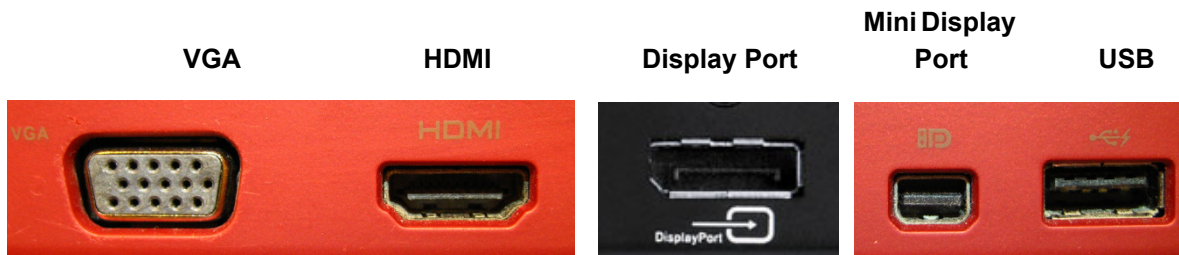




# Multi-Monitor Adapters for Laptops

By Joe Burnett

Since most survey vessels use laptops for their data collection computer, you are typically limited to one additional display connection. Newer laptops may have one or more of the following types of display connections:



When collecting multibeam, side scan, single beam, sub-bottom, and/or additional data simultaneously, there are typically many display windows and control programs that must be up and running on your monitors. It is nice, if all of these can be displayed simultaneously, without being covered up by one another, or being decreased in size, to the point where they are not legible. It would also be nice, if we could have more monitors to display all of these windows, without any hindrance.

Recently, I was on a training mission and was introduced to some video adapters that can alleviate these issues. Some of these adapters are made by Matrox. Here is some information from their website:

Matrox DualHead2Go and TripleHead2Go external multi-display adapters let you add two or three monitors to your laptop or desktop computer. They connect to the video output of your system and use its existing GPU to provide high quality, uncompressed graphics and video across all monitors. These little black or silver boxes are perfect for bringing multi-monitor functionality to computers with only one monitor, such as systems with integrated graphics or no available expansion slots—or closed systems that have already been validated.

- Connect two or three monitors to your system to see more, do more
- Support VGA, DVI or DisplayPort™ monitors or projectors running standard or widescreen resolutions
- Compatible with laptops and desktop computers, PC and/or Mac



## Product Line

| Product Name                                        | Maximum # of Monitors | How it Connects to Your System*                           | How it Connects to The Monitors* | Compatible With |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>DualHead2Go Models</b>                           |                       |                                                           |                                  |                 |
| <a href="#">DualHead2Go Analog Edition</a>          | 2                     | VGA                                                       | VGA                              | PC and Mac      |
| <a href="#">DualHead2Go Digital Edition</a>         | 2                     | VGA                                                       | VGA or DVI                       | PC and Mac      |
| <a href="#">DualHead2Go Digital ME <i>New</i></a>   | 2                     | Mini Display Port or Thunderbolt™ <sup>1</sup>            | DVI                              | Mac             |
| <a href="#">DualHead2Go Digital SE <i>New</i></a>   | 2                     | DisplayPort or Mini DisplayPort                           | DVI                              | PC              |
| <b>TripleHead2Go Models</b>                         |                       |                                                           |                                  |                 |
| <a href="#">TripleHead2Go Digital Edition</a>       | 3                     | VGA or Dual-link DVI                                      | VGA or DVI                       | PC and Mac      |
| <a href="#">TripleHead2Go Digital SE <i>New</i></a> | 3                     | DisplayPort, Mini DisplayPort or Thunderbolt <sup>1</sup> | DVI                              | PC and Mac      |
| <a href="#">TripleHead2Go DP Edition</a>            | 3                     | DisplayPort, Mini DisplayPort or Thunderbolt <sup>1</sup> | VGA, DVI or DisplayPort          | PC and Mac      |

\* Additional adaptors may be required (sold separately). Please visit the individual product pages for more information and to find out which DualHead2Go and/or TripleHead2Go models are recommended for your system.

<sup>1</sup>Thunderbolt port connectivity is currently supported only with Mac systems. Windows support coming soon.

As many as two (2) of these TripleHead2Go devices can be connected to your laptop at one time.



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In addition to the Matrox adapters, the Plugable Co. has many USB-to-Video adapters:



As many as six (6) of these adapters can be connected to your laptop at one time.

All of the adapters shown in this article are relatively inexpensive, and I was able to find them all at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) and many other computer sales websites.

I would like to ask everyone that reads this article, to send me any information about any ingenious device that they have seen or used that has simply resolved an equipment or computer issue in your system's integration.

Please email them to [joe@hypack.com](mailto:joe@hypack.com). Thank you.