

NEXT \* STATE OF THE ART

# READY RAID



## Multi-drive arrays take redundancy on the road

**RAID ARRAYS** used to be confined to big, bulky units tethered to an electrical outlet, which meant you had to wait until returning from the field to ensure the safety of your data. But with bus-powered tools such as OWC's Elite Pro Dual Mini, shooters can now make RAID-based backup solutions as mobile as laptops.

Sonnet's Fusion F2QR (\$487, street, 2TB) uses eSATA and USB 2.0 ports, as well as dual FireWire

**OWC Mercury Elite Pro Dual Mini**  
**\$299, direct, 2x750GB (1.5TB)**  
macsales.com

of the ones featured here—can be configured for either RAID 0 (increased performance) or RAID 1 (data redundancy).

High-throughput Thunderbolt (up to 10Gbps per channel) and USB 3.0 (up to 5Gbps) protocols are capable of powering devices, but for now, bus-powered arrays are limited to models with FireWire 800 ports.

The new (and pricey) Thunderbolt-enabled Drobo Mini has no bus-powered options (a battery back is in the works). What it does have is four 2.5-inch SATA drive bays, and a fifth mSATA bay for an SSD that Drobo's proprietary BeyondRAID controller uses as a cache to shorten read and write times.

**Tough Tech Duo 3SR**  
**\$649, direct, 2x750GB (1.5TB)**  
www.wiebetech.com



**Drobo Mini**  
**\$649, no drives included**  
www.drobo.com

800 ports for daisy-chaining devices. G-Tech's G-RAID mini (\$318, street, 1.5TB) has all of the above, but upgrades its USB port to 3.0. And ToughTech's Duo has convenient, swappable drive bays to go with an external display and controls, although its new USB 3.0 model (3SR) requires a power connection.

Most RAID arrays—and all

DAN BRACAGLIA (OWC DRIVE)

## TOOLBOX

## NEWS FEED

> Computer scientist Siwei Lyu and colleagues at the State University of New York at Albany developed a set of algorithms to analyze a photo's pixel patterns and noise levels. Their methods can help detect photo manipulation and prevent fraud.

> Adobe Creative Cloud is a bit more of a deal now that Lightroom 4 is part of the package.

> Wacom's new Cintiq 24HD Touch display lets you retouch photos with your fingers as well as your stylus.

> Thirty-six of the famous 1960s Kodak Coloramas that once hung in Grand Central Terminal are up at its New York Transit Museum until November 1.

> Canon EOS 7D shooters get a bonus with the new firmware upgrade; they can now convert their RAW files right in the camera.

# HATCH PAK

A new camera pack helps shooters stay cool and dry

**WHAT'S IN** a name? In the case of Lowepro's Photo Hatchback 16, a description of the camera compartment, which opens from the rear—thwarting thieves and making for a smooth exterior.

The padded, removable gear carrier inside is small (leave your battery grip at home), but can fit most DSLRs and two smallish lenses.

When you take this out, a divider folds down, transforming the bag into a traditional day pack. The back and shoulder straps are padded with a light, cushiony foam—separating your body from the bag and allowing air to flow. We used one for a few weeks and noticed the difference, whether lugging camera gear or a load of provisions for a hike.



# 99

Number, in millions, of mobile-phone shooters who shared their pics via social networks last year.

# 122

The number, in millions, of shooters expected to share that way in 2016.

SOURCE: INFOTRENDS