

***RoHS Recast Compliant***

# **Serial ATA Flash Drive**

***SAFD 25P Specifications***

**May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

***Version 2.0***



***Apacer Technology Inc.***

4<sup>th</sup> Fl., 75 Hsin Tai Wu Rd., Sec.1, Xizhi, New Taipei City, Taiwan 221

Tel: +886-2-2698-2888 Fax: +886-2-2698-2889

[www.apacer.com](http://www.apacer.com)

## Features:

- **Standard Serial ATA 2.6**
  - Serial ATA 2.6
  - SATA II, 3.0 Gbps
  - ATA-compatible command set
  - ATA modes support
- **Capacities**
  - 8, 16, 32, 64, 128, 256 GB
- **Performance\***
  - Burst read/write: 300 MB/sec
  - Sustained read: up to 265 MB/sec
  - Sustained write: up to 230 MB/sec
- **Intelligent endurance design**
  - Built-in hardware ECC, enabling up to 16/24 bit correction per 1024 bytes
  - Static wear-leveling scheme together with dynamical block allocation to significantly increase the lifetime of a flash device and optimize the disk performance
  - Flash bad block management
  - S.M.A.R.T.
  - Power Failure Management
  - ATA Secure Erase
  - TRIM
- **NAND Flash Type: SLC**
- **MTBF (hours): >2,000,000 hours**
- **Temperature ranges**
  - Operation:
    - Standard: 0°C to 70°C (32 ~ 158°F)
    - Extended: -40°C to 85°C (-40° ~ 185°F)
  - Storage: -40°C to 100°C (-40° ~ 212°F)
- **Supply voltage**
  - 5.0 V ± 5%
- **Power consumption (typical)\***
  - Active mode: 789 mA@5.0 V
  - Idle mode: 196 mA@5.0 V
- **Form factor**
  - 2.5 inch (100 x 69.9 x 9.3, unit: mm)
- **Connector**
  - 7-pin SATA male connector
  - 15-pin SATA power connector
- **Shock & Vibration**
  - Shock: 1500 G (non-operating)
  - Vibration: 15 G (non-operating)
- **Endurance\*\***
  - 8 GB: 535 TBW
  - 16 GB: 1070 TBW
  - 32 GB: 2140 TBW
  - 64 GB: 4280 TBW
  - 128 GB: 8565 TBW
  - 256 GB: 17130 TBW
- **RoHS Recast compliant (2011/65/EU standard)**

\*Varies from capacities. The values presented for Performances and Power Consumption are typical and may vary depending on different configurations and platforms.

\*\*Endurance of our SSD devices are estimated in TBW (Terabytes Written) and measured under constant PC transfer rate.

---

## Table of Contents

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| <b>1. Product Description</b> .....          | <b>3</b>  |
| 1.1 Introduction .....                       | 3         |
| 1.2 Functional Block Diagram.....            | 3         |
| 1.3 ATA Mode Support.....                    | 4         |
| 1.4 Capacity Specification.....              | 4         |
| 1.5 Performance.....                         | 4         |
| 1.6 Pin Assignments .....                    | 5         |
| <b>2. Software Interface</b> .....           | <b>7</b>  |
| 2.1 Command Set .....                        | 7         |
| 2.2 S.M.A.R.T. ....                          | 8         |
| <b>3. Flash Management</b> .....             | <b>9</b>  |
| 3.1 Error Correction/Detection.....          | 9         |
| 3.2 Flash Block Management .....             | 9         |
| 3.3 Wear Leveling.....                       | 9         |
| 3.4 Power Failure Management .....           | 9         |
| 3.5 ATA Secure Erase .....                   | 9         |
| 3.6 TRIM.....                                | 10        |
| <b>4. Environmental Specifications</b> ..... | <b>11</b> |
| 4.1 Environments.....                        | 11        |
| 4.2 Mean Time Between Failures (MTBF).....   | 11        |
| 4.3 Certification and Compliance .....       | 11        |
| 4.4 Endurance .....                          | 12        |
| <b>5. Electrical Characteristics</b> .....   | <b>13</b> |
| 5.1 Operating Voltage .....                  | 13        |
| 5.2 Power Consumption .....                  | 13        |
| <b>6. Physical Characteristics</b> .....     | <b>14</b> |
| 6.1 Metal Housing.....                       | 14        |
| <b>7. Product Ordering Information</b> ..... | <b>15</b> |
| 7.1 Product Code Designations .....          | 15        |
| 7.2 Valid Combinations.....                  | 16        |

# 1. Product Description

## 1.1 Introduction

Apacer's Serial ATA Flash Drive (SAFD) is a standard 2.5-inch solid-state drive (SSD) designed for embedded applications in demanding environments. SAFD 25P drive is designed with a single-chip controller providing full support for the SATA II high-speed interface standard. It can operate at sustained access rates up to 260 megabytes per second.

In addition, SAFD 25P adopts the global wear-leveling scheme to allow uniform use of all storage blocks, ensuring that the lifespan of a flash media can be significantly increased and the disk performance is optimized as well. SAFD 25P provides the S.M.A.R.T. feature that follows the SATA Rev. 2.6, ATA/ATAPI-7 specifications and uses the standard SMART command B0h to read data from the drive. This feature protects the user from unscheduled downtime by monitoring and storing critical drive performance.

## 1.2 Functional Block Diagram

SAFD 25P drive includes a single-chip SATA II Controller and the flash media, as well as the SATA standard interface. The controller integrates the flash management unit with the controller itself to support multi-channel, multi-bank flash arrays. Figure 1-1 shows the functional block diagram.

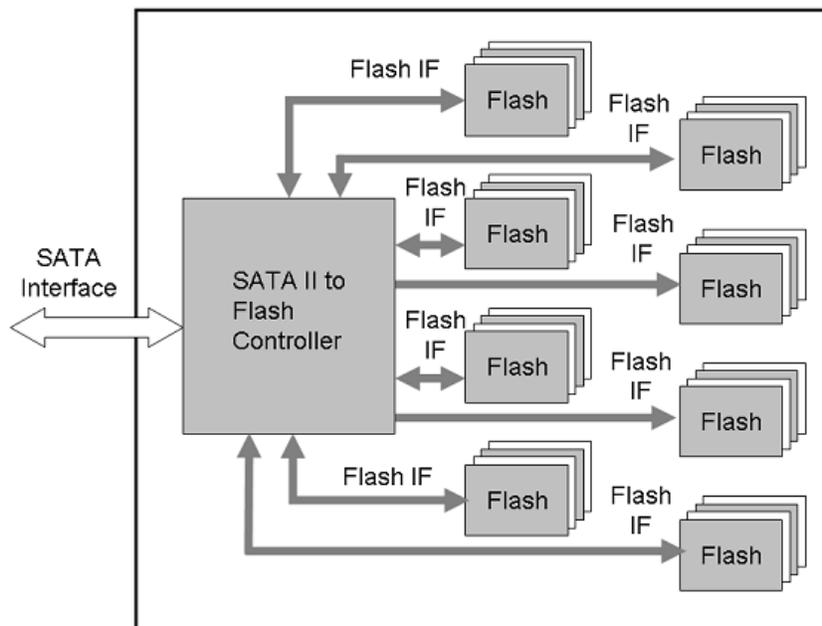


Figure 1-1 Apacer SAFD 25P block diagram

### 1.3 ATA Mode Support

SAFD 25P provides ATA mode support as follows:

- Up to PIO mode-4
- Up to Multiword DMA mode-2
- Up to UDMA mode-4

### 1.4 Capacity Specification

Capacity specification of SAFD 25P product family is available as shown in Table 1-1. It lists the specific capacity, the default numbers of logical cylinders and heads, and the number of logical sectors per track for each product line.

**Table 1-1** Capacity specification

| Capacity | Total Bytes*    | Cylinders | Heads | Sectors | Max LBA**   |
|----------|-----------------|-----------|-------|---------|-------------|
| 8 GB     | 7,012,196,352   | 13,587    | 16    | 63      | 13,695,696  |
| 16 GB    | 16,013,942,784  | 16383     | 16    | 63      | 31,277,232  |
| 32 GB    | 32,017,047,552  | 16383     | 16    | 63      | 62,533,296  |
| 64 GB    | 64,023,257,088  | 16383     | 16    | 63      | 125,045,424 |
| 128 GB   | 128,035,676,160 | 16383     | 16    | 63      | 250,069,680 |
| 256 GB   | 256,060,514,304 | 16383     | 16    | 63      | 500,118,192 |

\*Display of total bytes varies from file systems.

\*\*Cylinders, heads or sectors are not applicable for these capacities. Only LBA addressing applies.

\*\*\*Notes: 1 GB = 1,000,000,000 bytes; 1 sector = 512 bytes.

LBA count addressed in the table above indicates total user storage capacity and will remain the same throughout the lifespan of the device. However, the total usable capacity of the SSD is most likely to be less than the total physical capacity because a small portion of the capacity is reserved for device maintenance usages.

### 1.5 Performance

Performance of SAFD 25P is shown in Table 1-2.

**Table 1-2** Performance specifications

| Capacity \ Performance          | 8 GB | 16 GB | 32 GB | 64 GB | 128 GB | 256 GB |
|---------------------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| <b>Sustained Read MB (MB/s)</b> | 220  | 250   | 260   | 265   | 260    | 260    |
| <b>Sustained Write (MB/s)</b>   | 120  | 190   | 230   | 230   | 230    | 225    |

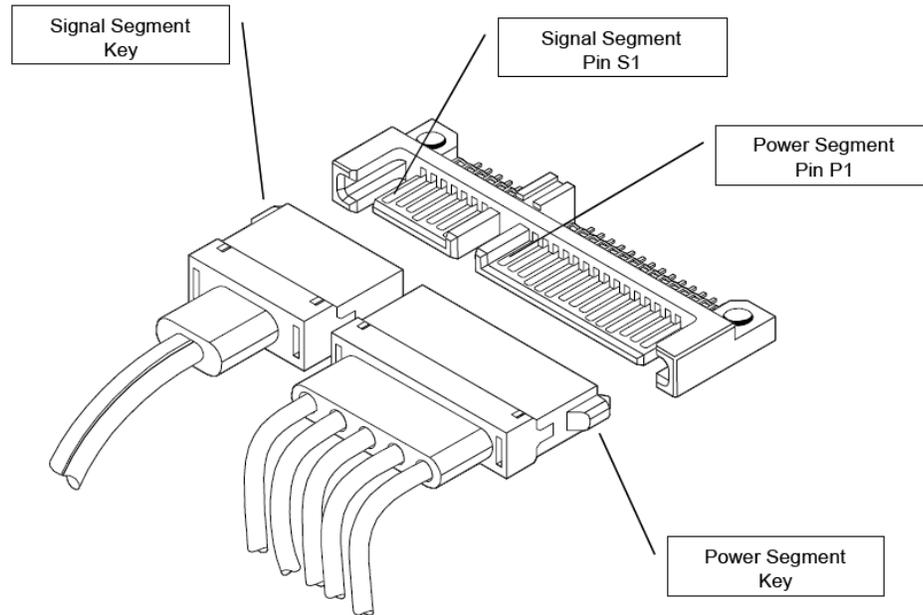
Note:

Results may differ from various flash configurations or host system configurations..

The performance was measured by CrystalDiskMark under Windows operating system.

## 1.6 Pin Assignments

Table 1-3 describes SAFD 25P signal segment, and Table1-4, its power segment.



**Figure 1-2** Pin Assignments

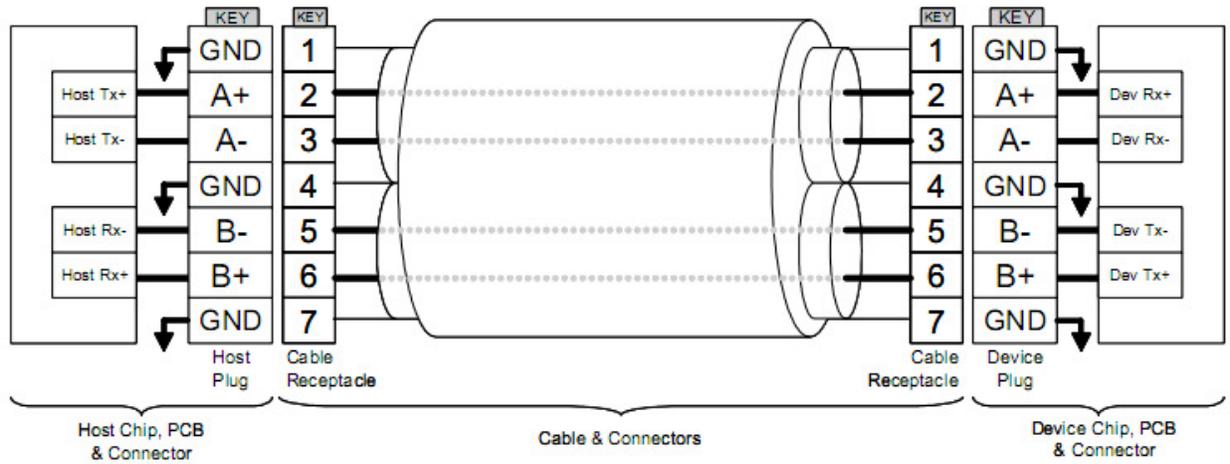
**Table 1-4:** Signal segment

| Name | Type | Description             |
|------|------|-------------------------|
| S1   | GND  |                         |
| S2   | RxP  | Serial Data Receiver    |
| S3   | RxN  |                         |
| S4   | GND  |                         |
| S5   | TxN  | Serial Data Transmitter |
| S6   | TxP  |                         |
| S7   | GND  |                         |

**Table 1-5:** Power segment

| Pin | Signal/Description |
|-----|--------------------|
| P1  | Not used (3.3V)    |
| P2  | Not used (3.3V)    |
| P3  | Not used (3.3V)    |
| P4  | Ground             |
| P5  | Ground             |
| P6  | Ground             |
| P7  | 5V                 |
| P8  | 5V                 |
| P9  | 5V                 |
| P10 | Ground             |
| P11 | Reserved           |
| P12 | Ground             |
| P13 | Not used (12V)     |
| P14 | Not used (12V)     |
| P15 | Not used (12V)     |

# Serial ATA Flash Drive APS25P6Bxxxx- 5XX



**Figure 1-3** SATA Cable / Connector Connection Diagram

The connector on the left represents the Host with TX/RX differential pairs connected to a cable while the connector on the right shows the Device with TX/RX differential pairs also connected to the cable. Notice also the ground path connecting the shielding of the cable to the Cable Receptacle.

---

## 2. Software Interface

### 2.1 Command Set

---

Table 2-1 summarizes the ATA commands supported by SAFD 25P.

**Table 2-1:** Command set

| Command                     | Code       |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Check-Power-Mode            | E5H        |
| Execute-Drive-Diagnostic    | 90H        |
| Flush-Cache                 | E7H        |
| Identify-Drive              | ECH        |
| Idle                        | E3H        |
| Idle-Immediate              | E1H        |
| Initialize-Drive-Parameters | 91H        |
| Read-DMA                    | C8H or C9H |
| Read-Multiple               | C4H        |
| Read-Sector(s)              | 20H or 21H |
| Read-Verify-Sector(s)       | 40H or 41H |
| Recalibrate                 | 10H        |
| Security-Disable-Password   | F6H        |
| Security-Erase-Prepare      | F3H        |
| Security-Erase-Unit         | F4H        |
| Security-Freeze-Lock        | F5H        |
| Security-Set-Password       | F1H        |
| Security-Unlock             | F2H        |
| Seek                        | 7XH        |
| Set-Features                | EFH        |
| Set-Multiple-Mode           | C6H        |
| Sleep                       | E6H        |
| SMART                       | B0H        |
| Standby                     | E2H        |
| Standby-Immediate           | E0H        |
| Write-DMA                   | CAH        |
| Write-Multiple              | C5H        |
| Write-Sector(s)             | 30H        |

---

## **2.2 S.M.A.R.T.**

---

S.M.A.R.T. is an abbreviation for Self-Monitoring, Analysis and Reporting Technology, a self-monitoring system that provides indicators of drive health as well as potential disk problems. It serves as a warning for users from unscheduled downtime by monitoring and displaying critical drive information. Ideally, this should allow taking proactive actions to prevent drive failure and make use of S.M.A.R.T. information for future product development reference.

Apacer devices use the standard SMART command B0h to read data out from the drive to activate our S.M.A.R.T. feature that complies with the ATA/ATAPI specifications. S.M.A.R.T. Attribute IDs shall include initial bad block count, total later bad block count, maximum erase count, average erase count, power on hours and power cycle. When the S.M.A.R.T. Utility running on the host, it analyzes and reports the disk status to the host before the device reaches in critical condition.

Note: attribute IDs may vary from product models due to various solution design and supporting capabilities.

---

## 3. Flash Management

### 3.1 Error Correction/Detection

---

SAFD 25P implements hardware ECC scheme based on the BCH algorithm which can detect and correct up to 16 bits or 24 bits error in 1024 bytes.

### 3.2 Flash Block Management

---

Current production technology is unable to guarantee total reliability of NAND flash memory array. When a flash memory device leaves factory, it comes with a minimal number of initial bad blocks during production or out-of-factory as there is no currently known technology that produce flash chips free of bad blocks. In addition, bad blocks may develop during program/erase cycles. When host performs program/erase command on a block, bad block may appear in Status Register. Since bad blocks are inevitable, the solution is to keep them in control. Apacer flash devices are programmed with ECC, block mapping technique and S.M.A.R.T to reduce invalidity or error. Once bad blocks are detected, data in those blocks will be transferred to free blocks and error will be corrected by designated algorithms.

### 3.3 Wear Leveling

---

Flash memory devices differ from Hard Disk Drives (HDDs) in terms of how blocks are utilized. For HDDs, when a change is made to stored data, like erase or update, the controller mechanism on HDDs will perform overwrites on blocks. Unlike HDDs, flash blocks cannot be overwritten and each P/E cycle wears down the lifespan of blocks gradually. Repeatedly program/erase cycles performed on the same memory cells will eventually cause some blocks to age faster than others. This would bring flash storages to their end of service term sooner. Wear leveling is an important mechanism that level out the wearing of blocks so that the wearing-down of blocks can be almost evenly distributed. This will increase the lifespan of SSDs. Commonly used wear leveling types are Static and Dynamic.

### 3.4 Power Failure Management

---

Power Failure Management plays a crucial role when experiencing unstable power supply. Power disruption may occur when users are storing data into the SSD. In this urgent situation, the controller would run multiple write-to-flash cycles to store the metadata for later block rebuilding. This urgent operation requires about several milliseconds to get it done. At the next power up, the firmware will perform a status tracking to retrieve the mapping table and resume previously programmed NAND blocks to check if there is any incompleteness of transmission.

Note: The controller unit of this product model is designed with a DRAM as a write cache for improved performance and data efficiency. Though unlikely to happen in most cases, the data cached in the volatile DRAM might be potentially affected if a sudden power loss takes place before the cached data is flushed into non-volatile NAND flash memory.

### 3.5 ATA Secure Erase

---

ATA Secure Erase is an ATA disk purging command currently embedded in most of the storage drives. Defined in ATA specifications, (ATA) Secure Erase is part of Security Feature Set that allows storage drives to erase all user data areas. The erase process usually runs on the firmware level as most of the ATA-based storage media currently in the market are built-in with this command. ATA Secure Erase can securely wipe out the user data in the drive and protects it from malicious attack.

---

## 3.6 TRIM

---

TRIM, though in capital letters usually, is a memory computation command rather than an abbreviation. It is mainly a SATA command that enables the operating system to inform the SSD (Solid State Drive) which blocks of previously stored data are no longer valid, due to erases by the host or operating system, such as file deletions or disk formatting. Once notified, SSD will begin the discard of the invalid LBAs and retain more space for itself, in fact, the discarded is no longer recoverable.

When an LBA is replaced by the operating system, as with overwrite of a file, the SSD is informed that the originally occupied LBA is determined as no longer in use or invalid. The SSD will not save those blocks in garbage collected sectors. Noticeably, a file deletion command by host or operating system never actually erases the actual content, rather, just the file is marked as deleted. This issue is even specifically noticeable for flash based memory devices, such as SSDs. In fact, an SSD will keep garbage collecting the invalid, previously occupied LBAs, if it is not informed that these LBAs can be erased. Thus, the SSD would experience a significant performance downfall.

---

## 4. Environmental Specifications

### 4.1 Environments

---

SAFD 25P environmental specifications follow the US Military Standard MIL-STD-810F, as shown in Table 4-1.

**Table 4-1** SAFD 25P environmental specifications

| Environment | Specification   |
|-------------|---|
| Temperature | 0°C to 70°C (Operating – Standard); -40°C to 85°C (Operating – ET*)                   |
|             | -40°C to 100°C (Non-operating)  |
| Vibration** | Sine wave<br>Frequency: 10-2000 Hz<br>Acceleration : 15 G<br>Direction : X, Y, Z axis |
| Shock**     | Half sine wave<br>Acceleration: 1,500 G<br>Direction : $\pm X, \pm Y, \pm Z$ axis     |

\*Extended Temperature

\*\*Non-operating

### 4.2 Mean Time Between Failures (MTBF)

---

Mean Time Between Failures (MTBF) is predicted based on reliability data for the individual components in SAFD drive. The prediction result for SAFD 25P is more than 2,000,000 hours.

Notes about the MTBF:

The MTBF is predicated and calculated based on “Telcordia Technologies Special Report, SR-332, Issue 2” method.

### 4.3 Certification and Compliance

---

SAFD 25P drive complies with the following standards:

- CE
- FCC
- RoHS Recast
- MIL-STD-810F

---

## 4.4 Endurance

---

Terabytes Written (TBW) is an endurance rating system that indicates the maximum number of terabytes written by the host to the drive. NAND flash has a limit on how many P/E cycles it can withstand before its data retention becomes unreliable. Thus, key factors, such as wear leveling, flash configurations, Write Amplifications and the number of P/E cycles, can influence the lifespan of the drive.

The TBW of the device are listed in the following table.

| Capacity | TBW (TB) |
|----------|----------|
| 8 GB     | 535      |
| 16 GB    | 1070     |
| 32 GB    | 2140     |
| 64 GB    | 4280     |
| 128 GB   | 8565     |
| 256 GB   | 17130    |

Notes:

- The measurement assumes the data written to the SSD for test is under a typical and constant rate.
- The measurement follows the standard metric: 1 TB (Terabyte) = 1000 GB.

## 5. Electrical Characteristics

### 5.1 Operating Voltage

Table 5-1 lists the supply voltage for SAFD 25P.

**Table 5-1** SAFD 25P operating voltage

| Parameter      | Conditions                    |
|----------------|-------------------------------|
| Supply voltage | 5.0 V $\pm$ 5% ( 4.75-5.25 V) |

### 5.2 Power Consumption

Table 5-2 lists SAFD 25P power consumption.

**Table 5-2** SAFD 25P power consumption (typical)

| Capacity<br>Performance     | 8 GB | 16 GB | 32 GB | 64 GB | 128 GB | 256 GB |
|-----------------------------|------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| <b>Active Mode<br/>(mA)</b> | 400  | 555   | 718   | 789   | 620    | 691    |
| <b>Idle Mode<br/>(mA)</b>   | 230  | 255   | 190   | 190   | 193    | 196    |

Note: power consumption may vary depending on flash configurations or platforms.

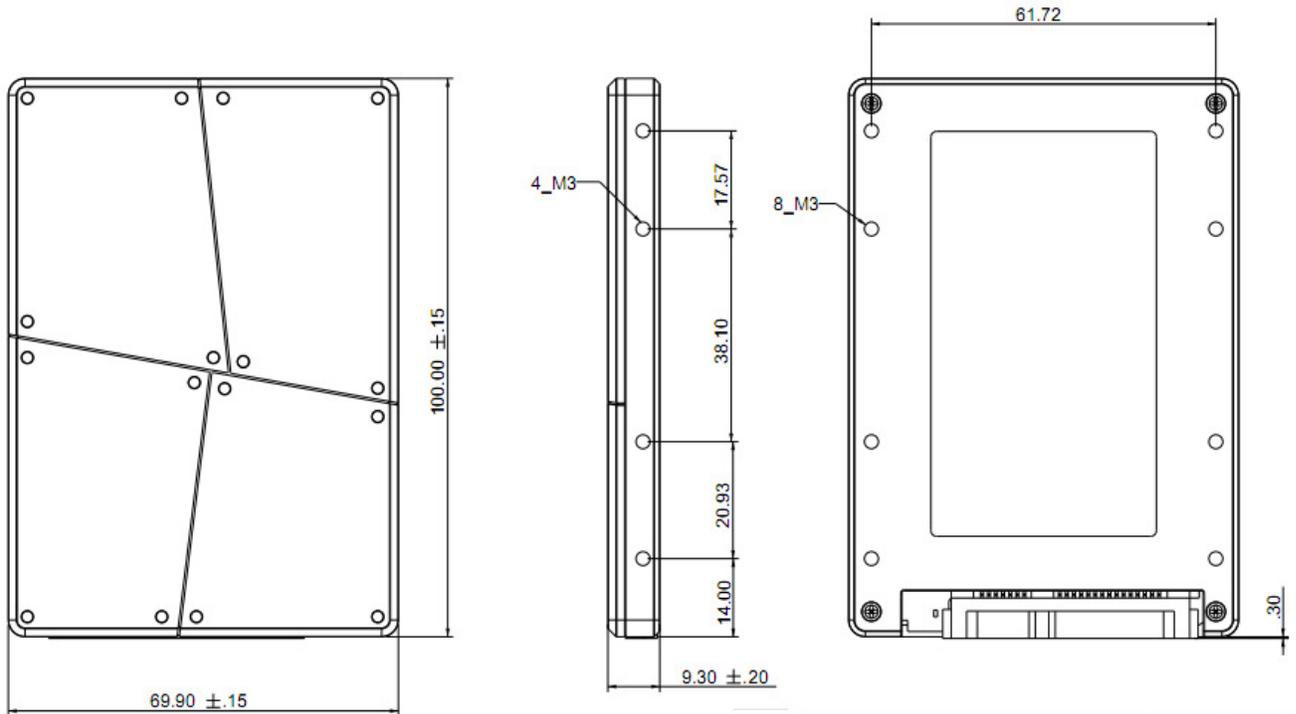
## 6. Physical Characteristics

### 6.1 Metal Housing

Figure 6-1 illustrates the overall dimensions of SAFD 25P w/Metal Housing, as listed in Table 6-1.

**Table 6-1** SAFD 25P w/Metal Housing dimensions

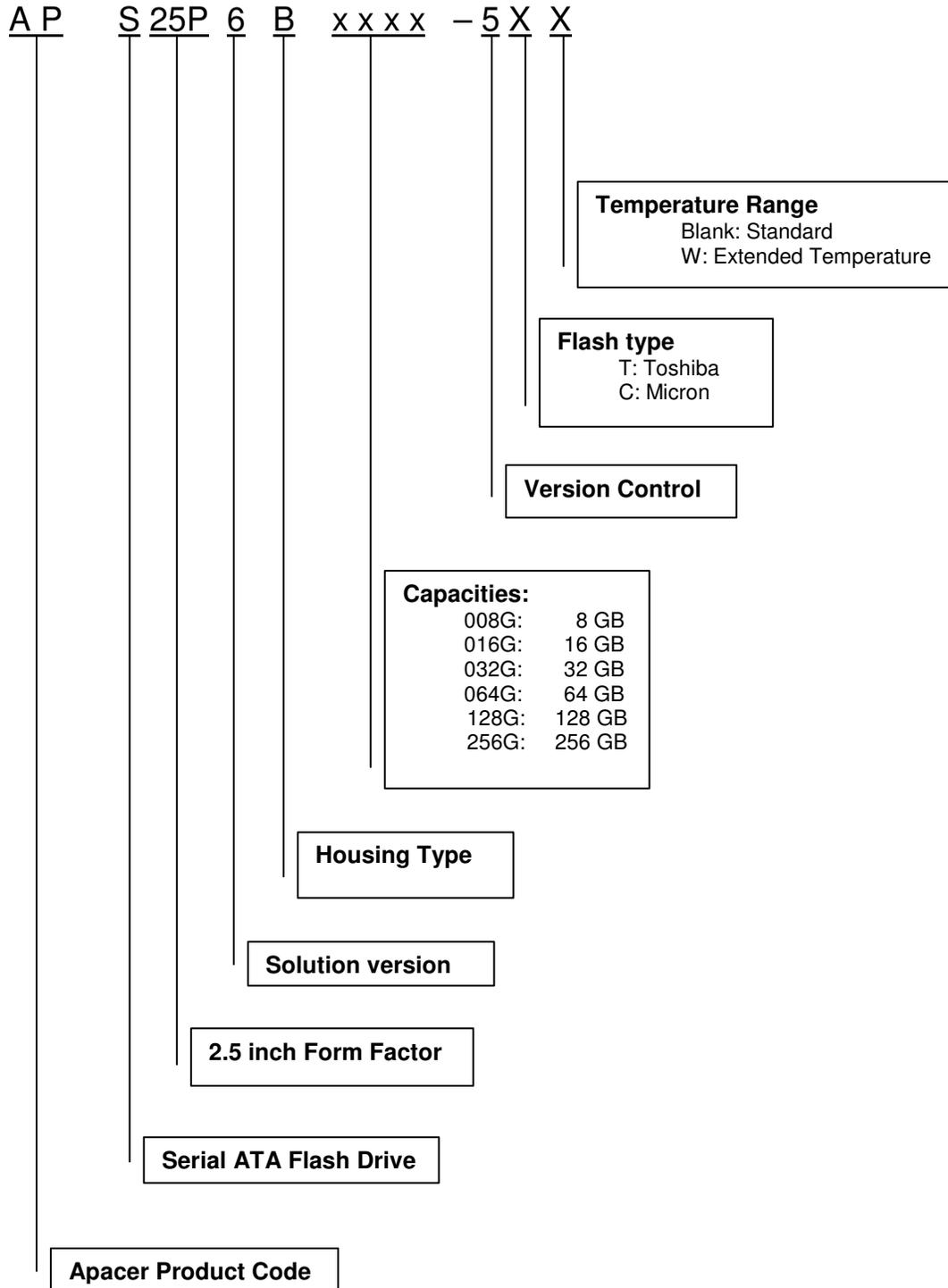
| Dimension | Millimeters (mm) |
|-----------|------------------|
| Height    | 9.30 ± 0.20      |
| Width     | 69.90 ± 0.15     |
| Length    | 100.00 ± 0.15    |



**Figure 6-1** SAFD 25P w/Metal Housing physical dimensions

## 7. Product Ordering Information

### 7.1 Product Code Designations



---

## 7.2 Valid Combinations

---

| Capacity | Standard        | Extended Temperature |
|----------|-----------------|----------------------|
| 8 GB     | APS25P6B008G-5T | APS25P6B008G-5TW     |
| 16 GB    | APS25P6B016G-5T | APS25P6B016G-5TW     |
| 32 GB    | APS25P6B032G-5T | APS25P6B032G-5TW     |
| 64 GB    | APS25P6B064G-5T | APS25P6B064G-5TW     |
| 128 GB   | APS25P6B128G-5C | APS25P6B128G-5CW     |
| 256 GB   | APS25P6B256G-5C | APS25P6B256G-5CW     |

Note: Please consult with Apacer sales representatives for availabilities.

---

## Revision History

| Revision | Description   | Date       |
|----------|---|------------|
| 1.0      | Formal release  | 02/21/2011 |
| 1.1      | Updated Physical Characteristics and Product Ordering Information   | 03/17/2011 |
| 1.2      | Updated Product Ordering Information  | 05/13/2011 |
| 1.3      | Revised Product Ordering Information  | 05/17/2011 |
| 1.4      | Higher capacities added<br>-- added 128GB & 256GB   | 10/14/2011 |
| 1.5      | Updated Performance and Power Consumptions due to changes in flash configurations<br>Updated Product Ordering Information | 11/30/2011 |
| 1.6      | Revised S.M.A.R.T information   | 03/23/2012 |
| 1.7      | Added Endurance section<br>Revised environmental specifications   | 05/24/2012 |
| 1.8      | Updated Product Ordering Information due to firmware upgrade  | 11/09/2012 |
| 1.9      | 8GB and 16GB have been added and become available<br>Environmental specifications updated from RoHS to RoHS Recast        | 02/01/2013 |
| 2.0      | Updated Product Ordering Information due to firmware upgrade  | 05/13/2013 |

---

## Global Presence

### Taiwan (Headquarters)

**Apacer Technology Inc.**  
4<sup>th</sup> Fl., 75 Hsin Tai Wu Rd., Sec.1  
Xizhi, New Taipei City  
Taiwan 221  
R.O.C.  
Tel: +886-2-2698-2888  
Fax: +886-2-2698-2889  
[amtsales@apacer.com](mailto:amtsales@apacer.com)

### U.S.A.

**Apacer Memory America, Inc.**  
386 Fairview Way, Suite102,  
Milpitas, CA 95035  
Tel: 1-408-518-8699  
Fax: 1-408-935-9611  
[sa@apacerus.com](mailto:sa@apacerus.com)

### Japan

**Apacer Technology Corp.**  
5F, Matsura Bldg., Shiba, Minato-Ku  
Tokyo, 105-0014, Japan  
Tel: 81-3-5419-2668  
Fax: 81-3-5419-0018  
[jpservices@apacer.com](mailto:jpservices@apacer.com)

### Europe

**Apacer Technology B.V.**  
Science Park Eindhoven 5051 5692 EB Son,  
The Netherlands  
Tel: 31-40-267-0000  
Fax: 31-40-267-0000#6199  
[sales@apacer.nl](mailto:sales@apacer.nl)

### China

**Apacer Electronic (Shanghai) Co., Ltd**  
1301, No.251,Xiaomuqiao Road, Shanghai,  
200032, China  
Tel: 86-21-5529-0222  
Fax: 86-21-5206-6939  
[sales@apacer.com.cn](mailto:sales@apacer.com.cn)

### India

**Apacer Technologies Pvt Ltd,**  
# 535, 1st Floor, 8th cross, JP Nagar 3rd Phase,  
Bangalore – 560078, India  
Tel: 91-80-4152-9061  
[sales\\_india@apacer.com](mailto:sales_india@apacer.com)