STD-810G drop test certified rugged enclosure with an IP67 rating (like M2E1BRU31C) for confidence files will still be there when needed. When durability in harsh environments is top-of-mind, it's the perfect solution for people who work outside or travel regularly. All our M.2 NVMe enclosures feature a durable aluminum shell, but the rugged enclosure goes even further by also being dust proof and water resistant.







This line of M.2 enclosures delivers USB 3.2 Gen 2 read/write speeds up to 10Gbps, which is nearly twice the capability of traditional M.2 SATA enclosures with USB 3.1 Gen 1. Additionally, support for NVMe (PCIebased) drives allows users to take full advantage of the throughput available to USB 3.2 Gen 2, which would not be possible with a SATA drive.



Ensure your team can be productive on the go, with connectivity accessories that are reliable and simple to use. StarTech.com offers a broad range of products designed to deliver the performance requirements needed by IT professionals and the business users they support.

Whether your users need a basic multiport adapter to simply add a few extra ports or they're a power user on the go and need a more full-featured multiport adapter as a docking station alternative, StarTech.com has the performance-focused connectivity solutions they need.

Final Thoughts

From multiport adapters to power adapters, cables, and bags, we make your job easier by supplying everything your mobile workforce needs to stay connected.

Reliable and compatible, StarTech.com connectivity accessories are also backed by free lifetime technical support from experienced Tech Advisors who can help you find solutions for unique and challenging mobile deployments.

Connect with other professionals and browse our extensive collection of knowledge base articles in the StarTech.com IT Pro Community.

community.startech.com

