

TECHNOLOGY BRIEF

WD Purple[™] HDDs Optimized for Performance and Low Power

Today's smart video environment requires support for applications that go beyond traditional surveillance. Cameras now support a main video feed that consists of multiple video streams at high-definition or 4K resolutions. In addition to the main video stream, cameras also output auxiliary video streams, picture streams, and video metadata information.

Main video, auxiliary video, picture streams, and video metadata all have different data characteristics including structure, size, and frequency of the transmitted data. HDDs can help optimize the entire smart video solution by supporting these data requirements with performance and low power.

New 2TB, 4TB. and 6TB^{*} WD Purple Smart Video HDDs¹ have been optimized for performance and low power. They utilize enhancements to WD AllFrame™ technology to reduce the drive's RPM and lower overall power consumption. These drives can recognize incoming video stream characteristics and data types, coalesce data together in cache and place data in specific track locations on disk.

Not All Video Workloads Are the Same

A typical DVR or NVR encounters mixed workloads of both sequential and

random data. Multiple video streams from primary and auxiliary video produces a constant sequential data stream, coming at the same rate and same time continuously. The data is well quantified, with a known MB/s written in continuous blocks of files. Metadata and AI analytics data is random in nature and can be cached until it needs to be written to the HDD.

Recorder manufacturers employ different video analytic implementations, which have an impact on data movement and storage. Some implementations require frequent metadata capture, analysis, and storage; others are dependent on the individual analytic data requirements and data sizing needs may vary widely.

An Intelligent Approach to Smart Video Data

New WD Purple HDDs have optimized AllFrame to better detect data types, such as video metadata, video streaming data and host OS file system data. By detecting the host environment and self-configuring into the appropriate operating state, the HDD can set up to be more predictive of incoming workloads.

Data blocks can be coalesced in cache and system performance can be optimized by intelligent placement of different data types. This maximizes data utilization, reduces the need for higher RPMs, and results in lower power. Machine learning capabilities in the firmware can improve selfconfiguration effectiveness over time, making this approach truly smart.

For example, video data as a continuous incoming video stream can be written to the outer part of an HDD disk where

Main Video Stream Aux Video Stream Playback Stream Al Metadata All Frame Technology

the sequential write speed is higher compared to the inner part of the disk. Embedded video analytics metadata is highly structured and consistent. This can be written to the inner part of the disk where raw data speeds are not as important.



Lower RPM for Surveillance Workloads

AllFrame's intelligent data placement reduces the need for higher RPM disks. New WD Purple HDDs operating at low RPM speeds may perform equally well compared to standard HDDs at higher RPM. In a simulation with a typical video surveillance workload², a WD Purple HDD with a power-

efficient speed of 5040 RPM exceeded the performance of HDDs at 5400RPM and 7200 RPM³.

Lower Power Smart Video HDDs

WD Purple Smart Video HDDs operating at slower RPM speeds are generally more power efficient. By using innovation to improve data management and keeping RPM low, these new 2TB/4TB/6TB WD Purple HDDs¹ are more power efficient than previous generation higher RPM drives, using up to 25.8%⁴ fewer watts per drive, in average operating conditions.

Lower power can help provide both operating cost benefits and performance needed to handle the



challenging workloads of new mainstream recorders. Power efficient hard drives will benefit recorder manufacturers and suppliers whose NVRs may have constrained power budgets and face thermal limitations with limited airflow. For end-user customers, more efficient drives can result in lower system operating costs.



New Generation of WD Purple HDDs

The latest line of 2TB, 4TB, and 6TB WD Purple Smart Video HDDs¹ utilize enhancements in WD AllFrame technology to intelligently manage video data. The drives can recognize incoming video stream characteristics and data types, coalesce data together in cache and place data in specific track locations on disk. Intelligent data placements allow for lower drive RPM that has equivalent performance to drives with higher RPM. Lower RPM leads to power savings which benefits customers through lower system operating costs.

Western Digital's investment in smart video optimized storage innovation ensures that we continue to deliver trust, reliability, and capability in our WD Purple family of storage devices.

Learn more about Western Digital smart video solutions

https://www.westerndigital.com/solutions/surveillance https://www.westerndigital.com/tools/surveillance-capacity-calculator

* 1TB = 1 trillion bytes. Actual user capacity may be less depending on operating environment.

¹Applies to the following WD Purple models: WDPURZ22, WDPURZ42, WDPURZ63, WDEJRX22, WDEJRX42, WDEJRX63

2 "Typical" video surveillance workload includes a balance of network cameras at varying resolutions, frame rates, and video codes, along with auxiliary streams, and metadata

⁴ Power Efficiency calculations are based on comparison of previous generation versus latest generation WD Purple HDD models.

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³Based on Read speed, unless otherwise stated. 1 MB/s = 1 million bytes per second. Based on internal testing; performance may vary depending upon host device, usage conditions, drive capacity, and other factors.