



Doug Bardwell
Travel Technology Examiner

A perfect “10” for Contigo’s autoseal stainless steel travel mug

December 6th, 2010 2:15 pm ET



Contigo Autoseal stainless steel travel mug

In the world of marketing hype, not many things deliver on their promises. When it comes to coffee mugs, I can't count the number I've used that claimed to be spill-proof or leak-proof. Umm...not really – until now. Add this idea to your 2010 holiday's gift list for your favorite traveler.

[The Contigo Autoseal West Loop Stainless Steel Travel Mug](#)

This mug is the happy exception. It really is spill-proof and leak-proof. I recently shook it upside down over my laptop keyboard to make the point to a friend. I would have never thought about doing that stunt with any other mug I ever owned.

Even better, you don't do anything to maintain the seal. You press a button to drink and release when you finish sipping. Releasing the self-sealing button is all that's necessary to reseal it. As amazing as that already is, yes friends, it gets even better.

I like coffee because it tastes good, but I also like it because it's hot. This double-wall, vacuum-insulated, stainless steel mug keeps it that way longer than any other mug I've tried as well. The company boasts 4 hours for hot beverages and 12 hours for cold beverages. I never took 12 hours to finish a cold beverage in my life, so I doubt I'll ever test that limit. I did have the mug filled with coffee in a 40 degree garage however, and it was still warm when I finished it 2-1/2 hours later.

This mug is approaching Mona Lisa perfection already, but here comes the coup de gras. If you pick the right model, this baby is dishwasherable. Holy hot beverages, Batman, no travel mug was ever dishwasher safe before. While Contigo does suggest hand washing their decorated mugs, the brushed stainless Silver model shown here is ready to jump right in with your other dinner dishes – cap and all. No, seriously...the cap too.

Contigo has finally gone where no company has gone before – meeting my three basic needs in travel mugs: spill-proof, well-insulated and not afraid of my dishwasher. Thanks Contigo.

Contigo's line of travel mugs and more are available [online](#) as well as in many retail locations like Target, Costco, Caribou, Meijer, Sears and Nordstrom.