

Ultra thin HDD for tablets & ultra books



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The Hard drive measures a comely 5 mm thick

A research organization has developed one of the world’s thinnest 5mm hybrid hard drive in a 2.5” form factor.

The new HDD represents the next generation of storage innovation providing capacities of up to 1 TB Hard Disk Drive (HDD) with 32 GB Solid State Drive (SSD). This potentially allows the new HDD to store over 250,000 songs in its 5mm body. The HDD also addresses limitations of the popular, yet expensive, flash-based SSD, as well as the conventional HDD for the consumer and business industry.

This HDD is set to change the consumer and enterprise landscape, targeted specifically for tablets, ultrabooks, and future data centres. With its slim form factor, the new HDD could fit into tablet devices, greatly expanding its storage space while extending battery life by up to 30%. The new HDD will be a cheaper alternative to the SSDs currently used in ultrabooks, offering the same instant-on capability but with larger storage capacity. In addition, the new HDD can be extended for enterprise storage applications, reducing power consumption by up to 50%, resulting in greener and more efficient data centres with better optimisation of the already limited rack space.

One of the main challenges in reducing the thickness of current 7mm hard disk drives by almost 30% without compromising on its performance and stability is its spindle motor design. To achieve a reduction in size, the researchers developed a proprietary axial field motor which runs smoother, quieter, more efficiently, lowering power consumption by up to 70% yet at a fraction of the cost of SSDs. The motor’s design has been patented, along with 30 other unique designs for the new HDD. In addition, the research organization has collaborated with multinational corporations such as Seiko Instruments, Miyoshi, and Unisteel, to develop key components for the new HDD.

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