
Their Story

The Next Generation of Storage for Media and Entertainment

Today's data challenges require some creative thinking to solve. Businesses at the helm of technology innovation must build robust storage solutions to provide the foundation for great work and the next generation of entertainment. There to make it possible is Symply's hyper-efficient Thunderbolt 3 shuttle RAID: the SymplySPARK XT. Powered by MACH.2™ multi-actuator technology from Seagate®, this is where computing power, storage capacity, and ultimate performance meet for the media and entertainment industry.



- Achieve the highest level of hard drive performance, including IOPS, throughput, and reduced latency.
- Easily manage increasing quantities of data with dual Thunderbolt 3 ports for daisy chaining and fast device charging.
- Quieter and more efficient internal heat regulation along with a user-serviceable fan and power assembly for effortless maintenance and maximum uptime.
- Achieve lower TCO.



Their Story

The Sky's the Limit

With a full range of versatile solutions covering disk, tape, and cloud storage, Symply's diverse portfolio is designed to be scalable and address every challenge the modern datasphere can throw at it. With every solution they create, there's a goal of maximizing the potential of data in media and entertainment. And the SPARK XT brings a new level of flexible, robust, mobile storage to the field.

Their Goal

A Powerful Partnership

When building the SPARK XT, Symply went back to basics to create a solution that's designed specifically for on-set and in-studio workflows. SPARK is, first and foremost, a live project drive. It's there to join crews on location and be transferred back to a studio environment for a full postproduction process. The goal is to reduce bottlenecks, which is made possible thanks to the speed delivered by MACH.2 technology.





Their Problem

Solving for Storage Cost and Scalability

In the world of media and entertainment, it isn't enough to have hyper-efficient data storage. As file sizes grow, datasets become more complex, and as teams decentralize, it's becoming increasingly important that storage infrastructure evolves to deliver industry-leading computing power, capacity, and drive performance while balancing cost and scalability. That's where Seagate comes in.

Their Solution

Multi-Actuator Technology for Data-Intensive Applications

Multi-actuator hard drive technology is here. Seagate MACH.2 is a powerful device containing two independent actuators that transfer data concurrently—delivering twice the IOPS and increasing throughput. Symply immediately found the benefits for media workflows where data transfer rates need to be as fast as they can be. Offloading camera media on set to free up cards needs to be done quickly, and editing high resolution 8K+ footage requires incredible performance.

By enabling the parallel flow of data in and out of a single hard drive, MACH.2 solves the need for increased speed by allowing host computers to simultaneously request and receive data from two areas of the drive. When combined into a RAID configuration the results are staggering.

For an already hyper-efficient Thunderbolt RAID architecture, the idea of doubling performance without expanding the hardware footprint is revolutionary—and this is exactly the logic behind SymplySPARK XT. By using Seagate MACH.2 hard drives, this powerful shuttle storage device delivers SSD speeds from an HDD array—delivering the best of both worlds for creative professionals at an affordable cost. By increasing both



read and write performance in tandem, the Seagate and Symply teams deliver huge performance increases while lowering the total cost of ownership, making this solution the most accessible high-performance, mass-data storage device on the market.

Under the hood, each MACH.2 drive has a 14TB capacity. Because SPARK XT ships with eight drives arranged in RAID 5, the total solution delivers 98TB of configured capacity. Because each MACH.2 drive offers two independent data paths, this enables concurrent I/O streams to and from the host, doubling data transfer rates over single-actuator drives, improving sequential performance, reducing latency, and accelerating mass-data transfers. Consolidated into a lightweight, portable, and rugged platform, the SPARK XT is ready for anything.

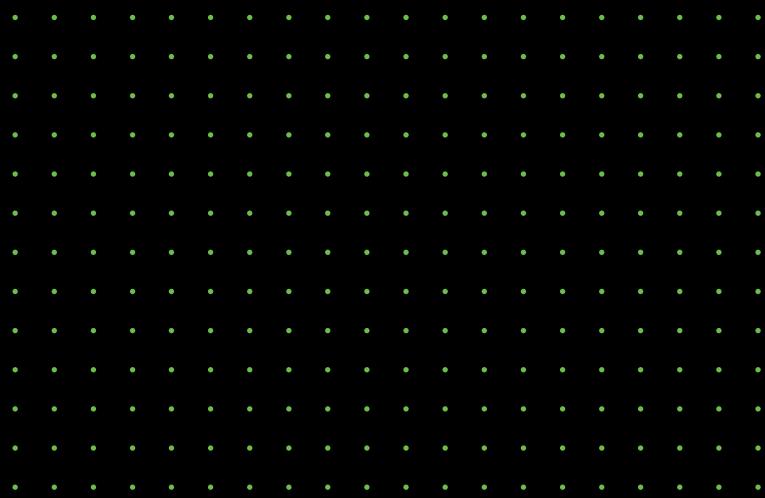


SymplySPARK XT and MACH.2

Whether tackling 8K+ workflows, visual effects, or anything in between, the real test for this device is seeing how it performs. Testing with popular benchmarking tools from AJA, ATTO, and Blackmagic, the SymplySPARK XT delivers read speeds of up to 2,952MB/s and write speeds up to 1,977MB/s.

Regardless of the application, ~2,000 MB/s read/write speeds set a new standard in hyperscale storage. Because the system uses a larger fan than most shuttle RAIDs —generating less than 45dB of noise— and provides hot-swap user-serviceable fan and power assemblies, the SPARK XT delivers maximum uptime for optimal reliability.

With double the hard drive performance thanks to MACH.2, this solution is built for data-intensive applications.



Products Used



SymplySPARK XT

Hyper-fast, Thunderbolt-enabled shuttle RAID.

Learn More
at gosymply.com



MACH.2

Multi-actuator, enterprise-level hard drive.

Learn More
at seagate.com



**Ready to
Learn More?**

Our storage specialists are here to help you find the right solution for your data challenges.

[Talk to an expert.](#)