

QNAP TS-639 PRO TURBO STATION NAS SERVER

Heavy Duty NAS

By Muzaffar Ismail



QNAP has introduced its range of heavy duty NAS with its eight-bay and six-bay models, with each bay capable of handling a single 2TB hard disk drive. Aimed at the mid-scale to large-scale organization requiring at least 5TB worth of file space, these new NAS combine the ease of use of most NAS devices as well as the security and options of a full-fledged server. After having had the opportunity to review QNAP's previous four bay offerings, this month we look at the six-bay QNAP TS-639 Pro Turbo Station NAS Server.

The TS-639 Pro is about the size of a small form factor computer. Since the NAS now sports six 3.5" hard disk drive trays it is a bit wider than its tower NAS siblings, but aside from this the TS-639 Pro looks exactly the same. The front panel features a 2-line LED that displays status and a power button with a USB port below it. The back panel features two eSATA ports for extra external storage, four USB ports for various USB devices, two LAN ports to support two separate networks at the same time and a single VGA port. The NAS is cooled by two quiet Smart fans for optimum cooling.

The NAS is powered by a 1.6GHz Intel Processor complete with 1GB DDR2 RAM and onboard graphics. Each drive tray supports a 3.5" SATA hard disk drive with up to 2TB worth of file space for up to 12TB of data. Each of the trays is lockable and the hard disks can be swapped on the fly.

Setting up the TS-639 is relatively easy compared to a full fledged server as you can just plug in the network cable, turn on the power and run the quick setup from the browser based setup screen. Everything is more or less taken care of, but it is obvious that you can do a lot more with it. This includes the ability to act as a backup, FTP, print or Web file server. It supports MySQL, SQLite and offers a built-in TwonkyMedia server as well as support for iTunes and computer-less Bittorrent. File transfers are fast and stable with 4.5GB taking little more than 7 minutes to complete.

Overall, the QNAP TS-639 Pro Turbo Station NAS Server offers excellent performance as a server along with a host of features on top of the usual ease of use and flexibility. Anybody with rudimentary knowledge of the network can set it up and maintain it - lowering the cost

of maintenance as well as the skills required to run it. With the ability to support two separate networks and grow in space when required (without having to be turned off!) the NAS offers plenty of savings and flexibility over a normal server. These features make the NAS perfect for a mid scale organization on the verge of expanding or a large scale organization seeking to replace or upgrade an old server system.

SPECIFICATIONS

Drive bays 6x 3.5" SATA up to 9TB	OS Linux	LAN 2x Gigabit	Price RM 4899
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Processor: Intel Processor 1.6GHz
Memory: 1GB DDR2 RAM, 128MB Flash (BIOS)
HDD: 6x 3.5" SATA/2 HDD (each bay holds up to 2TB) / each tray is lockable and supports hot swap (system is shipped without HDD)
LAN: 2x Gigabit RJ-45
LED Indicators: Status, LAN, USB, eSATA, Power, HDD 1, HDD 2, HDD 3, HDD 4, HDD 5, HDD 6, USB, LAN
USB: 5x USB2.0, supports USB printer, disk, digital camera, flash drive, card reader, USB hub, etc.
eSATA: 2x eSATA port
VGA: 1x VGA port
Buttons: System: Power button, USB One-Touch-Backup Button, Reset button
Alarm Buzzer: System malfunction warning
Dimensions/Weight: 175 (H) x 257 (W) x 235 (D) mm / 5.2kg
Power Supply: Sleep mode: 33.06W, In Operation: 86.64W (with 6x 1TB HDD installed)
Thermal Solution: 2x quiet cooling fan (9 cm, 12V DC)
Secure Design: K-lock security slot
Warranty: 1-year
Contact: Build Technology Supply Sdn Bhd
Telephone: (03) 7955 3699
URL: www.qnap.com.tw

HWM'S VERDICT

Performance:	9.0
Features:	9.0
Value:	9.0



A 9TB NAS that acts like a full-fledged server with the flexibility of a NAS



The setup screen and file servers are easy to access



This QNAP has plenty of connections including a VGA port