750-GB Solid-State Drive Uses NAND Flash

Editor's Note: Nice Tech, but SSDs need to mature a bit more before they become a real contender.

(SearchStorage [1]) - STEC, a solid-state drive (SSD) supplier to several large storage OEMs, is expanding its product lineup with enterprise-ready multi-level cell (MLC) drives with capacities up to 750 GB for a lower price than the single-level cell (SLC) versions currently in use for most enterprise applications.

The MLC-based ZeusIOPS Solid State Drives are sampling to OEM customers and are expected to ship by the beginning of 2010. MLC SSDs use multiple layers of NAND to pack more data into the same physical area than SLC SSDs, which use one layer per cell.

Because NAND can endure a finite number of write/erase cycles, MLC devices tend to wear out more quickly. With multiple layers per cell, writes tend to be even slower on MLC devices than SLC (which can sometimes be slower than hard disk drives for writes, though with reads both MLC and SLC are multiple times faster).

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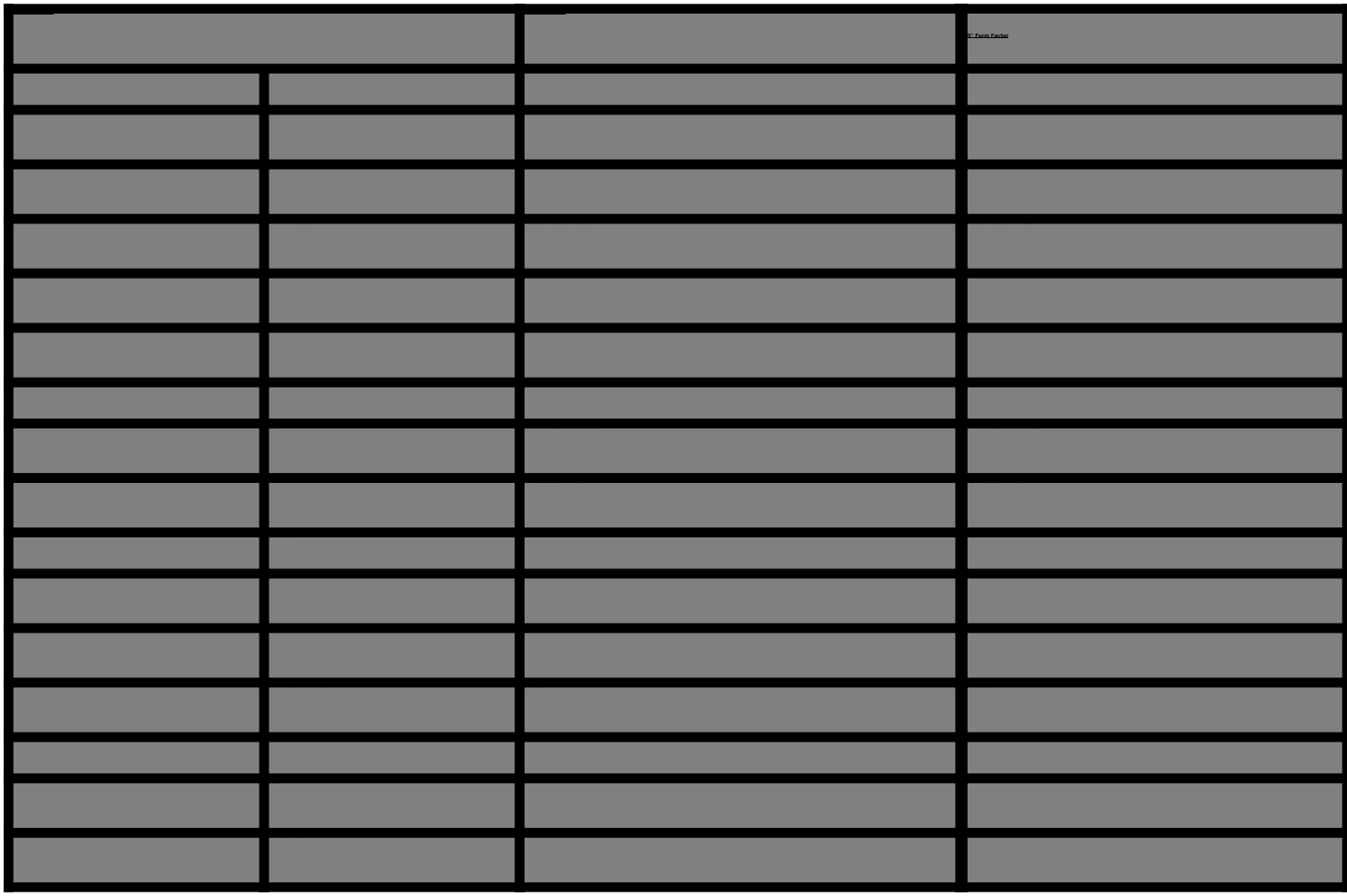
(ChannelWeb [3]) - With its new ZeusIOPS SSDs, STEC said it has enhanced the reliability of MLC SSDs with the introduction of MLD NAND Flash components, which the company said offer improved reliability at a significant cost savings compared to SLC memory.

STEC said it has added high-performance Flash controller technology and proprietary Flash management algorithms to give the new drives better performance than consumer-grade MLC SSDs or traditional spinning hard disk drives.

Click Here [3] for the rest of the article.

From the STEC Website [4]:



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