



Keeping Storage Simple

SYNOLOGY DS413

By Sharmine Ishak

● The conventional hard disk drive is no longer enough to store and backup all of one's digital content, forcing users to look at network attached storage (NAS) as a solution. More than just storage space, the NAS also allows multiple users to access their favorite media from the comforts of their own computer. In this issue, we take a look at the Synology DS413, a fuss-free NAS solution.

Designed for homes, workgroups and offices, the DS413 features a matte black exterior with a glossy cover, which users can easily remove for access to the four quick-release drive bays. There are four indicators on the side of the device which light up when a drive is inserted into the NAS, while a single USB2.0 port in the front and twin USB3.0 ports on the back offer users the functionality



Users can also connect portable storage to this NAS via USB



The Synology DS413 can support up to a maximum of four 4TB drives for a total of 16TB of hard drive space

of backing up their files from a drive. A power button on the front makes it easy to turn the device on or off, even though it is built for low energy consumption, especially when idle. Designed for versatility, the DS413 supports a number of RAID types such as RAID 0, 1, 5, 5+spare, 6 and 10.

Setting up the DS413 is simple; you just need to hook it up to a power source and to the network with an Ethernet cable. With our hard drives already locked and placed inside its bays, we booted up the unit, which took a minute to start up completely. After that, we simply had to locate the NAS with our Internet browser or install the software included with the bundled CD to ready it for use. This step was particularly straightforward, thanks to Synology's DiskStation Manager, which simplifies the process into an accessible, user-friendly graphical interface resembling an operating system.

We then proceeded to test the DS413, by transferring a 1GB file over our network to the NAS and timed it to see how long it would take to complete the transfer. Our test took just 2 minutes and 33 seconds to complete the 1GB transfer, which is pretty good for a NAS.

In terms of features, this compact NAS offers Dual Core processing power and flexible storage management to build an optimal RAID volume with data protection based on the hard drives installed, which eliminates the need to have identically sized drives. For the work environment, it is also equipped with an encryption engine which offloads the encryption calculation task from the main CPU, improving file transfer speeds. The DS413 can also be a centralized backup target, consolidating fragmented and unstructured data across a work network, whether with Synology's Data Replicator software or Mac OS X's native Apple Time Machine.

Whether you're a professional or home user, the Synology DS413 is a reliable storage solution that even tech beginners will find effortless to setup. With all the features that make owning a NAS a necessity packed inside, it is simply the easiest way to start, manage and access all your content from one place.

SPECIFICATIONS

CPU	RAID Support	USB	Hot Swappable	Price
Dual Core 1.067 GHz	RAID 0, 1, 5, 5+spare, 6, 10	2x USB3.0, 1x USB2.0	Yes	RM1999

Internal HDD/SSD: 4x 3.5" or 2.5" SATA 3Gb/s

Max Internal Capacity: 16TB (4x 4TB)

Memory: 1GB DDR3

eSATA: 1x eSATA port

LAN: 1x Gigabit RJ-45 Ethernet port

Power Supply: 100 - 240V 50/60Hz

Power Consumption: Access (35.62W); HDD Hibernation (13.09W); System Hibernation (3.37W)

Supported Clients: Windows XP onwards; Apple Mac OS 10.5 onwards; Ubuntu 9.04 onwards

Dimensions: 165 (H) x 203 (W) x 233.2 (D) mm

Weight: 2.03kg

Warranty: 2-years

Contact: Build Technology Supply Sdn Bhd

Telephone: (03) 7955 3699

URL: www.synology.com

Available at

PLAZA LOW YAT

Verdict:

8.5



Features: 8.5
Performance: 8.5
Value: 8.5

VERDICT SCORES ARE OUT OF 10.

Setting up a 16GB NAS has never been so easy with Synology