

Sony Claims Fastest USB Hub

Written by Alice Marshall
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Sony announces what it describes as "the world's fastest UHS-II SD and microSD card reader"-- the MRW-S3, an addition to the TOUGH SF-M series of SD card readers able to double as a handy USB hub.



Aimed primarily at photographers, videographers and creators, the MRW-S3 handles both high-resolution RAW image files and 4K video, as well as just about any other kind of file type. It supports USB 3.1 Gen 2, allowing for data transfers of up to 1000MB/s, allowing users to connect high-speed external SSDs, and can receiver up to 100W USB Power Deliver (USB PD) for stable connections with devices.

An HDMI output with 4K 30fps capabilities allows the connection of external monitors without need for external adapters or occupying limited PC ports. The actual hub promises to be tough, with a durable aluminium body and a wave surface to prevent scratches. It weighs just 95g and includes a detachable USB-C to USB-C cable for connecting to host PCs. The cable includes an embedded eMarker, allowing connection to USB 3.1 Gen 2 devices or a USB PD AC adapter.

In addition, Sony launches the SF-M series of TOUGH specification SD cards offering data transfers of up to 277MB/s read and 150MB/s write while promising 18x the strength of standard SD cards and the "highest-grade" waterproof and dustproof levels. Customers wanting a more conventional Sony SD card can get the UHS-II SF-E series with 270MB/s read and 120MB/s write speeds.

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The MRW-S3, SF-M series and SF-E series will be available from Q4 2019.

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