

Micron Launches World's First 60TB PCIe Gen 5 SSD

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The Micron 6550 ION operates at a maximum speed of 12GB/s while consuming just 20W of power (4W when in L1 state standby). In addition to claiming to be the first 60TB E3.S SSD on the market, Micron also boasts 20% better power efficiency than its competitors.



While SSDs with capacities up to 60TB for the data center are nothing new, the adoption of the PCIe Gen 5 interface is a highlight, allowing for significant performance gains during workload processing. Micron promises the following improvements over its competitors in the market:

1. 179% faster sequential read speeds and 179% higher read bandwidth per watt
2. 150% faster sequential write speeds and 213% higher write bandwidth per watt
3. 80% faster random reads and 99% higher read IOPS per watt

In real-world testing, the 6550 ION delivers 147% higher performance for Nvidia Magnum IO GPUDirect Storage, and 30% higher 4KB transfer speeds in the Unet3D deep learning IO test.

Micron will offer the 6550 ION in E3.S, U.2, and E1.L formats. Twenty E3.S drives in a 1U server rack will provide a total of 44.2 petabytes of data, improving storage density by 67%. Additionally, the manufacturer promises 42% better endurance than other 60TB SSDs on the market.

The Micron 6550 ION SSD is available for review now. The manufacturer hasn't revealed pricing, but it's safe to assume that a 60TB PCIe Gen 5 drive won't be cheap. It's also unlikely that Micron will sell the 6550 ION to the average consumer. If you need a high-capacity SSD for your computer, your best options are currently limited to 8TB models, like the WD_Black SN850X or the more affordable SATA-based Samsung 870 QVO.

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