



Dell PowerVault MD3 Fibre Channel Array Series

The Dell™ PowerVault™ MD3 Fibre Channel array series introduces the next generation of 16Gb/s connectivity. This SAN solution is ideal for entry-level storage consolidation that requires high availability, high performance and business continuity without sacrificing ease of use and reliability.

Fibre Channel-based network storage

PowerVault MD3 Fibre Channel arrays offer exceptional performance, reliability and versatility to meet your business demands. Now it's simple to improve storage utilization by combining storage resources while increasing availability with redundant hardware, and streamlining the backup process. Management complexities are minimized by consolidating data and resources with a single array, using either the standard 2U configuration or the high-density 4U model.

Affordable versatility

The MD3 Fibre Channel Series is designed to deliver maximum performance and capacity at an affordable price. This series is available with 3.5", 2.5" or SSD hard drives in a 2U or 4U standard rack enclosure. If space is a concern, the MD3 high-density array holds up to 60 hard drives in just 4U, improving both power and cooling expenses. The 2U MD3 models are designed to hold 24 x 2.5" drives or 12 x 3.5" drives.¹ Grow your capacity when you want to, how you want to, with the expansion enclosures designed for the MD3 arrays.

Ideal for data intensive applications

Implement your high-performance network storage solution for less with MD3 Fibre Channel arrays while protecting your existing Fibre Channel investment. Now you can effectively consolidate storage to support the value of your existing Fibre Channel environment with performance to meet both IOP-intensive, high-bandwidth applications. MD3 storage arrays are also fully qualified for use in virtualized application environments with VMware® ESX™ and Microsoft® Hyper-V® software.

Keep pace with the latest technology

The MD3 Fibre Channel arrays deliver an excellent performance-per-price ratio. Take advantage of a next-generation array with four 16Gb/s Fibre Channel ports per controller that offers performance improvement, and easily handles the application demands of large databases with increased processing capability. These arrays also support solid-state drives (SSD) to meet the most demanding I/O requirements. An optional High-Performance Tier (HPT) feature is available to increase array I/O and throughput performance, and enables the SSD cache feature to improve your read performance by storing frequently read data for quick accessibility. A maximum of 16GB cache is available with the dual controller option, leveraging 8GB cache per controller.

Gain a new level of management efficiency

The MD Storage Manager software that manages the MD3 Series is an intuitive client-based application designed for easy array interaction regardless of the level of familiarity with storage systems. It provides an enterprise graphical interface for monitoring multiple arrays and simplifying array management through one console.

With the multi-generational and multi-protocol MD Storage Manager, all administrative tasks, including configuration, reconfiguration, expansion, maintenance and performance tuning, can be performed without array downtime or interruption to array performance. MD Storage Manager's configuration flexibility includes the ability to mix RAID levels, segment sizes, array sizes and cache policies all within a single storage array.

Deployment scalability and flexibility

Scale easily: Up to 64 servers in a SAN environment can be connected to a single MD3 Fibre Channel storage array. Storage capacity can be expanded up to a base of 120 hard drives² on all models. If additional capacity is needed on the 2U models, scale by simply hot-plugging additional PowerVault MD1200 or MD1220 expansion enclosures to grow capacity up to 192 hard drives.² The MD3 4U dense arrays can scale up to 180 hard drives² in just 12U using two MD3060e expansion enclosures.

Mix and match drives: 2U arrays hold up to 12 x 3.5" or 24 x 2.5" drives, and support additional expansion through the MD1200 enclosure (12 x 3.5") or MD1220 enclosure (24 x 2.5"). Both the 4U dense array and the MD3060e expansion enclosure hold up to 60 hard drives (3.5" and 2.5").

Optional features

You can try the MD3 premium features with a 90-day trial license, then buy the features that meet the needs of your environment. Premium features can now be bundled into two options. One option is designed to support the high demand for performance, and includes the HPT feature. If protecting data is a priority, the pre-packaged Data Protection features ensure the availability of the full suite of premium data protection option.

Snapshots: Each virtual disk supports up to 128 snapshots, with a total of 512 snapshots per system. These are typically used when data needs to be "frozen" in time. Snapshot scheduler and Snapshot Rollback are features included in the Premium Feature Key, providing additional data availability.

Virtual disk copy (VDC): VDC is a full copy of an existing disk at any point in time, often used for decision support and application development testing. Reads and writes are supported while creating a virtual copy.

SSD cache: Helps improve performance when combined with the HPT option, supporting up to 5TB data with the 8GB cache controller.

Self-encrypting drives (SEDs): With SEDs, if a drive is removed from the array or powered down, the data on that drive is encrypted and useless to anyone who attempts to access it without the appropriate security authorization.

HPT: Meet the most demanding performance requirements for your organization to remain productive and competitive.

Remote replication: To protect data and processes from major regional disasters like earthquakes, fires or large-scale power outages, your organization needs remote replication of data to a secondary site. Also used for testing and deploying new databases without any downtime.

Standard features

Reliable storage is enhanced with software features that provide added data protection, improved virtualization and ease of management. The integration of VMware VAAI helps improve performance where you need it, freeing your server from storage related tasks. Dynamic Disk Pools (DDP) simplify data management and improve storage efficiencies with self-healing dynamic disk rebalancing, without the worries of traditional RAID configurations. With just a few clicks you can add or delete disks from DDP to increase or decrease the size of your pools as needed. DDP supports up to 20 disk pools and can support up to 120 SSDs.³ Other software feature enhancements include thin provisioning, vCenter Plug-in, enabling VASA and SRA, which are all standard features on the MD3 Fibre Channel models. The high-density models have standard features to ensure high performance for either general-purpose computing or applications with high-bandwidth requirements, including HPT and SSD cache.

Exceptional
performance, reliability
and versatility to meet
business demands

PowerVault MD3 Fibre Channel Series technical specifications

Feature	MD3800f	MD3820f	MD3860f	MD3060e
Number of drives	12	24	60	
Drive type	3.5" SAS, NL-SAS, SSD, SED	2.5" SAS, NL-SAS, SSD, SED	Mix and match 3.5" and 2.5" SAS, NL-SAS, SSD, SED	
Drive capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SAS 15K RPM: 300GB, 450GB¹, 600GB¹ NL-SAS 7.2K RPM: 500GB, 1TB¹, 2TB¹, 3TB¹, 4TB¹, 6TB, 8TB SAS 10K RPM: 600GB SSD: 200GB, 400GB, 800GB (WI); 400GB, 800GB, 1.6TB (MU); 800GB, 1.6TB (RI) (available with 3.5" HDD carriers) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SAS 15K RPM: 146GB¹, 300GB¹, 600GB¹ SAS 10K RPM: 146GB, 300GB¹, 600GB¹, 900GB¹, 1.2TB¹, 1.8TB NL-SAS 7.2K RPM: 500GB¹, 1TB¹, 2TB SSD: 200GB, 400GB, 800GB (WI); 400GB, 800GB, 1.6TB (MU); 800GB, 1.6TB (RI) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3.5" NL-SAS 7.2K RPM: 500GB, 1TB¹, 2TB¹, 3TB¹, 4TB¹, 6TB, 8TB 2.5" SAS 15K RPM: 146GB¹, 300GB¹, 600GB¹ 2.5" SAS 10K RPM: 146GB, 300GB¹, 600GB¹, 900GB¹, 1.2TB¹ 2.5" NL-SAS 7.2K RPM: 500GB¹, 1TB¹, 2TB SSD: 200GB, 400GB, 800GB (WI); 400GB, 800GB, 1.6TB (MU); 800GB, 1.6TB (RI) (available with 3.5" HDD carriers) 	
Expansion capabilities ²	Up to 192 drives using the MD1200 or MD1220		Up to 180 drives using the MD3060e	Up to 2 dense expansion enclosures per MD3660f or MD3860f array
Connection	4 x 16Gb Fibre Channel and 2 x 12Gb SAS ports per controller			6Gb SAS
Controllers	Single 4GB cache; Dual 4GB or 8GB cache		Dual 4GB or 8GB cache	Dual Expansion Management
Maximum cache	16GB (8GB per controller)			Controller dependent
Maximum host	64			
Form factor	2U rack enclosure Dell ReadyRails™ II static rails for tool-less mounting in 4-post racks with square or unthreaded round holes or tooling mounting in 4-post threaded-hole racks	4U rack enclosure		4U rack enclosure
Management software	MD Storage Manager			Managed with controller
Standard features	DDP ³ , Thin Provisioning, VAAI, vCenter Plug-in, VASA, SRA, SED, Microsoft Windows ODX		DDP ³ , Thin Provisioning, VAAI, vCenter Plug-in, VASA, SRA, HPT, SSD cache, SED, Microsoft Windows ODX	Controller dependent
Optional features	Snapshot, VDC, HPT, asynchronous and synchronous remote replication, HDD expansion option ²		Snapshot, VDC, asynchronous and synchronous remote replication, HDD expansion option ²	
OS support	Microsoft® Windows®, VMware®, Microsoft Hyper-V®, Red Hat® and SUSE®			
RAID levels	Support for RAID levels 0, 1, 10, 5, 6; Up to 180/192 ² physical disks per group in RAID 0, 10; Up to 30 physical disks per group in RAID 5, 6; Up to 512 virtual disks; DDP ³			Managed with controller
Physical dimensions (height x width x depth)	2U - 8.68 cm (3.42") x 44.63 cm (17.57") x 56.1 cm (22.09")	2U - 8.68 cm (3.42") x 44.63 cm (17.57") x 50.8 cm (20")	4U - 17.78 cm (7.0") x 48.26 cm (19.0") x 82.55 cm (32.5")	4U - 17.78 cm (7.0") x 48.26 cm (19.0") x 82.55 cm (32.5")
Maximum weight	29.30 kg (64.6 lb)	24.22 kg (53.4 lb)	105.20 kg (232.0 lb)	105.20 kg (232.0 lb)
Environment				
Power	2U arrays support DC power AC: 600W peak output DC: 700W		AC: 1755W	
Heat dissipation (max)	2047 BTU/hr		5988 BTU/hr	
Voltage	100V to 240V AC 48V DC		220V AC, auto ranging	
Frequency range	50/60Hz			
Temperature	Operating: 10° to 35°C (50° to 95°F) with a maximum temperature gradation of 10°C per hour 2U arrays support Fresh Air cooling, up to 35°C			
Relative humidity	Operating: 20% to 80% (non-condensing) with a maximum humidity gradation of 10% per hour			
Altitude	Operating: -16 m to 3048 m (-50 ft to 10,000 ft) NOTE: For altitudes above 2950 ft, the maximum operating temperature is derated 1°F/550 ft.		Operating: -30.5 m to 3000 m (-100 ft to 9,840 ft) NOTE: For altitudes above 2950 ft, the maximum operating temperature is derated 1.8°F/1000 ft.	
OEM-ready version available on certain models	From bezel to BIOS to packaging, your servers can look and feel as if they were designed and built by you. For more information, visit Dell.com/OEM .			

¹ SED available.

² Premium Feature Key required for expansion beyond 120 drives.

³ MD38x0f arrays are limited to a maximum of 20 DDPs per array.

End-to-end technology solutions

Reduce IT complexity, lower costs and eliminate inefficiencies by making IT and business solutions work harder for you. You can count on Dell for end-to-end solutions to maximize your performance and uptime. A proven leader in Servers, Storage and Networking, Dell Enterprise Solutions and Services deliver innovation at any scale. And if you're looking to preserve cash or increase operational efficiency, Dell Financial Services™ has a wide range of options to make technology acquisition easy and affordable. Contact your Dell Sales Representative for more information.**

Simplify Your Storage at Dell.com/PowerVaultMD3.

