

MSI Ships Vortex Gaming Mini-PC

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MSI starts shipping the Vortex, a cylindrical gaming-focused tower PC with a form factor similar to that of the Mac Pro first announced back at CES 2016.



Despite fairly compact dimensions (27cm tall, 6.5 litre) the Vortex carries an unlocked Intel Core i7 6700K CPU, up to 64GB DDR4 RAM, x2 128GB SSDs, x1 1TB HDD and up to x2 Nvidia GeForce GTX 980 GPUs in SLI. Further gaming-centric features include X Gaming audio technology, Thunderbolt 3 connectivity and lighting/system control via MSI Dragon Centre Dashboard and app.

The name comes via the "360-degree Silent Storm" vertical cooling system-- one MSI says keeps the PC cool by sucking air from the top and swirling it down through the case before exhausting heat through the bottom. Also allowing for the novel cooling system is a custom-designed 450W 80 plus Gold PSU.

The company says customers can swap out at least some components, although we doubt the chassis allows users to replace the motherboard to allow upgrades to more powerful Haswell-E or Xeon CPUs.

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