

TOOLS OF THE TRADER SLINGBOX PRO

This ingenious little device should be compulsory issue to long-distance business travellers in search of homegrown comforts. You no longer need to trawl Kuala Lumpur's hot and sticky streets for an Irish pub to get your fix of Premier League football (though you might try Finnegan's on Jalan Telawi Lima if you have the time): by connecting this to both your Sky/Virgin/Freeview box and your broadband modem at home, you can use your laptop to access live and recorded TV via the net anywhere in the world. Even the early adopters will appreciate this updated version, which not only streams your chosen content in widescreen format, but also handles high-definition broadcasts. £200 (+44 20 7294 0157 www.slingmedia.com)



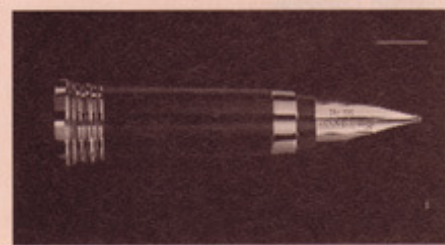
DRESS FOR SUCCESS DRAKE'S TIES

Hardy Amies (WWII spy, Savile Row couturier and author of the ABC Of Men's Fashion) champions the importance of a well-made tie. Having seen the handmade construction of Drake's ties first hand, we can vouchsafe that the company follows the former Esquire columnist's guidelines to the letter, from the extravagant use of raw materials seen in the generous cut to the 36oz white silk linings. We particularly like the Prince of Wales check. *Silk woven ties, £65 (+44 20 7608 0321 www.drakes-london.com)*

THIS MONTH WE'LL BE BUYING SELLING

LIMITED-EDITION PENS

Quality pens, such as those by Italy's Montegrappa are increasingly collectable and fetching high prices at auction.



VINYL

On eBay recently the original Sex Pistols God Save The Queen on A&M went for £7,205 — a £600 increase in 12 days.



PLANE TALK CLOUD 9 JETS

Flying would be fun if it wasn't for the hassle on the ground, which is why ex-soccer hardman Graeme Souness's new private jet venture, Cloud 9, is so appealing. Not only will it fly you from anywhere to anywhere with a runway, membership ensures that after the chauffeur transfer, you'll be whisked through check-in and onto your plane. The onboard service is also bespoke. So that's dirty Tanqueray martinis and The Dambusters for us, thanks. *Cloud 9 (+44 845 450 7199)*