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## [Microsoft joins Hybrid Memory Cube Consortium](#)

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**updated 04:04 pm EDT, Wed May 9, 2012**

### **Microsoft takes interest in 3D memory chip technology**

Microsoft has joined the Hybrid Memory Cube Consortium. Fronted by Micron, Samsung, [and IBM](#), the [HMCC](#) aims to create more efficient memory for high-[performance](#) computing and other similar applications, using increased bandwidth compared to what current memory architectures can provide.

The Hybrid Memory Cube joins vertical stacking called Through-Silicon Vias with 32 nanometer, high-K metal gate process technology and Micron's latest DRAM. Prototypes are said to run at 128GBps, about 10 times the bandwidth of current chips. The Consortium also claims a 90 percent reduction in footprint, and 70 percent higher energy efficiency.

Researchers expect the technology to be usable in a few years time, with a draft specification being finalized by the end of this year.

By Electronista Staff

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