



# STORAGE VISIONS® 2010

AN ENTERTAINMENT STORAGE ALLIANCE™ EVENT



**Sergis Mushell, Principal Analyst, Gartner**  
**TITLE: SSD form factors**

## ABSTRACT

While physical form factors dictate the location of SSD deployment within existing systems, equally the interface protocol plays a role in this decision and more importantly will be a key criteria in SSD form factors decision in future systems.

Solid-state drives (SSDs) have reappeared into the market as a storage medium. Depending on the implementation they are used as a alternative or complement to hard-disk drives (HDDs), while also used as Storage Network Accelerators (SNA). As the adoption of SSD has increased so have the number of proposals for new form factors to enable a variety of systems which make up the storage hierarchy and eco system. However, standardization, industry support, storage management costs and ultimately the needs of the applications will dictate which form factors will evolve and dominate the market.

Ultimately as the software solutions for storage systems evolve and enable the management of the performance enhancement offered by SSDs. The system designers will decide on performance vs additional cost vs scalability which will lead to one form factor becoming the most prevalent form factor for SSDs given the end equipment requirements (example servers may focus on use of HBA form factors and gain most benefit from this form factor). To date the performance advantages of PCIe interface and the fact that the protocol is native to components has gained the most attention and demonstrates potential for being used as a dominant internal system interface because it may appear in both HBA and DIMM form factor.

## BIOGRAPHY

Sergis Mushell Principal Research Analyst San Jose, CA USA

Years of Experience

1 year at Gartner

16 years IT industry

Roles and Responsibilities Sergis Mushell is a principal analyst with Gartner's Technology and Service Provider Research group. His primary focus is on the semiconductor, storage and industrial markets.

Previous Experience Mr. Mushell has 16 years of experience in the IT industry. Before joining Gartner, he worked in various companies, where he was responsible for marketing and sales of semiconductors.

Professional Background

Phaselink, Area Sales Manager, 1 year

Exar, Sr. Marketing Manager, 4 years

IDT, Marketing Manager, 1 year

Education

M.B.A., Technology Management, University of Phoenix

B.S., IT Computer Electronics, San Jose State University

Languages

Assyrian

English

Persian