Written by Marco Attard 29 June 2017

The Drobo Direct Attached Storage (DAS) portfolio gets an addition-- the 5-bay Drobo 5D3, a storage solution featuring Thunderbolt 3 connectivity for a 2X performance boost over the previous Drobo 5D.





According to the company, Thunderbolt 3 connectivity also allows users to connect a pair a 4K monitors (or one 5K display) to the 5D3, or daisy-chain up to 6 Thunderbolt 3 devices, all with enough power to (slow) charge a laptop. It has two Thunderbolt 3 ports, together with a USB-C port.

Designed for prosumers and small businesses, the 5D3 fits up to five 3.5-inch SATA II/III drives. It also offers an mSATA accelerator bay for what Drobo claims is a performance boost of up to 30% on frequently accessed data. Further increasing speed and throughput is an upgraded processor, while BeyondRAID technology allows for simple storage and easy expansion.

Construction is in metal, with a magnetic faceplate, carrier-less drive base and an LED display for intelligent management. Users can hot-swap drives without tools, and a built-in battery pack enables the Drobo to move in-flight data to onboard flash in case of power outage.

The Drobo 5D3 is available now.

Go Drobo 5D3