Written by Marco Attard 16 September 2015

Qualcomm describes the upcoming Snapdragon 820 mobile device processor as its most powerful yet, as it features the company's "most advanced" integrated modem and Quick Charge 3.0 technology.



The integrated modem in question is the X12. It handles LTE category 12 download speeds reaching up to 600Mbps, beating the previous company record of 450Mbp, as well as speeds of up to 150Mbps. It is also the first to support unlicensed LTE (aka LTE-U).

When it comes to wifi the X12 gets 802.11ac 2x2 MU-MIMO and 802.11ad support, making it fairly futureproof as far as mobile device modems go.

Meanwhile Quick Charge 3.0 promises both faster device charging and more efficient power use through Intelligent Negotiation for Optimum Voltage (INOV) an algorithm the company says enables optimum power transfer while maximising efficiency. It also handles more voltage options (from 3.6 to 20V).

The Snapdragon 820 arrives in devices launching in 2016. Other Snapdragon processors will carry Quick Charge technology, including the mid-range 8-core 617, the 8-core 150Mbps 430 and the previously announced 618 and 620.

Go Snapdragon 820 Countdown: Breakthrough LTE and Wifi With X12 LTE Modem

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Go Introducing Quick Charge 3.0