

*“The fact that one can “flip the switch” to enable drive locking in just minutes (really just seconds) blows away any competition”*

*- Consultant, Healthcare Association of NYS*

# SED

What's a Self-Encrypting Drive?

wave<sup>®</sup>

# What is an SED?

## Encryption has Evolved

Self-encrypting drives (SED) are the same as standard hard drives, with one key difference: they embed encryption into the drive itself, so you don't need encryption software.

In 2007, Seagate introduced the first laptop hard drive with encryption built in. Since then, the Trusted Computing Group (TCG) has defined an SED standard called Opal. Leading hard drive manufacturers like Seagate and Hitachi, flash vendors like Micron and Samsung and external drive leaders like CMS have built a wide-range of Opal-based SEDs. PC vendors like Dell, HP and Lenovo offer these SEDs on a variety of systems, for little to no additional cost. Gartner estimates that in 5 years all drives will be hardware encrypted.

Simply put, SEDs are the safest, fastest and most cost effective way to protect sensitive data resting on your endpoints.

## How does it work?

Disk drives, by their nature, offer a superior environment for encryption. With their own processor, dynamic memory and pre-boot environment - they are self-sufficient for encryption and isolated from the rest of the system, where viruses and malware can reside. That not only makes them impervious to software attacks, it also means they cost significantly less and greatly outperform conventional software encryption solutions.

Encryption keys are stored in the hard-drive controller and never sit in the system's memory, making them invisible to attackers. And since encryption is turned on during manufacturing, the drive simply encrypts anything written to it and decrypts anything read from it. By design, this bypasses the bulk encryption step required by software FDE — eliminating hours of installation time.

# Demonstrate Compliance

Wave helps you slash deployment costs and minimize the work for IT - all while ensuring you stay in compliance with today's data privacy regulations. Wave pioneered the use of Seagate self-encrypting drives and our leading SED management solution is the only one that lets you:

- **Eliminate help desk costs with self-service user recovery**
- **Protect partners/contractors using non-domain machines**
- **Recover access offline**
- **Manage multiple SEDs per PC**
- **Use any SED currently available on the market**
- **Block all attempts to change security policies locally**
- **Delegate management tasks with pre-defined roles**
- **Extend your protection to touchscreen tablets**

