

# Leveraging SSDs For Cloud Computing

## OCZ's Deneva 2 SSDs Help Optimize PSSC Labs Servers For The Cloud

WHEN PSSC LABS, a manufacturer that has been building high-quality servers, storage units, software solutions, and more since 1992, decided to enter the cloud computing arena, the company knew it would need to invest in the fastest and most reliable components available. "We live in a world where people need the latest and greatest in technology," says Alex Lesser, vice president of sales and marketing at PSSC Labs. "Our recent push into the cloud computing and Web 2.0 spaces requires our computing solutions to offer the absolute highest I/Os at an affordable price."

Because cloud computing can be used in multiple ways by companies in different industries, PSSC Labs researched the best types of storage options to use in its servers and other products in order to provide a solid experience for its customers. The company knew it needed to reach a certain performance standard in terms of speed, reliability, and price. PSSC Labs eventually chose Enterprise-Class Deneva 2 SSDs from OCZ ([www.oczenterprise.com](http://www.oczenterprise.com)), which met all of the company's criteria, for use with its PowerServe DUO T2000 Blade servers.

### Opting For OCZ's Deneva 2 SSDs

PSSC Labs designed its PowerServe DUO T2000 servers to be fast, reliable, and easy to implement. With up to two processors and 96GB of DDR3 memory, the PowerServe servers are built for cloud computing environments. Because the servers are highly customizable with multiple configuration options, PSSC Labs had to find a storage solution that would be just as versatile.

"We explored offerings from many vendors, including recognized big brands and unknown smaller brands," Lesser says. "Our experience with SSDs as a whole has been both rewarding and frustrating. Outstanding performance paired with high failure rates is really difficult to bring to market. As much as we want to offer SSD-based systems, we simply cannot put our end users in compromising positions. We only sell solutions with an acceptable failure level, which in our case is very stringent."

To help fulfill its needs and the needs of its customers, PSSC Labs chose OCZ's Deneva 2 SSDs, which are versatile and great for use with servers and other data center infrastructure because the drives are built with fast transfer rates of up to 6Gbps, usable capacities of up to 480GB, and more. OCZ offers multiple versions of each drive to make sure it meets each customer's needs perfectly.

### Important Features Of Deneva 2 SSDs

OCZ has been making DRAM and NAND products since 2002 and in the past few years, the company has become pioneers in the solid-state industry, as well. The company was one of the first to introduce high-capacity SSDs for multiple industries, and now, OCZ has recently released its line of Deneva 2 SSDs designed specifically to help companies

Deneva 2 SSDs also have a few features that are unique to OCZ. For instance, its R Series drives have DataWrite Assurance built-in, which is power fail protection that hardens data in case of a power failure. These SSDs also have a data fail recovery system that can recover up to one NAND flash block of memory. For security, Deneva 2 drives are both 128-bit and 256-bit AES-compliant, and for simpler management and maintenance, these drives have

uniquely positioned to offer the cloud market the highest performance, greatest flexibility, tool-free design, and unmatched reliability," Lesser says. "Configuring these systems with the OCZ Deneva 2 SSDs has been fantastic. The form factor, compatibility, and overall performance are really a step forward for the SSD market."

Lesser looks back on deploying the drives as a painless experience. "The implementation process has been very straightforward,"




like PSSC Labs get the performance they need for the servers they manufacture.

Deneva 2 SSDs are split into a C Series and an R Series, with multiple configurations within each one. Every Deneva 2 C Series SSD provides more than 500MBps of throughput, fast read/write speeds of up to 500MBps, and multiple capacities ranging from 120 to 480GB of usable IDEMA capacity. The C Series drives are available in 3.5-inch, 2.5-inch, and 1.8-inch sizes, so they can fit almost any server. The Deneva 2 R Series 2.5-inch MLC SSD is available in capacities of 100GB or usable storage up to 400GB and has a slightly faster read-write speed of up to 550MBps.


SMART (Self-Monitoring, Analysis, and Reporting Technology), so you'll always know how your SSDs are performing.

### Implementing Deneva 2 SSDs

PSSC Labs certified OCZ's Deneva 2 drives to be compatible with its own workstations and data center appliance, but it's with the PowerServe DUO T2000 server that the company has seen the biggest benefit. "The PowerServe DUO T2000 is

Lesser says. "There have not been any significant issues, and OCZ has been available to support us every step of the way." And the results have been immediate. Lesser says PSSC Labs has been impressed by the "high reliability" of Deneva 2 SSDs and that one of the biggest benefits is that with OCZ's drives, the company "can now help end users solve performance problems that otherwise would never be solved."

### Problems Solved & Looking Toward The Future

Lesser says that OCZ's Deneva 2 SSDs have solved his company's problems and given both the company and its customers the performance they need for high-quality cloud computing performance. PSSC Labs is now able to "deliver larger-capacity SSDs at affordable prices," which is "a huge benefit to every one of our end users," according to Lesser. And PSSC Labs has been so happy with OCZ's support that it plans on using the company's products as PSSC continues to move into the data center space and evolve its cloud computing offerings. "We are releasing an entire product line specifically geared toward this market," Lesser says. "We will continue to work with OCZ to push the Deneva 2 SSDs for our growing cloud market place." 

### OCZ Technology Deneva 2 SSDs

Deneva 2 C Series and R Series SSDs are highly customizable storage solutions for companies that need fast read and write speeds, reliable solid-state storage, a variety of configurations, and additional features that prevent data loss during power outages and other unforeseen events. OCZ designed its Deneva 2 line of SSDs, as well as its other solid-state offerings, for companies in a variety of industries.

"The PowerServe DUO T2000 is uniquely positioned to offer the cloud market the highest performance, greatest flexibility, tool-free design, and unmatched reliability," says Alex Lesser, vice president of sales and marketing at PSSC Labs. "Configuring these systems with the OCZ Deneva 2 SSDs has been fantastic. The form factor, compatibility, and overall performance are really a step forward for the SSD market."

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