

Intel Doubles Thunderbolt

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11 April 2013

Intel reveals the future of Thunderbolt technology at the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) show-- boosting data rates from 10Gbps to 20Gbps in both directions.



Seen in prototype form, Thunderbolt 2.0 (codenamed "Falcon Ridge") allows simultaneous 4K file transfer and display, and improves speeds via implementation of PCIe 3.0 technology outside the PC.

Falcon Ridge makes use of copper cables, is backwards-compatible with 1st generation Thunderbolt cables and connectors, and should be available from 2014.

At NAB Intel also previews the DSL4510 and 4410, a pair of updated Thunderbolt host controllers complete with DisplayPort 1.2 capability, power management improvements and reduced platform BOM costs.

Thunderbolt supports 2 low-latency communications protocols-- PCIe (data transfer) and DisplayPort (display). It works on data streams in both directions, meaning users get full bandwidth in both directions over a single cable.

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