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THUMBS-UP:



To a new product that, someday might let you sneak a peak at someone else's laptop during a long jet flight — and see something interesting.



KDP Digital Systems of East Rutherford, N.J., wants to help NFL teams put their playbooks and game plans, including game film, onto computer software coaches and players can call up on personal computers.

KDP's Kai Patterson says it's not a futuristic fantasy: To access all that information, including a package of as many as 150 film highlights that can be customized for each player or coach, users would only have to use four keys ---“fewer keys than a telephone”.

Patterson admits no teams have signed up yet, although he says the Washington Redskins are testing it and other teams have shown interest. Cost: from \$40,000, plus \$8,000 in annual fees, to \$400,000 for a premium package including 100 laptops and software handling 200 game-film clips.

Pricey? Sure, but coaches would love this: The system allows them to monitor how much time each player spends studying — and exactly what the player studied.

And, says Patterson, high-tech safeguards would let teams get around the problem of the lost or stolen playbook. The software self-destructs after a certain date, for instance, or if someone repeatedly uses the wrong password.