Editorial

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Helping the World Get Its Game on at Intel Extreme Masters and Beyond

Intel's Improving Your Game with Our High-Performance Processors and Technologies

By Frank Soqui

I recently had the opportunity to attend the Intel® Extreme Masters (IEM) Championship in Katowice, Poland, which hosts some of the world's best PC-based eSports games and talent. The growing phenomenon of eSports has captured the hearts and minds of avid gamers and spectators around the globe. The numbers are staggering: Along with the 173,000+ fans who attended in person, the live stream reached 46 million unique viewers across the globe in 19 languages, making IEM Katowice the biggest event in eSports history. And for the first time, 340,000 unique viewers tuned into the VR Tournament Live Broadcast.

We're kicking off IEM Season 12 in Sydney, Australia, in May, bringing the heritage of eSports' longest running tournament to more players and fans. Intel has been in the thick of gaming well before competitive gaming was named eSports. And it's been something else to watch competitions grow from 10 players to 100 players at local events, to now millions around the world.

Press Kit: 2017 Intel Extreme Masters

We know gaming and, over the years, we've continued demonstrating our commitment to it by delivering CPUs and platforms that push the boundaries of performance to unprecedented levels. For these fans and gamers who are all in, nothing less than the best performance PCs will do to power through the demands of gaming, streaming and VR.

It's what we do best and it's what we tirelessly work on each day because we know today's games – and gaming experiences of the future like VR – depend on it.

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Our 7th Gen Intel® Core™

i7 Extreme Edition processor family – now scalable to our first-ever 10-core desktop processor – and our 7th Gen Intel® Core™ i7 unlocked processors are our best work to date for gamers the world over. Extreme Edition is just what its name implies: It's for extreme, ultimate playing and mega-tasking – even at 4K – when lagging isn't an option, and true, limitless VR is mandatory. And the 7th Gen Intel Core i7 processor is a powerhouse, too: So powerful, you'll see 25 percent greater speed while mega-tasking[1, 2]. We're talking full-HD gaming plus live streaming, teammate communication and highlight capturing at once.

In addition to straight-up processing power, we know gaming is personal and that the perfect system, in your eyes, is one you customize. That's why Intel's engineered a comprehensive computing platform of processors and technologies that are tailor-made for PCs' most demanding experiences – like our forthcoming, revolutionary Intel® Optane™ memory as well as our Intel 3D NAND SSDs, Thunderbolt™ 3 Technology, Intel WiGig, Intel Turbo Boost Max Technology 3.0 and Intel Speed Shift Technology.

Let me geek out for a minute on a few technologies we make that are critical to making your game stellar:

- Overclockers have catapulted 7th Gen CPUs above 5GHz with water cooling and, over 7GHz, with liquid nitrogen to custom tune PCs for speedier components – and gameplay.
- When simultaneous streaming is needed (think Twitch plus smooth game play), **Intel Quick Sync Video** – a QSV-dedicated transcoding block on our integrated graphics – jumps in to free up the CPU to focus on your game.
- **Intel Speed Shift Technology** rapidly transitions your workloads to the highest possible frequency through hardware controls when short, bursting workloads require it.
- **Intel Turbo Boost Max Technology 3.0** identifies the processor's fastest core and directs your workloads there, improving single-threaded performance on X-Series processors. This doesn't replace Intel® Turbo Boost Technology 2.0. – it enhances it with a massive frequency boost on your fastest core for even more flexibility to get the best from your processor.
- And our 10-core Intel Core i7 Extreme Edition product boasts **quad-channel memory** and 40 PCIe lanes, making room for up to four discreet graphics cards and storage you demand.

Gamers, we're in this with you because we are you, so we've made sure your best game is possible with Intel processors and technologies. And just wait – if you're delighted with what we've delivered so far, even more unbelievable things are coming later this year.

Frank Soqui is the general manager of the Virtual Reality and Gaming Group at Intel Corporation.

Product and Performance Information

1 Based on measured Megatasking Gaming Scenario (Intel® Core™ i7-6950X processor vs. Intel® Core™ i7-5960X processor).

2 Software and workloads used in performance tests may have been optimized for performance only on Intel® microprocessors. Performance tests, such as SYSmark* and MobileMark*, are measured using specific computer systems, components, software, operations and functions. Any change to any of those factors may cause the results to vary. You should consult other information and performance tests to assist you in fully evaluating your contemplated purchases, including the performance of that product when combined with other products. For more complete information visit http://www.intel.com/benchmarks.

Tags: 7th Gen Intel Core, esports, Gaming, Intel Extreme Masters, Virtual Reality

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