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# **WD Purple™ PR1200M**

Surveillance Hard Drives

**WD60PURX**

**WD60PURZ**

**WD60EVRX**



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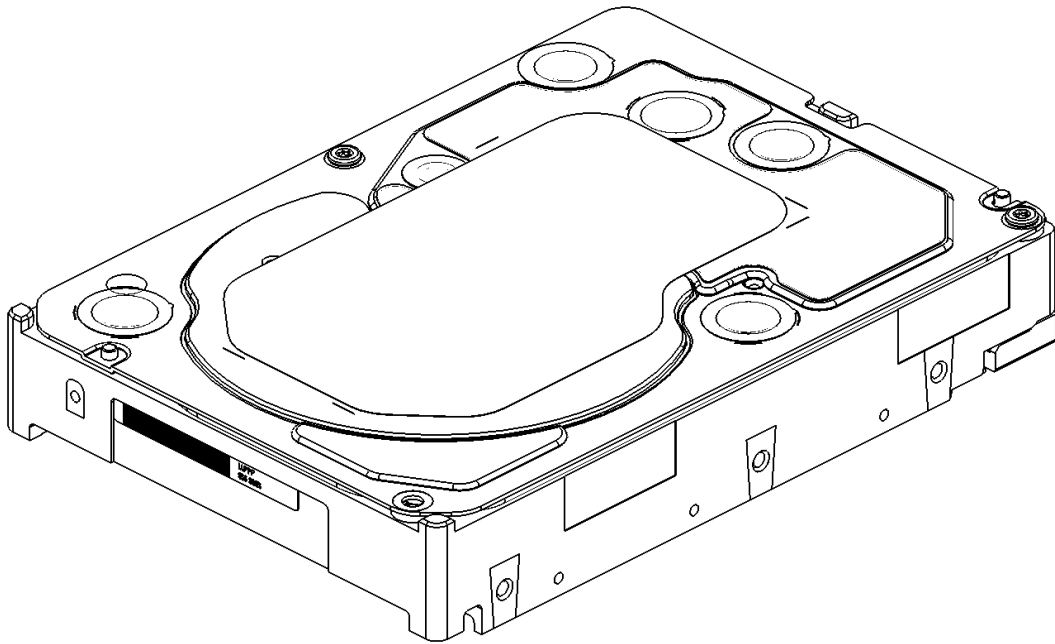
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# WD Purple PR1200M

## Technical Reference Manual





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## 1.0 DESCRIPTION AND FEATURES

### 1.1 General Description

WD Purple Surveillance Storage is built for 24/7 always-on surveillance in high definition security systems that utilize higher hard drive bay counts and up to 64 cameras. Exclusive AllFrame 4K™ technology works with ATA streaming to reduce error pixilation and video interruptions that occur when desktop hard drives are incorrectly used as storage in security systems.

### 1.2 Product Features

**Serial ATA (SATA)** — Serial ATA (SATA) is the industry standard bus interface for hard drives. It is designed to replace Parallel ATA, and has many advantages including increased transfer rate, improved signal integrity, enhanced data protection, and hot plug support.

**AllFrame 4K™ Technology** — All WD Purple™ drives are equipped with AllFrame 4K™ technology, which improves ATA streaming to help reduce frame loss, improve overall video playback, and increase the number of hard drive bays supported within a NVR. Help make your surveillance solution future-ready knowing that WD Purple™ drives are ready for ultra high definition cameras.

**IntelliSeek™** — Calculates optimum seek speeds to lower power consumption, noise, and vibration.

**Dynamic Fly Height Control** — Designed to compensate for head/media separation changes due to temperature and altitude. This feature adds video quality margins across temperature and altitude changes.

**Perpendicular Magnetic Recording (PMR)** — With PMR technology the magnetization of each data bit is aligned vertically to the spinning disk, rather than longitudinally as has been the case in hard drive technology for decades. This enables more data on a given disk than is possible with conventional longitudinal recording, and provides a platform for future expansion of hard drive densities.

**NoTouch™ Ramp Load Technology** — The recording head never touches the disk media ensuring significantly less wear to the recording head and media as well as better drive protection in transit.

**Dual Stage Actuator Technology** — A head positioning system with dual-stage actuators that improves positioning accuracy over the data track(s). The primary stage provides course displacement; the secondary stage uses piezoelectric motion to fine tune the head positioning to a higher degree of precision.

**Advanced Format (AF)** — Technology adopted by WD and other drive manufacturers as one of multiple ways to continue growing hard drive capacities. AF is a more efficient media format that enables increased areal densities.

**Native Command Queuing (NCQ)** — Performance of a random I/O workload can be improved through intelligent re-ordering of the I/O requests so they read/write to and from the nearest available sectors and minimize the need for additional disk revolutions or head actuator movement. This improvement can be achieved through Native Command Queuing (NCQ), which is supported by these hard drives.

**Preemptive Wear Leveling (PWL)** — This WD feature provides a solution for protecting the recording media against mechanical wear. In cases where the drive is so busy with incoming commands that it is forced to stay in a same cylinder position for a long time, the PWL control engine initiates forced seeks so that disk lubricant

maintains an even distribution and does not become depleted. This feature ensures reliability for applications that perform a high incidence of read/write operations at the same physical location on the disk.

**Femto Slider** — These drives incorporate the femto slider form factor in which the read/write head is mounted on the small, lightweight femto slider which allows the head to move more quickly from track to track on the disk.

**S.M.A.R.T. Command Transport (SCT)** — The SCT Command Transport feature set provides a method for a host to send commands and data to a device and for a device to send data and status to a host using log pages.

**World Wide Name (WWN)** — The World Wide Name (WWN) defined in ATA/ATAPI-7 is a modification of the IEEE extended unique identifier 64 bit standard (EUI-64) and is comprised of three major components: naming authority, organizationally unique identifier (OUI) and serial number. WD's OUI is 0014EEh.

**Reliability Features Set-Data Lifeguard™** — Representing WD's ongoing commitment to data protection, Data Lifeguard includes features that enhance the drive's ability to prevent data loss. Data Lifeguard data protection utilities include thermal management, an environmental protection system, and embedded error detection and repair features that automatically detect, isolate, and repair problem areas that may develop over the extended use of the hard drive. With these enhanced data reliability features, the drive can perform more accurate monitoring, error repair, and deliver exceptional data security.

**Hot Plug Support** — SATA supports hot plugging (also known as "hot swapping"), the ability to swap out a failed hard drive without having to power down the system or reboot. This capability contributes to both data availability and serviceability without any associated downtime, making it a critical feature for extending SATA into enterprise applications.

**Active LED Status** — The drive supports external LED requirements. It provides an activity LED output which is ON during command execution and OFF otherwise.

**Fluid Dynamic Bearings (FDB)** — Bearing design that incorporates a layer of high-viscosity lubricant instead of ball bearings in the hard drive spindle motor. As an alternative to conventional ball bearing technology, FDB designs provide increased non-operational shock resistance, speed control, and improved acoustics.

**Staggered Spin-Up** — A feature that allows the system to control whether the drive will spin up immediately or wait until the interface is fully ready (this feature may not be available in all configurations).

**CacheFlow™** — WD's unique, multi-generation caching algorithm evaluates the way data is read from and written to the drive and adapts "on-the-fly" to the optimum read and write caching methods. CacheFlow minimizes disk seek operations and overheads due to rotational latency. CacheFlow supports sequential and random write cache. With write cache and other CacheFlow features, the user can cache both read and write data. The cache can hold multiple writes and collectively write them to the hard disk.

**48-bit Logical Block Addressing (LBA)** — WD SATA drives support both 48-bit and 28-bit LBA and CHS-based addressing. LBA is included in advanced BIOS and operating system device drivers and ensures high capacity disk integration.

**Power Management** — The drive supports the ATA and SATA power management command set, allowing the host to reduce the power consumption of the drive by issuing a variety of power management commands.

**Self-Monitoring, Analysis, and Reporting Technology (S.M.A.R.T.)** — S.M.A.R.T. enables a drive's internal status to be monitored through diagnostic commands at the host level and during offline activities. S.M.A.R.T. devices employ data analysis algorithms that are used to predict the likelihood of some near-term degradation or fault conditions. When used with a S.M.A.R.T. application, the drive can alert the host system of a negative reliability status condition. The host system can then warn the user of the impending risk of data loss and recommend an appropriate action.

**ATA Security** — The drive supports the ATA Security Mode Feature set. The ATA Security Mode feature set allows the user to create a device lock password that prevents unauthorized hard disk access even if the drive is removed from the host computer. The correct password must be supplied to the hard drive in order to access user data. Both the User and Master Password features are supported, along with the High and Maximum security modes. The Master Password Revision code is also supported. This feature varies by drive configuration and may not be available on all configurations.

## 2.0 SPECIFICATIONS

### 2.1 Performance Specifications

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Rotational Speed  | 5400 RPM class  |
| Data Transfer Rate <sup>1</sup><br>- Buffer to Host<br>- Host to/from Disk (typical)        | 6 Gb/s maximum<br>175 MB/s sustained (WD60PURX/<br>WD60PURZ/WD60EVRX) |
| Buffer Size   | 64 MB   |
| Error Rate - Unrecoverable  | <1 in 10 <sup>14</sup> bits read                                      |
| Spindle Start Time<br>- From Power-on to Drive Ready<br>- From Power-on to Rotational Speed | 14s average<br>9s average   |
| Spindle Stop Time   | <15s average  |
| Load/Unload Cycles (controlled unload at ambient condition)                                 | 300,000   |

<sup>1</sup> As used for buffer or cache, one megabyte (MB) = 1,048,576 bytes. As used for transfer rate or interface, megabyte per second (MB/s) = one million bytes per second, and gigabit per second (Gb/s) = one billion bits per second. Effective maximum SATA 6 Gb/s transfer rate calculated according to the Serial ATA specification published by the SATA-IO organization as of the date of this document. Visit [www.sata-io.org](http://www.sata-io.org) for details.

### 2.2 Physical Specifications

Specifications represented are of a typical production drive and may be subject to change or variation without notice.

| Physical Specifications   | WD60PURX/WD60PURZ/WD60EVRX |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Capacity <sup>1</sup>     | 6TB                        |
| Interface                 | SATA 6 Gb/s                |
| Number of Disks           | 5                          |
| Data Surfaces             | 10                         |
| Number of Heads           | 10                         |
| Physical bytes per sector | 4096                       |
| Host bytes per sector     | 512                        |
| User Sectors per Drive    | 11,721,045,168             |
| Servo Type                | Embedded                   |
| Recording Method          | LDPC Target                |

<sup>1</sup> As used for storage capacity, one megabyte (MB) = one million bytes, one gigabyte (GB) = one billion bytes, and one terabyte (TB) = one trillion bytes. Total accessible capacity varies depending on operating environment. As used for buffer or cache, one megabyte (MB) = 1,048,576 bytes. As used for transfer rate or interface, megabyte per second (MB/s) = one million bytes per second, and gigabit per second (Gb/s) = one billion bits per second. Effective maximum SATA 3 Gb/s transfer rate calculated according to the Serial ATA specification published by the SATA-IO organization as of the date of this document. Visit [www.sata-io.org](http://www.sata-io.org) for details.

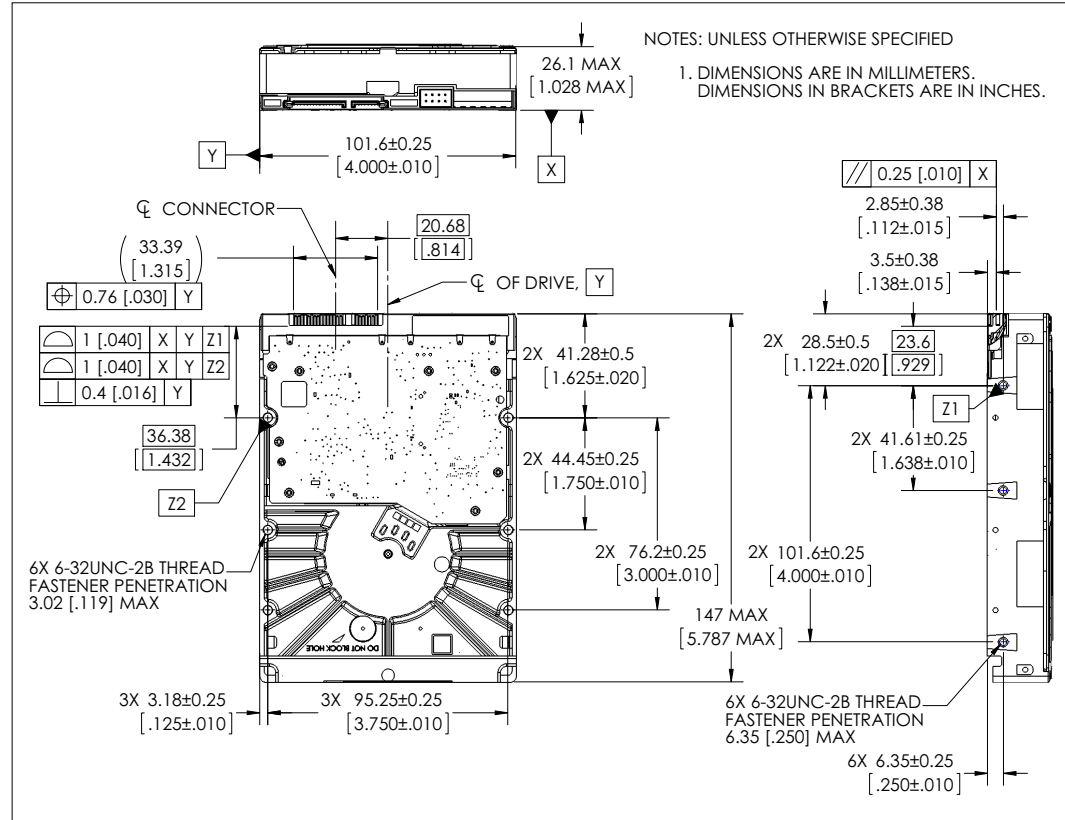
#### 2.2.1 Physical Dimensions

|        | English      |            | Metric    |           |
|--------|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
|        | Dimension    | Tolerance  | Dimension | Tolerance |
| Height | 1.028 inches | MAX        | 26.1 mm   | MAX       |
| Length | 5.787 inches | MAX        | 147.0 mm  | MAX       |
| Width  | 4.00 inches  | ±0.01 inch | 101.6 mm  | ±0.25 mm  |
| Weight | 1.58 pounds  | ±10%       | 0.72 kg   | ±10%      |

## 2.3 Mechanical Specifications

Figure 2-1 shows the mounting dimensions and locations of the screw holes for the drive.

Figure 2-1. Mounting Dimensions





## 2.4 Electrical Specifications

### 2.4.1 Current Requirements and Power Dissipation

All values are typical (25°C, 5.0V, and 12V input). 3.3V Serial ATA power not utilized in this product.

| Operating Mode | Mean Current <sup>1</sup> |        | Power, Average <sup>1</sup> |
|----------------|---------------------------|--------|-----------------------------|
|                | 12 VDC                    | 5 VDC  |                             |
| Spinup (max)   | 1.75A                     | —      | 24.8W                       |
| Read/Write     | 320 mA                    | 300 mA | 5.3W                        |
| Seek           | 340 mA                    | 280 mA | 5.5W                        |

| POWER MANAGEMENT COMMANDS |                           |        |                             |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------|-----------------------------|
| Operating Mode            | Mean Current <sup>1</sup> |        | Power, Average <sup>1</sup> |
|                           | 12 VDC                    | 5 VDC  |                             |
| Idle <sup>2</sup>         | 320 mA                    | 210 mA | 4.9W                        |
| Standby/Sleep             | 7 mA                      | 70 mA  | 0.4W                        |

### 2.4.2 Input Voltage Requirements

The input voltage requirements are +5.0V ± 5% and +12.0V ± 10%.

### 2.4.3 Ripple

|                   | +12 VDC                               | +5 VDC                                |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Maximum Frequency | 200 mV (double amplitude)<br>0-30 MHz | 100 mV (double amplitude)<br>0-30 MHz |

### 2.4.4 Power Connectors and Cables

#### SATA Connectors

For information on SATA data connectors, refer to the Serial ATA 1.0 specification available for download at [www.serialata.org](http://www.serialata.org).

At the time of this printing, there are no published standards for SATA power/mating connectors or power/data cable wire gauge.

#### Cabling Requirements for SATA

The SATA cable consists of four conductors in two differential pairs. The cable may also include drain wires to be terminated to the ground pins in the SATA cable receptacle connectors. See the SATA 1.0 specification for cable specifications. The cable's maximum length is one meter.

## 2.5 Environmental Specifications

### 2.5.1 Shock and Vibration

Table 2-1. Shock and Vibration

| <b>Shock</b>  |  |
|---|--|
| Operating   | 30G, 2 ms (read/write)<br>65G, 2 ms (read)   |
| Non-operating (2 ms)  | 250G   |
| <i>Note: Half-sine wave, measured without shock isolation and without non-recoverable errors.</i> |  |
| <b>Rotational Shock Non-Operating</b>   |  |
| Amplitude   | 20K rad/sec <sup>2</sup>   |
| Duration  | 2 ms   |
| <b>Vibration</b>  |  |
| Operating   | Linear: 20-300 Hz, 0.75G (0 to peak)<br>Random: 0.004 g <sup>2</sup> /Hz (10-300 Hz) |
| Non-operating   | Linear: 20-500 Hz, 4.0G (0 to peak)<br>Random: 0.05 g <sup>2</sup> /Hz (10-300 Hz)   |
| Sweep Rate  | 0.5 octave/minute minimum  |
| <b>Rotational Vibration</b>   |  |
| 12.5 rad/sec <sup>2</sup> based on the following PSD profile maintaining < 20% degradation:       |  |
| Frequency (Hz)  | 20    200    300    900    1400    1500  |
| (Rad/sec <sup>2</sup> ) <sup>2</sup> /Hz  | 0.035    0.035    0.2    0.2    0.002    0.002                                       |
| <b>Drive Generated Vibration</b>  |  |
| Operating   | 0.2 gm-mm average with the drive in an unconstrained condition                       |

#### Operating Vibration

Drives are tested by applying a random excitation in each linear axis, one axis at a time. The drive incurs no physical damage and no hard errors while subjected to continuous vibration not exceeding the level listed in Table 2-1. Operating performance may degrade during periods of exposure to continuous vibration.

#### Non-Operating Vibration

*Note:* This specification applies to handling and transportation of unmounted drives.

Drives are tested by applying a random excitation in each linear axis, one axis at a time. The drive incurs no physical damage when subjected to continuous vibration not exceeding the level listed in Table 2-1.

#### Packaged Shock and Vibration

The shipping packaging is designed to meet the National/International Safe Transit Association (N/ISTA) standards for packaged products. The drive incurs no physical damage when subjected to the N/ISTA standards.

### 2.5.2 Temperature and Humidity

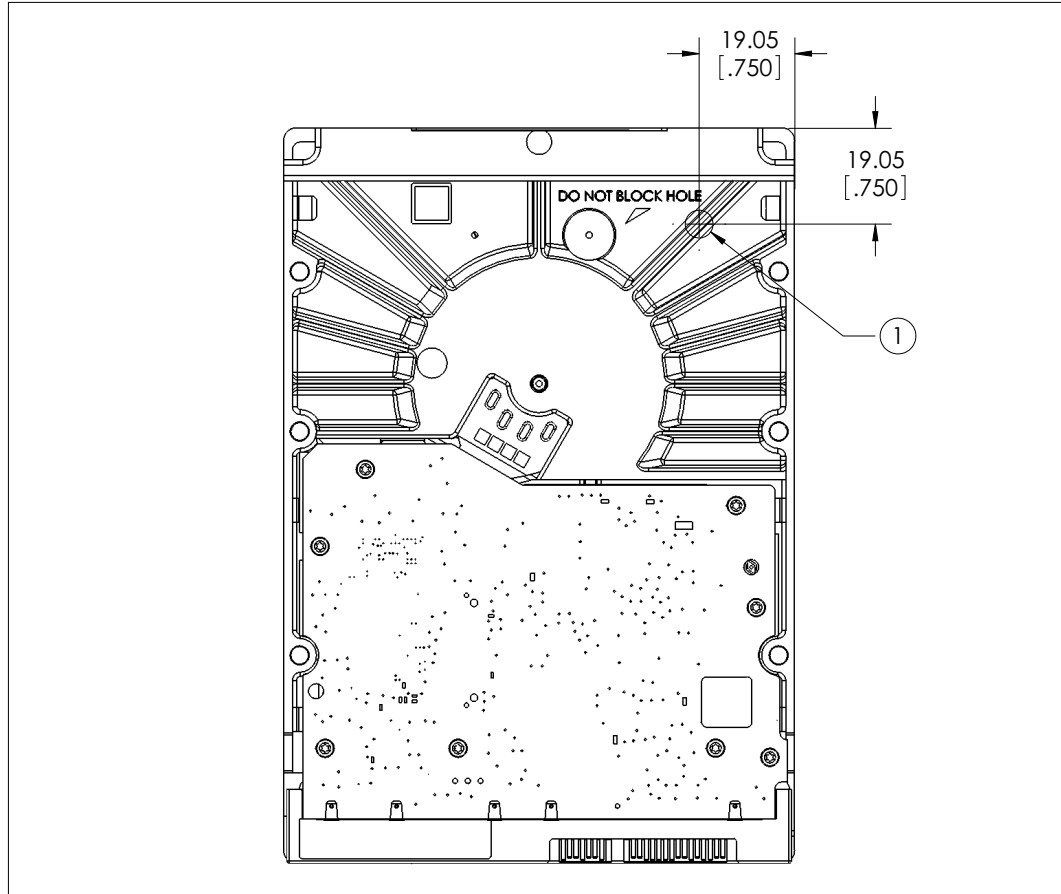
The system environment must allow sufficient air flow to limit maximum surface temperatures as defined. MTBF can be affected by workload and operating temperature. See Section 2.6 on page 11 for further details.

| <b>Operation</b>  |  |
|---|--|
| Min-Max Base Casting Temperature <sup>1</sup>   | 0°C to 65°C on the base casting (see Figure 2-2 below)   |
| Humidity  | 5-95% RH non-condensing<br>37.7°C (maximum wet bulb)     |
| Thermal Gradient  | 20°C/hour (maximum)                                      |
| Humidity Gradient   | 20%/hour (maximum)                                       |
| <b>Non-Operation</b>  |  |
| Non-operating Temperature   | -40°C to 70°C on the base casting (see Figure 2-2 below) |
| Humidity  | 5-95% RH non-condensing<br>35°C (maximum wet bulb)       |
| Thermal Gradient  | 30°C/hour (maximum)                                      |
| Humidity Gradient   | 20%/hour (maximum)                                       |
| <sup>1</sup> The system environment must allow sufficient air flow to limit maximum base casting temperatures as defined in Figure 2-2 below. |  |

### 2.5.3 Thermocouple Location

| Component          | Location       |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Drive base casting | #1, Figure 2-2 |

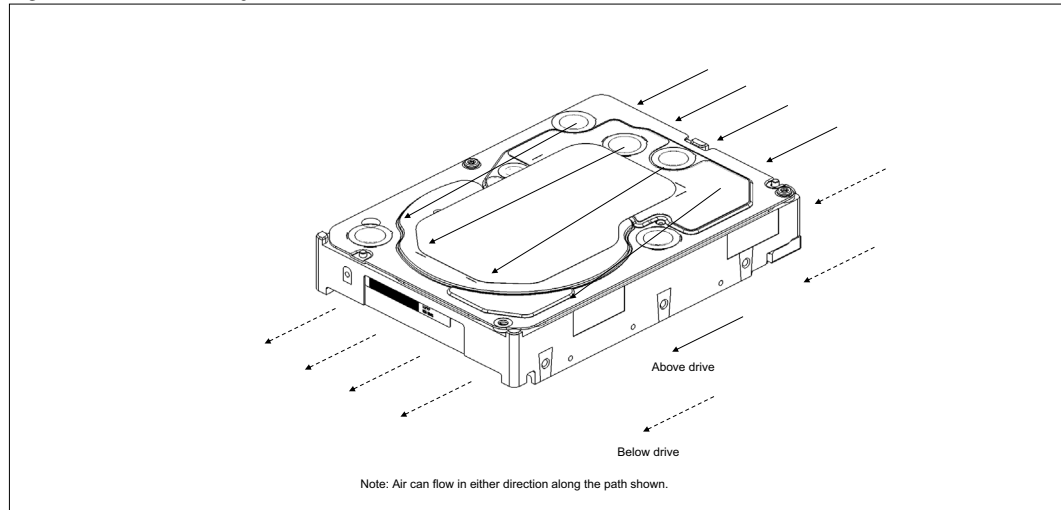
Figure 2-2. Drive Base Casting Thermocouple Location



### 2.5.4 Cooling

If forced air cooling is required, the drive must be positioned to receive airflow from one or more fans as indicated in Figure 2-3.

Figure 2-3. Forced Airflow Direction



### 2.5.5 Atmospheric Pressure

| Altitude      |   |
|---------------|---|
| Operating     | -1,000 feet to 10,000 feet (-305M to 3,050M)  |
| Non-operating | -1,000 feet to 40,000 feet (-305M to 12,200M) |

### 2.5.6 Acoustics

| TYPICAL SOUND POWER LEVEL                      |    |
|--|----|
| Measured per ECMA-74/ISO 7779                  |    |
| Idle Mode (average dBA, no audible pure tones) | 25 |
| Seek Mode (average dBA)                        | 26 |

### 2.5.7 RoHS (Restriction of Hazardous Substances)

WD complies with the Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) Directive 2011/65/EU of the European Parliament, which is effective in the EU beginning July 8, 2011. RoHS aims to protect human health and the environment by restricting the use of certain hazardous substances in new equipment, and consists of restrictions on lead, mercury, cadmium, and other substances.

## 2.6 Reliability Specification and Characteristics

The average Annualized Failure Rate (AFR) calculations assume operation at nominal voltages, a base casting temperature of 40°C, and the workload usage of a typical surveillance environment. Workload is defined as the number of bytes transferred by the user to/from the drive. If the system(s) that the drive is installed in are not capable of meeting the characteristics listed, please use a WD drive that matches your system(s)' capability. Operating drives outside any of the reliability characteristics listed will result in a higher AFR

| Reliability Specification                    |         |
|--|---------|
| Average AFR over the Limited Warranty Period | 0.88%   |
| Reliability Characteristics                  |         |
| Base Casting Temperature                     | 40°C    |
| Annual Power on Hours (POH)                  | <=8760  |
| Annualized Workload Rate <sup>1</sup>        | <=180TB |

<sup>1</sup>Annualized Workload Rate = TB transferred x (8760 / recorded power-on hours)

## 2.7 Device Plug Connector Pin Definitions

These drives interface with the host I/O bus via the SATA interface connection illustrated in Figure 2-4 below. The drive receives power from the SATA power connection or legacy ATA 4-pin power connector J3 in Figure 2-4. Table 2-2 identifies the pin definitions of the SATA connectors and the corresponding signal names and signal functions.

Figure 2-4. Standard Factory Connectors

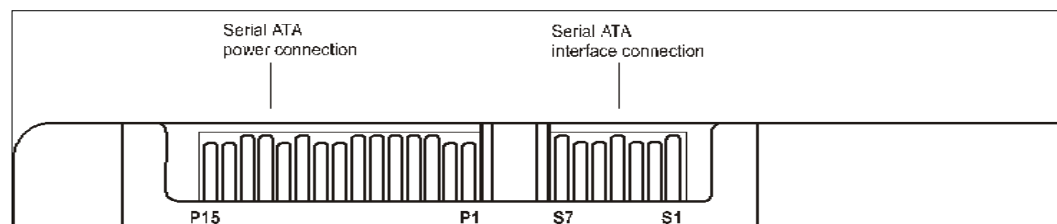


Table 2-2. Device Pin Connector Pin Definitions

|  |    |     |                                     |
|--|----|-----|-------------------------------------|
| Signal segment                                     | S1 | Gnd | 2nd mate                            |
|  | S2 | A+  | Differential signal pair A from Phy |
|  | S3 | A-  |                                     |
|  | S4 | Gnd | 2nd mate                            |
|  | S5 | B-  | Differential signal pair B from Phy |
|  | S6 | B+  |                                     |
|  | S7 | Gnd | 2nd mate                            |
| Key and spacing separate signal and power segments |    |     |                                     |

|               |     |                 |  |
|---------------|-----|-----------------|--|
| Power segment | P1  | V <sub>33</sub> | 3.3 V power, NC  |
|               | P2  | V <sub>33</sub> | 3.3 V power, NC  |
|               | P3  | V <sub>33</sub> | 3.3 V power, pre-charge, 2nd mate, NC                  |
|               | P4  | Gnd             | 1st mate, GROUND                                       |
|               | P5  | Gnd             | 2nd mate, GROUND                                       |
|               | P6  | Gnd             | 2nd mate, GROUND                                       |
|               | P7  | V <sub>5</sub>  | 5V power, Precharge, 2nd mate                          |
|               | P8  | V <sub>5</sub>  | 5V power   |
|               | P9  | V <sub>5</sub>  | 2nd mate, 5V power                                     |
|               | P10 | Gnd             | 2nd mate, GROUND                                       |
|               | P11 | ACT-            | Activity LED- (O.C.)/Staggered Spin-up Disable Control |
|               | P12 | Gnd             | 1st mate, GROUND                                       |
|               | P13 | V <sub>12</sub> | 12 V power, pre-charge, 2nd mate                       |
|               | P14 | V <sub>12</sub> | 12 V power   |
|               | P15 | V <sub>12</sub> | 12 V power   |

## 2.8 Agency Approvals

### PR1200M Regulatory Number (R/N): 800001

These drives meet the standards of the following regulatory agencies:

- **Underwriters Laboratories:** Bi-National UL Standard CAN/CSA-C22.2 No. 60950/UL 60950-1. Standard for Safety of Information Technology Equipment, including Electrical Business Equipment (File E101559).
- **TUV NORD CERT GmbH:** IEC 60950-1 per EN 60950-1, Standard for Safety of Information Technology Equipment, including Electrical Business Equipment. IEC 60065. Standard of Safety for Audio, Video, and Similar Electronic Apparatus.
- **CE Compliance for Europe:** Complies with EN 55022: 2010 RF/ Conducted Emissions and EN 55024: 2010 Immunity requirements. Including EU Directive 2011/65/EU RoHS II requirements.
- **C-Tick Compliance for Australia:** Verified to comply with AS/NZS CISPR 22 for RF Emissions as required by the Australian Communications Authority.
- **Korean KC Mark:** Registered as a Class-B product with the South Korean Ministry of Information and Communication.
- **Taiwan BSMI EMI Certification:** Certified as a Class-B product with the Bureau of Standards Metrology and Inspection (BSMI).

## 2.9 Full Model Number Specification

Table 2-3 below provides a summary specification of the model number suffix for this product platform.

Table 2-3. Full Model Number Description

| Model Number Format       | ID         | Product Brand | Description                                   |
|---------------------------|------------|---------------|---|
| WD60PURX-xx <b>T0Z</b> Yx | <b>T0Z</b> | WD Purple     | PR1200M 6TB Surveillance 64 MB SATA 6 Gb/s AF |
| WD60PURX-xxWY0Y1          | WY0        | WD Purple     | PR1200M 6TB Surveillance 64 MB SATA 6 Gb/s AF |
| WD60PURZ-xxZUFY1          | ZUF        | WD Purple     | PR1200M 6TB Surveillance 64 MB SATA 6 Gb/s AF |
| WD60EVRX-xxADEY1          | ADE        | WD Purple     | PR1200M 6TB Surveillance 64 MB SATA 6 Gb/s AF |

## 3.0 PRODUCT FEATURES

- SATA 6 Gb/s
- AllFrame 4K™ Technology
- IntelliSeek™
- Dynamic Fly Height Control
- Perpendicular Magnetic Recording (PMR)
- NoTouch™
- Dual Stage Actuator Technology
- Advanced Formatting
- Native Command Queuing (NCQ)
- Preemptive Wear Leveling (PWL)
- Femto Slider
- S.M.A.R.T. Command Transport (SCT)
- World Wide Name (WWN)
- Reliability Features Set—Data Lifeguard™
- Hot Plug Support
- Active LED Status
- Fluid Dynamic Bearings (FDB)
- Staggered Spin-Up and Activity Indication (SATA Power Pin 11)
- CacheFlow™
- 48-bit Logical Block Addressing (LBA)
- Power Management
- Self-Monitoring, Analysis, and Reporting Technology (S.M.A.R.T.)
- Security Mode

### 3.1 SATA 6 Gb/s

SATA 6 Gb/s is the next generation interface for SATA hard drives. It adds to the functionality of the SATA 1.5 Gb/s interface with the following features:

- **Native Command Queuing (NCQ)** — server feature for performance in random I/O transaction environments. It aggregates many small random data transfers and allows the disk to reorder the commands in a sequential order for faster access.
- **Improved Power Management** — provides improved power management features including Host Initiated SATA Power Management (HIPM) and Device Initiated SATA Power Management (DIPM).
- **Staggered Spin-up** — allows the system to control whether the drive will spin up immediately or wait until the interface is fully ready before spinning up.
- **Asynchronous Signal Recovery (ASR)** — robustness feature that improves signal recovery.
- **Enclosure Services** — defines external enclosure management and support features.
- **Backplane Interconnect** — defines how to lay out signal line traces in a backplane.



- **Auto-activate DMA** — provides increased command efficiency through automated activation of the DMA controller.
- **Device Configuration Overlay (DCO)** — allows hiding of supported features via a SATA feature mask.

### 3.2 AllFrame 4K™ technology

All WD Purple™ drives are equipped with AllFrame 4K™ technology, which improves ATA streaming to help reduce frame loss, improve overall video playback, and increase the number of hard drive bays supported within a NVR. Help make your surveillance solution future-ready knowing that WD Purple™ drives are ready for ultra high definition cameras.

### 3.3 IntelliSeek

WD's unique IntelliSeek technology proactively calculates an optimum seek speed to eliminate hasty movement of the actuator that produces noise and requires power, which is common in other drives. With IntelliSeek, the actuator's movement is controlled so the head reaches the next target sector just in time to read the next piece of information, rather than rapidly accelerating and waiting for the drive rotation to catch up. This smooth motion reduces power usage by more than 60 percent compared with standard drives, as well as quiets seek operation and lowers vibration.

### 3.4 Dynamic Fly Height Control

This feature is designed to compensate for head/media separation changes due to temperature and altitude. It adds video quality margins across temperature and altitude changes.

### 3.5 Perpendicular Magnetic Recording (PMR)

In perpendicular magnetic recording (PMR), the magnetization of each data bit is aligned vertically to the spinning disk, rather than longitudinally as has been the case in hard drive technology for decades. In longitudinal recording, as the bits become smaller and closer together, they experience an increasing demagnetizing field, much like two bar magnets that are placed end-to-end repel one another. A property of the media called coercivity must be increased to counteract the demagnetization to keep the bits stable under thermal fluctuations; otherwise data corruption may occur over time. Higher media coercivity has pushed the recording head write field to the limit of known materials.

In perpendicular recording, the adjacent bits attract instead of repel (as with bar magnets placed side by side,) creating more thermally stable bits. In addition, the media contains a magnetically soft underlayer (SUL) beneath the recording layer. This SUL allows a larger effective write field, thus higher coercivity media, enabling further increases in density. Lastly, because of the vertical orientation of the bits, the PMR recording layer tends to be thicker than that used for longitudinal recording, providing increased signal for the read heads. All of these benefits enable WD engineers to reliably pack more data on a given disk than is possible with conventional longitudinal recording.

### 3.6 NoTouch Ramp Load Technology

Parks the recording heads off the disk surface during spin up, spin down and when the drive is off. This ensures the recording head never touches the disk surface resulting in improved long term reliability due to less head wear, and improved non-operational shock tolerance.

### 3.7 Dual Stage Actuator Technology

A head positioning system with dual-stage actuators that improves positioning accuracy over the data track(s). The primary stage provides course displacement; the secondary stage uses piezo electric motion to fine tune the head positioning to a higher degree of precision.

### 3.8 Advanced Format (AF)

Advanced Format (AF) technology is adopted by WD and other drive manufacturers as one of multiple ways to continue growing hard drive capacities. AF is a more efficient media format that enables increased areal densities.

In AF, each physical sector is composed of eight 512 byte logical sectors, totaling 4096 bytes. WD is shipping AF drives as 512 Byte Emulated Devices until full operating system support for the AF host interface is available. 512 Byte Emulated Device drives are backward compatible with 512 byte sector accesses.

WD AF hard drives may require you to run the WD Align software utility after you install your operating system or partition and format the drive as a secondary drive. WD Align software aligns partitions on the AF drive to ensure it provides full performance for certain configurations. Go to [www.wdc.com/aduformat](http://www.wdc.com/aduformat) for important configuration and installation guidelines.

### 3.9 Native Command Queuing (NCQ)

These drives support Native Command Queuing. NCQ is a true Enterprise feature for environments such as database, Web servers, and e-mail servers.

Performance of a random I/O workload can be improved through intelligent re-ordering of the I/O requests so they read/write to and from the nearest available sectors and minimize the need for additional disk revolutions or head actuator movement. This improvement is achieved through Native Command Queuing (NCQ).

NCQ allows the drive to re-order read commands, thereby increasing random read IOPs. Additional NCQ features that can prove beneficial include a Write Cache disabled IOP increase and a queuing implementation built upon an existing, highly automated cache architecture. Queued reads in NCQ leverage the same re-ordering schemes used for write caching. The firmware design maintains the "order" of overlapping/colliding queued commands. NCQ is designed to excel in multi-threaded environments with high random I/O loads.

### 3.10 Preemptive Wear Leveling (PWL)

This WD feature provides a solution for protecting the recording media against mechanical wear. In cases where the drive is so busy with incoming commands that it is forced to stay in a same cylinder position for a long time, the PWL control engine initiates forced seeks so that disk lubricant maintains an even distribution and does not become depleted. This feature ensures reliability for applications that perform a high incidence of read/write operations at the same physical location on the disk.