



# ATTO ExpressSAS RAID Adapter

## High-Performance Data Protection for Biscardi Creative Media

High Definition media production calls for high definition storage solutions. Biscardi Creative Media is an award-winning production company based in Atlanta, Georgia that has collected many Emmy, Telly, Aurora and Cable Ace Awards for excellence in high-definition broadcast/post production.

With projects such as Food Network's popular series "Good Eats", and "This American Land" for PBS, a production company like this can't afford to invest in a storage solution that's not reliable enough to handle an increasing broadcast HD/SD post-production workload.

"With so much broadcast work and other deadline-intensive projects, we simply cannot afford to have any storage issues," says owner Walter Biscardi. "Is the storage going to be there when I turn it on tomorrow?" Biscardi Creative was using an older 2TB Fibre Channel array that had been their workhorse for 2 years, but they knew the time had come to expand their storage capacity.

To address the problem, Biscardi evaluated several SATA and FireWire 800 arrays, but "we simply could not find a good speed in the available SATA options."

Over the course of a year, Walter and his team had purchased and tested many different brands of storage solutions. Unfortunately, they were running into the same problem: too many issues with storage, especially when it came to reliability. As Walter found out, "Fast speeds are nice, but when arrays disappear off the desktop or just fail for no particular reason, all the speed in the world doesn't matter."

While Biscardi was testing new SAS/SATA arrays, he noticed MaxxDigital provided the ATTO ExpressSAS R380 RAID Adapter as part of the direct attached solution for high-performance parity protection. "In the past, I had

used ATTO Host Adapters for SCSI arrays, so I was familiar with the company." During testing, Biscardi ran their arrays at RAID 5 to get some good protection without sacrificing too much speed.

"We found that the ATTO ExpressSAS R380 contributed to speeds of almost double of what was provided by a competitor's product. By using the R380 RAID adapter to directly connect the Maxx SATA RaidPro 8TB array, we are able to obtain Write speeds of 488MB/sec. and Read speeds of 429MB/sec. in a RAID 5 configuration using a 4-Gb file and 1920x1080 10-Bit RGB frame size. In addition, ATTO's customer support actively assisted us throughout



our testing process. It was very smooth and easy to set up the card and to make sure we got the highest speed possible for both uncompressed and compressed HD editing," says Biscardi.

The R380 helped them achieve their solution because, according to Biscardi, it was "the best combination of speed and protection in RAID 5 mode."

*"We found that the ATTO ExpressSAS R380 contributed to speeds of almost double of what was provided by a competitor's product. In addition, ATTO's customer support actively assisted us throughout our testing process. It was very smooth and easy to set up the card and to make sure we got the highest speed possible for both uncompressed and compressed HD editing," states Walter Biscardi, owner of Biscardi Creative Media.*

"The marriage of the Maxx RaidPro 8TB array with the ATTO ExpressSAS R380 offers editors the ability to achieve multiple streams of uncompress HD video with RAID 5 protection. And, the stability and unbelievable performance achieved with this solution comes at an extraordinarily inexpensive cost." states Ron Amborn of Maxx Digital.

**Power Behind the Storage**

For More Information:  
[www.ATTOTech.com](http://www.ATTOTech.com)  
To Purchase ATTO products:  
[www.ATTOSTore.com](http://www.ATTOSTore.com)  
(716) 691-1999

# ExpressSAS RAID Adapter—High Performance Data Protection

For his return on investment, Biscardi expects their fluid storage solution to maintain its consistency. "We have the technical knowledge and support of ATTO to stand behind their product to assist if ever required."

## Solution Synopsis

### Challenges

With the risk of losing data in a high-definition media environment, an affordable, high-performance solution was needed that added data protection and could be seamlessly integrated into a SATA storage environment.

### Solution

The ATTO ExpressSAS R380 RAID Adapter provided RAID parity protection and seamlessly integrated into SATA storage.

The R380 is a low-profile RAID adapter providing 3-Gb SATA/SAS connectivity with integrated RAID support and flexible port configurations. The R380 is engineered for the most demanding digital media applications – satisfying data protection requirements in a high-performance environment.

### ExpressSAS R380 RAID Adapter features:

- 8-Port user selectable (8 external ports)
- Data transfer rates of up to 3-Gb/sec. per port
- Highly configurable integrated RAID 0,1,4,5,10,50, JBOD and ATTO's exclusive DVRAID™ support
- Mac, Windows or Linux drivers available

### Products Used

ATTO ExpressSAS R380 RAID Adapter  
Maxx RaidPro SATA 8TB Array (7200rpm drives)  
Mac Pro Quad 3.0 - Mac OS 10.4.10  
AJA KONA 3

### Investment Protection

As storage needs change, the ExpressSAS RAID Adapter's SATA/SAS flexibility allows for its continued use as organizations transition either wholly or partially from a SATA to a SAS storage environment.

### Also Available

ATTO ExpressSAS R348 RAID Adapter  
(4 internal and 4 external ports or 8 internal ports)



*Biscardi Creative rack unit with Maxx RaidPro and ATTO ExpressSAS R380 RAID Adapter*

### Storage Performance Solution Partners:



ATTO Technology, Inc.



Biscardi Creative Media



MaxxDigital

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**Power Behind the Storage**

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