

Optimizing Data Center TCO: An In-depth Analysis and Sensitivity Study

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Cost system in TCO model

	Direct Cost			Indirect Cost							
	Direct material (DM)		Direct Labor (DL)	Direct Energy (DE)	DM OH	DE OH		DLOH		General OH	
Cost Drivers	Storage	Non- storage	Maintenance	Energy	AFR	GHG	Cooling	Disposal	Set up	Land & Building	Shipping
Cost System	ABC	ABC	ABC	TDABC	ABC	TDABC	TDBC	ABC	ABC	ABC	ABC
Cost Unit	ASP (\$/GB)	ASP (\$/Unit)	(\$/Rack)	(\$/KWHr)	(\$/Drive)	(\$/TBe/month)	(\$/KWHr)	(\$/Drive)	(\$/Drive)	(\$/TBe/month)	(\$/Drive)
	Cost Object: Data Center Storage TCO (\$/Tbe/Month/Rack)										

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ABC (Activity based cost)
TDABC (Time Driven ABC)

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Changes in TCO model

Cost Pools	Change summary	SNIA Model	This Model	Notes
	HW configuration	Static	Dynamic	More reliable model
	Shipping Cost		✓	Favors High density and
CAPEX	Land & Building Cost		✓	lower weight SSDs
	Drive's Replacement cycle		\checkmark	3/5/7 yr. Drive replacement
	Others	✓	✓	ASP, Drive Density
OPEX	\$/KWh Idle Power Active Power Activity Factors	✓	✓	
	Workload Mix		~	Higher Perf Tepid favors QLC
	AFR	Static	Dynamic	1.3% per 1% AFR
	TVM (Time Value of money)		✓	12% compounded monthly
	Maintenance cost		✓	
	Disposal Cost		\checkmark	
	GHG TAX		✓	Average ~50\$/lb
Chairs of Architacture	In Line Data Reduction	✓	✓	
Choice of Architecture	Redundancy (RAID)	✓	✓	

6

TCO sensitivity Analysis





Key Takeaway:

With 1x-5x DRR, TCO improves from 25-84% With 30-70% HDD utilization, TCO improvement from 25-67% With 5-7 yr SSD replacement cycle, TCO improves from 25-47%

Sensitivity analysis was done keeping HDD and SSD at low case and Sweeping one variable at a time. SSD ASP @4X and Density @5X compared to HDD.

TCO sensitivity Analysis

TCO sensitivity w.r.t idle power





Key Takeaway: No significant TCO improvement found w.r.t Idle and active power consumption.

Sensitivity analysis was done keeping HDD and SSD at low case and Sweeping one variable at a time. SSD ASP @4X and Density @5X compared to HDD.

TCO sensitivity Summary



Sensitivity analysis was done keeping HDD and SSD at low case and Sweeping one variable at a time. SSD ASP @4X and Density @5X compared to HDD.





TCO Scenarios

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Optimization Factors	Low (Worst TCO for SSD)	Base	High (Best TCO for SSD)	CSP Use Case
	HDD: 5	HDD: 5	HDD: 4	HDD: 4.5
Refresh cycle (yrs.)	SSD: 5	SSD: 6	SSD: 7	SSD: 6
Inlino Data Compression	HDD: 1X	HDD: 1X	HDD: 1X	HDD: 1X
infine Data Compression	SSD: 1X	SSD: 1X	SSD: 3X	SSD: 1X
Conscitu I Itilization	HDD: 80%	HDD: 80%	HDD: 80%	HDD: 80%
	SSD: 80%	SSD: 80%	SSD: 95%	SSD: 80%
LIM Dedundeney	HDD: 3	HDD: 3	HDD: 3	HDD: 1.8
	SSD: 3	SSD: 2	SSD: 1.14	SSD: 1.28
	HDD :1	HDD :1	HDD :1	HDD :1
Pert./IB	SSD :4	SSD :2	SSD :1	SSD :4
CapEx factors	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	✓
OpEx factors	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark
maintenance		\checkmark	\checkmark	✓
CO2 Tax			✓	
Land/building			✓	
Disposal			✓	
shipping			✓	



HD QLC TCO Results







From this TCO Model analysis, we believe upcoming high-density QLC can deliver "Standard Storage SSD" value

SSD ASP @4X compared to HDD.

HD QLC TCO trends

SSD TCO/HDD TCO (5X density)* 2025 70% 86% 32% 129% 2026 31% **68%** 83% 126% 2027 30% 67% 80% 119% CSP use High Base Low case

***TCO** Ratio Lower is better

Key Take away:

- Base Case shows ~30% TCO improvement @ 4X ASP with @2X perf.
- Base case can achieve same TCO as HDD with 7X ASP with @2X Perf.
- CSP use case shows ~14% TCO improvement @4X ASP with @4X perf.
- CSP use case can achieve same TCO as HDD @5X ASP with @4X perf.
- 8X density shows the similar trend.



Takeaways

Key Factors Impacting TCO:

- Average Selling Price (ASP)
- Replacement Cycle
- Redundancy
- Capacity Utilization

TCO Cross-Over Trend:

- Consistent improvement starting from 2025
- Significant TCO improvement with high-density QLC

Next-Gen QLC SSDs Market Outlook:

Promising market adoption due to:

- Enhanced performance
- Longer replacement cycles
- Lower TCO



Thank you.

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