



Flex and Western Digital: Partnering to provide storage and supply chain resilience

In today's digitally charged world, data volumes are growing at unprecedented rates—driving the need for data centers to implement innovative, flexible storage solutions with the power to store and process information nimbly and cost-effectively. New and evolving workload requirements in big data, IoT, machine learning and artificial intelligence require leading-edge storage technologies that deliver scalable capacity and lightning-fast access. And ever-changing needs brought on by technological advances and shifting customer expectations mean that businesses across industries need custom storage designs compatible with open-source technologies that can deliver the highest performance—a reality that's rapidly making the one-size-fits-all hardware a relic of the past.

The need for a trusted, reliable supply chain

Our increasingly complex world has added growing pressures in production and delivery. Everything—from natural disasters and social unrest to volatile market conditions and fluctuating regulations—has made it more challenging for data centers to accommodate increased customer expectations and complex product customization requirements. The COVID-19 pandemic alone has presented extreme disruption across the supply chain. Even massive companies that once had seemingly endless resources have been faced with delivery challenges. Put it all together, and data centers are recognizing vulnerabilities in their supply chains and scrutinizing providers more closely as they look for more reliable solutions. That's why Flex is partnering closely with suppliers such as Western Digital to strategically address all of these issues. We're building customizable strategies so that as your needs change, we're here to help you succeed at every turn.

Decades of supply chain collaboration

At Flex, we manage our global supply-chain network across 30 countries through real-time insights, collaboration and mobility. Flex Pulse, our software-based supply chain visualization tool, gives real-time visibility across sourcing, transportation, manufacturing and inventory. With world-class, strategic regional manufacturing and integration sites, we have the ability to provide unparalleled scale.

We make it a top priority to build relationships with you and the entire supply chain. With robust supply-chain expertise, we've developed a nimble, adaptable network to respond efficiently to fluctuations in demand. And with over 20 years of server and storage design and manufacturing expertise, we can deliver high-quality, customized solutions for your unique specifications. Our agility in supply chain management gives you the ability to respond instantly to unexpected events, wherever you are. And we'll be there with you every step of the way.

With Flex's deep domain expertise in design and manufacturing, we're able to consistently and rapidly deliver specialized servers that suit your unique business needs. That means that when your storage needs change, we're uniquely positioned to adapt right along with you. Our reference designs are created in partnership with the world's leading technology solution providers to speed your development and time to market. These designs incorporate the latest technologies, including SSDs, PCIe Gen 5 and DDR Gen 5. We align with open standards consortia and leading world class technology providers to deliver reference designs for faster rack-level integration and leadership in artificial intelligence, machine learning, IoT, big data analytics and more. Our upcoming family of reference designs, featuring the latest-generation two-socket motherboard designs, is the ideal choice for cloud and enterprise data centers that want to implement the latest technology, customized to their specific requirements—and want it first. With our experienced engineers, global footprint and ability to scale on demand, you receive full end-to-end service.

Flex and Western Digital: Storage solutions that work for you

Flex partners with Western Digital, a leading data center product supplier, to solve business challenges across supply chain management, solution delivery, tariff mitigation, trade and regionalization. Western Digital supplies revolutionary data center solid state drives that power future-forward innovations, including such technologies as artificial intelligence, IoT and revolutionary data analysis. Supporting a comprehensive set of open standards, Western Digital is able to address complex and dynamic data workload demands of high-scale private and public cloud data centers. We partner with Western Digital because they are committed to a resilient, transparent and accountable supply chain, set to the highest standards of ethical conduct and social and environmental responsibility. Flex and Western Digital have developed a strong manufacturing and supply partnership to ensure supply chain resiliency for all of our customers. Together, we are integrated with supply chain analytics tools and reference designs to provide reliable execution on all programs and applications you use in the data center. Working closely with Western Digital, we ensure our servers are equipped with the latest technology—from early design through volume manufacturing. As always, our deep relationships are the key to our success.

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About Flex

Flex is the manufacturing partner of choice that helps a diverse customer base design and build products that improve the world. Through the collective strength of a global workforce across 30 countries and responsible, sustainable operations, Flex delivers technology innovation, supply chain and manufacturing solutions to various industries and end markets.

For more information, visit flex.com.

Western Digital

About Western Digital

From the invention of the first hard drive to recent advancements in 3D NAND, Western Digital's journey of innovation continues to inspire those who dare to think big about the possibilities of data. Today, they offer an expansive portfolio of technologies, storage devices, systems and solutions for business and consumers alike.

For more information, visit westerndigital.com.