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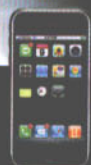
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NEW YORK
MAY 2009

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ISSUE

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TRAVEL BUZZ

TIPS, GADGETS & GOODIES FOR LIFE ON THE G

GEAR

Passing Grade

Juggling a myriad of travel essentials—from coats and accessories to spare change and toiletries—can sometimes make airport security checkpoints feel like a three-ring circus. In this technologically driven age, many jet-setters count their laptops as a must-have in-flight item. To ease the strain, computer-toting travelers can opt for a new, streamlined carrying case, such as **Skooba Design's Checkpoint-Friendly Checkthrough™ Laptop Bag** (above). Designed to save time and energy, the bag features a quick-recognition window that unzips, allowing screeners to see the device without removing it from the case. Twenty additional compartments—including a "Doc-pocket®" for boarding passes and passports—aid organization. About \$140.—NG



WHERE TO BUY: B&H Photo/Video, 420 Ninth Ave., btw W. 33rd & W. 34th sts., 1.212.239.7755

GADGET

WEIGHT WATCHER

New York City is one of the world's top shopping destinations, and despite hefty excess baggage fees, the temptation to overstuff one's suitcase when returning home is irresistible. To save frustration and prevent costly penalties, Balanza has crafted a slim **Ergo handheld luggage scale** (below) to ensure that your check-in baggage won't exceed the limit. Simply attach the heavy-duty strap to the bag, lift it off the ground (using the strap to weigh it) and wait for a "beep" before setting it down. A digital



screen displays measurements in pounds and kilograms. The ergonomic 1-lb. device will register up to 100 pounds. About \$25.

WHERE TO BUY: Flight 001, 96 Greenwich Ave., at Jane St., 1.212.989.0001

PROGRAM

Animal Instincts

More jet-setters are taking to the skies with their pets in tow, and a number of airlines have added steps to accommodate the furry flyers. JetBlue Airways, for instance, has introduced **JetPaws**—a new program that outlines the social graces of traveling with pets—and a complimentary, downloadable e-booklet listing pet-friendly venues in New York and other major destinations. Individuals enrolled in the True Blue reward program also receive two bonus award points per flight segment booked with a pet. Additionally, the airline has partnered with animal aficionada and newspaper columnist Cindy Adams—who has her own product line of pet products—to create a custom pet carrier (about \$45) and travel kit (about \$25). The kit includes a pet blanket, rubber dog bone and travel dish. —Nikki Goldstein

TO BOOK A PET OR PURCHASE
A TRAVEL KIT: JetBlue, 1-800-538-2583, www.jetblue.com

→ Traveling at a speed of three miles per hour, it would take approximately four hours to walk the 13.4-mile length of Manhattan.