

# Intel's new X79 chipset details leaked

March 31 2011, by Katie Gatto

**Intel® X79 Express Chipset**

- Supports Sandy Bridge – E (Enthusiast) Processors
- Chipset supports Performance Over Clocking in processor
  - Processor Core & Memory
- PCIe based Uplink to processor
  - Option to use 4 additional lanes to PCH that is dedicated to storage BW
- 8 PCIe Lanes from PCH
- Integrated Audio Codec
  - Supports dual stream HDMI & DP Audio
- 14 SATA connections
  - 10 ports at 6Gb/s
  - 8 ports supporting SATA and SAS
- Intel® Rapid Storage Technology enterprise (RSTe)
  - Enables RAID 0/1/5/10
- Integrated Gigabit Ethernet MAC

Key Feature Differentiation	X79
Processor Support	SNB-E LGA2011
Supports Performance Overclocking in CPU	CPU, Mem
SNB-E PCI Express Graphics (PEG with SNB)	2x16 up to 4x8
PCIe based Uplink to CPU for add'l Storage BW	Yes
Intel® Rapid Storage Technology enterprise (RAID 0/1/5/10)	Yes
USB 2.0 Ports	14
SATA Total (Max number of 6Gb/s)	14 (10)
SAS Capability	Yes
PCI Express® 2.0 (5GT/s)	8
PCI	No
Gigabit Ethernet Support	Via Lewisville PHY

Intel Confidential—MIA Platform Roadmap. All details and plans are subject to change without notice.

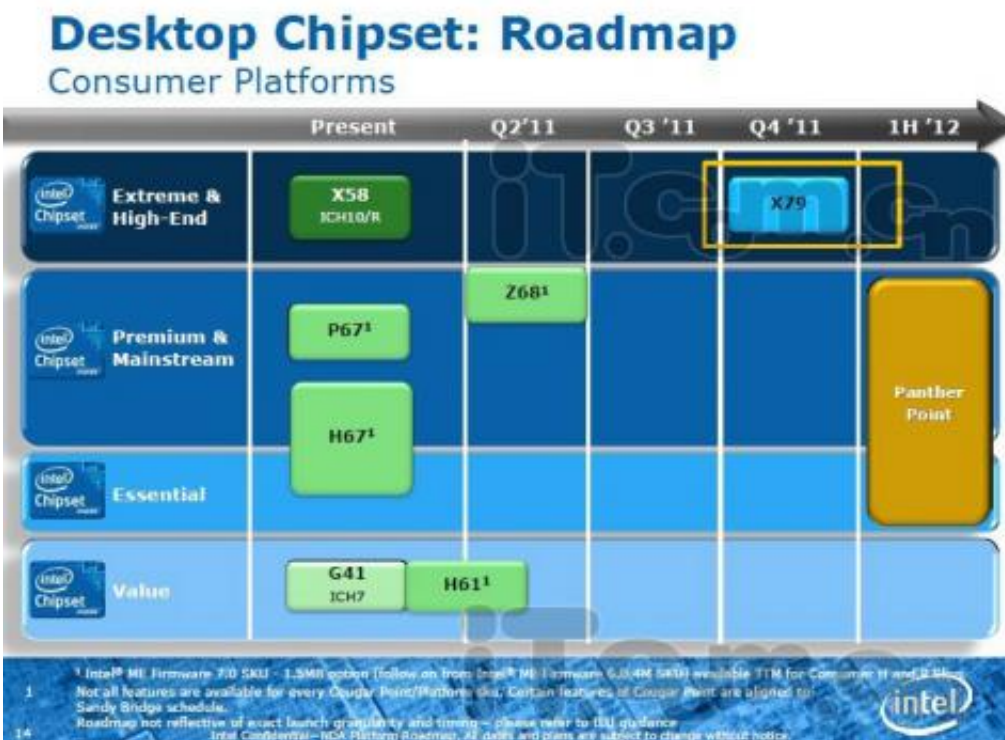
Image from it.com.cn

(PhysOrg.com) -- Today's technology rumor has to do with Intel. A Chinese site, it.com.cn, has supposedly gotten its hand's on a slide from Intel, a slide that outlines their next platform chipset. The slide even has a handy little road map on it.

If the data on the slide, which has yet to be verified, turns out to be true, the X79, will be the successor to the popular X58 platform, which was

launched about three years ago. The X79 is expected to seat four-core and six-core Sandy Bridge-E processors , and have significant upgrades to system memory. There will also be some changes in connectivity, but the details on this point are a bit sketchy.

The X79 is also expected to feature an LGA 2011 socket. The PCI-E hub has been moved from the northbridge to the processor die, which would be similar to another [Intel](#) technology, the P67. The chipset has a DMI connection to the [processor](#) that is augmented with a PCI-Express 2.0 x4 link to the processor's PCI-E hub. This would give the [chipset](#) a total bandwidth of 8GB/s. This [bandwidth](#) exists to support an integrated 10-port SATA 6Gbps controller with an additional four 3Gbps ports.



Some other features of note include an integrated Lewisville gigabit Ethernet PHY chip and an audio codec with support for dual stream HDMI and DP audio. The chip is also designed to be overclocked, which means that this is meant to be a machine for serious enthusiasts.

If the slide turns out to be genuine, the X79 will be arriving on the shelves of stores in the final quarter of 2011. Though again, one must remember that this is all conjecture based on a single slide. Do not plan your next upgrade based on this information. At least not until it is confirmed by the company.

So, fact or fiction, you decide.

**More information:** [it.com.cn/diy/board/intel/news ...  
11033012/976889.html](http://it.com.cn/diy/board/intel/news_11033012/976889.html)

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