

Lenovo Readies PCs for Windows 8

Written by Marco Attard
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Lenovo unveils a portfolio of Windows 8-ready laptops and All-in-One (AIO) PCs at IFA 2012-- the IdeaPad U510 ultrabook, the IdeaPad Y and Z series laptops and the IdeaCentre A and B Series AIO desktops.



All carry either 3rd generation Intel Core processors or AMD A-series processors and offer consumers with "a variety of style, color and performance options."

A successor to the IdeaPad U410, the U510 is a 15-inch ultrabook with an Intel Core i7 processor and up to 1TB of HDD storage (with optional 32GB SSD cache). It has an integrated DVD reader/writer (or Blu-ray drive), is 21mm thick and weighs around 2.2kg.

The IdeaPad Y series (Y400 and Y500) laptops on show at IFA are "mobile gaming and multimedia powerhouses" according to the company. Both feature what Lenovo calls an "UltraBay"-- an interchangeable bay allowing users to swap between dual graphics capability, increased storage space or additional cooling.

Meanwhile the lower-end Z series (Z400 and Z500) laptops use i7 processors and are available in a variety of colours, such as "coral blue," "dark chocolate," "peony pink," and "enamel white." All have a soft-touch exterior and either 14- or 15.6-inch LED backlit widescreen displays.

The Lenovo AIO PCs at IFA come in 4 varieties-- the flagship 23-inch IdeaCentre A520 and the B340, B345 and B545 "home entertainment hubs."

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The A520 has a widely adjustable display stand, allowing one to tilt the multitouch display between 5 and 90 degrees. A smaller brother to the 27-inch A720, it can be configured with a Core i7 CPU, up to 8GB of RAM, 1TB of HDD storage and optional Blu-ray drive.

On the other hand the B series AIO PCs have 21.5-inch (B340, B345) or 23-inch (B545) touchscreens and ship with either Nvidia GeForce 615 or AMD Radeon HD7470A graphics cards.

The Lenovo PC selection joins a trio of Android tablets the company also unveiled at IFA-- the Ideatab S2110, A2107 and A2109, all carrying Android 4.0.

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