UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): October 28, 2020

Western Digital WESTERN DIGITAL CORPORATION

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter)

001-08703

(Commission File Number)

Delaware

(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation)

5601 Great Oaks Parkway

33-0956711

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

95119

	San Jose		
	California		
((Address of Principal Executive Offices)		(Zip Code)
		(408) 717-6000 (Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)	
		Not applicable	
	(Forn	ner Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Rep	port)
Check the a	appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended	d to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registr A.2. below):	rant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction
	Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under	er the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)	
	Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the	he Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)	
	Pre-commencement communications pursuant to R	ule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
	Pre-commencement communications pursuant to R	ule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))	
ecurities re	egistered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:		
	Title of each class	Trading Symbol(s)	Name of each exchange on which registered
C	Common Stock, \$.01 Par Value Per Share	WDC	The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC
			(Nasdaq Global Select Market)
dicate by o	check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growt (17 CFR §240.12b-2).	th company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1	933 (17 CFR §230.405) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange
		Emerging growth compar	ny 🗆
an emergi	ing growth company, indicate by check mark if the registorided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.	strant has elected not to use the extended transition period fo \Box	r complying with any new or revised financial accounting

Item 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On October 28, 2020, Western Digital Corporation announced financial results for the fiscal first quarter ended October 2, 2020. A copy of the press release making this announcement is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

In accordance with General Instruction B.2 of Form 8-K, the information in this Item 2.02, including Exhibit 99.1, shall not be deemed to be "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, and shall not be incorporated by reference into any registration statement or other document filed under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

- (d) Exhibits
 - 99. 1 Press Release issued by Western Digital Corporation on October 28, 2020 announcing financial results for the fiscal first quarter ended October 2, 2020.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

	(Registrant)
By:	/s/ Michael C. Ray
	Michael C. Ray
	Executive Vice President, Chief Legal Officer and Secretary

Date: October 28, 2020

Western Digital.

Western Digital Reports Fiscal First Quarter 2021 Financial Results

News Summary

- First quarter revenue was \$3.9 billion, down 3% year-over-year (YoY). Client Devices increased 20%, Data Center Devices and Solutions revenue declined 26%, and Client Solutions declined 5% YoY.
- First quarter GAAP earnings per share (EPS) was (\$0.20) and non-GAAP EPS was \$0.65. Both GAAP and non-GAAP EPS include \$28 million in costs related to COVID-19 in the first quarter.
- Generated operating cash flow of \$363 million and free cash flow of \$196 million in the first quarter.
- Expecting fiscal second quarter 2021 revenue to be in the range of \$3.75 billion to \$3.95 billion with non-GAAP EPS in the range of \$0.40 to \$0.60. Non-GAAP EPS outlook includes costs related to COVID-19.

SAN JOSE, Calif., — October 28, 2020 — Western Digital Corp. (Nasdaq: WDC) today reported fiscal first quarter 2021 financial results.

"I am pleased with our results, as we continued to focus our execution on the massive market opportunity for data storage technology that stems from the ongoing expansion of cloud infrastructure connected to intelligent endpoints and powered by high performance networks," said David Goeckeler, Western Digital CEO. "While we are still managing through macro uncertainty, during the quarter we benefitted from strength particularly in the retail sector, driven by favorable macro and market dynamics, as well as the brand recognition of our products. Our diversified storage portfolio strategy implemented through our recently announced organizational structure will enable us to accelerate growth, improve our focus, and drive sustainable, long-term shareholder value."

Q1 2021 Financial Highlights

		GAAP			Non-GAAI	
	Q1 2021	Q1 2020	vs. Q1 2020	Q1 2021	Q1 2020	vs. Q1 2020
Revenue (\$M)	\$3,922	\$4,040	down 3%	\$3,922	\$4,040	down 3%
Gross Margin	23.0%	18.8%	up 4.2 ppt	26.3%	24.8%	up 1.5 ppt
Operating Expenses (\$M)	\$834	\$887	down 6%	\$708	\$767	down 8%
Operating Income (Loss) (\$M)	\$70	(\$129)	*	\$323	\$235	up 37%
Net Income (Loss) (\$M)	(\$60)	(\$276)	*	\$196	\$101	up 94%
Earnings Per Share	(\$0.20)	(\$0.93)	*	\$0.65	\$0.34	up 91%

^{*}not a meaningful figure

Note: The company's fiscal first quarter of 2021 was a 13-week fiscal quarter, compared to a 14-week fiscal quarter a year ago.

Key End Market Summary

Revenue (\$M)	Q1 2021	Q1 2020	vs. Q1 2020
Client Devices	\$1,946	\$1,616	up 20%
Data Center Devices & Solutions	\$1,129	\$1,532	down 26%
Client Solutions	\$847	\$892	down 5%
Total Revenue	\$3,922	\$4,040	down 3%

Note: The company's fiscal first quarter of 2021 was a 13-week fiscal quarter, compared to a 14-week fiscal quarter a year ago.

In the fiscal first quarter of 2021, Western Digital's revenue decreased 3% year-over-year to \$3.9 billion. The decrease is largely attributable to the uncertainty associated with the global economic contraction and geopolitical headwinds, which resulted in shifts in customer buying patterns impacting Data Center Devices & Solutions and Client Solutions.

In Client Devices, Western Digital's industry leading client SSD solutions for notebook and desktops benefitted from the acceleration of work from home and remote learning trends. Gaming experienced significant growth as upcoming game consoles transition from hard drive-based storage solutions to flash, powering a more real-time, immersive gaming experience. In addition, mobile revenue more than doubled, driven by recent 5G phone launches and a broadening of end customers within China.

In Data Center Devices & Solutions, both Capacity Enterprise hard drive and Enterprise SSD (eSSD) demand were negatively impacted by shifts in customer ordering patterns. Important product transitions in hard drive and flash-based storage solutions also impacted demand trends as customers are still ramping up on these newer products.

In Client Solutions, Western Digital continued to recover as many brick and mortar customers reopened from COVID-19-related lock downs during the period. In addition, demand related to work from home and distance learning benefitted both hard drive and flash-based solutions.

Business Outlook for Fiscal Second Quarter of 2021

Three	Months	Ending
	mary 1	

	January	1,2021
	GAAP ⁽¹⁾	Non-GAAP(1)
ne (\$B)	\$3.75 - \$3.95	\$3.75 - \$3.95
margin	21% - 23%	24% - 26%
rating expenses (\$M)	\$790 - \$810	\$680 - \$700
rest and other expense, net (\$M)	\$80 - \$85	\$70 - \$75
rate	N/A	21% - 25% (2)
ated earnings per share	N/A	\$0.40 - \$0.60
ated shares outstanding (in millions)	~ 306	~ 306

⁽¹⁾ Non-GAAP gross margin guidance excludes amortization of acquired intangible assets and stock-based compensation expense, totaling approximately \$110 million to \$130 million. The company's non-GAAP operating expenses guidance excludes amortization of acquired intangible assets; stock-based compensation expense; and employee termination, asset impairment and other charges, totaling approximately \$100 million to \$120 million. The company's non-GAAP interest and other expense guidance excludes approximately \$10 million of convertible debt activity. In the aggregate, non-GAAP diluted earnings per share guidance excludes these items totaling \$220 million to \$260 million. The timing and amount of these charges excluded from non-GAAP gross margin, non-GAAP operating expenses, non-GAAP interest and other expense, net and non-GAAP diluted earnings per share cannot be further allocated or quantified with certainty. Additionally, the timing and amount of additional charges the company excludes from its non-GAAP tax rate and non-GAAP diluted earnings per share are dependent on the timing and determination of certain actions and cannot be reasonably predicted.

Accordingly, full reconciliations of non-GAAP gross margin, non-GAAP operating expenses, non-GAAP interest and other expense, non-GAAP tax rate and non-GAAP diluted earnings per share to the most directly comparable GAAP financial measures (gross margin, operating expenses, interest and other expense, tax rate and diluted earnings per share, respectively) are not available without unreasonable effort.

(2) The non-GAAP tax rates provided are based on a percentage of non-GAAP pre-tax income.

Investor Communications

The investment community conference call to discuss these results and the company's business outlook for the fiscal second quarter of 2021 will be broadcast live online today at 1:30 p.m. Pacific/4:30 p.m. Eastern. The live and archived conference call/webcast and the earnings presentation can be accessed online at investor.wdc.com.

About Western Digital

Western Digital, a leader in data infrastructure, creates environments for data to thrive. The company is driving the innovation needed to help customers capture, preserve, access, analyze, and transform an ever-increasing diversity of data. Everywhere data lives, from advanced data centers to mobile sensors to personal devices, the company's industry-leading solutions deliver the possibilities of data. Western Digital data-centric solutions are comprised of the Western Digital[®], G-TechnologyTM, SanDisk[®] and WD[®] brands. Financial and investor information is available on the company's Investor Relations website at <u>investor.wdc.com</u>.

Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, including statements concerning the company's preliminary financial results for its fiscal first quarter ended October 2, 2020; the company's business outlook for the fiscal second quarter of 2021; expectations regarding the impact of COVID-19; demand trends and market conditions; expansion of the cloud infrastructure; benefits of the company's organizational structure; the company's brand recognition and product portfolio; and expected future financial performance. These forward-looking statements are based on management's current expectations and are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements. The preliminary financial results for the company's fiscal first quarter ended October 2, 2020 included in this press release represent the most current information available to management. The company's actual results when disclosed in its Form 10-Q may differ from these preliminary results as a result of the completion of the company's financial closing procedures; final adjustments; completion of the review by the company's independent registered accounting firm; and other developments that may arise between now and the disclosure of the final results. Other risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied in the forward-looking statements include: future responses to and effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; volatility in global economic conditions; impact of business and market conditions; impact of competitive products and pricing; our development and introduction of products based on new technologies and expansion into new data storage markets; risks associated with cost saving initiatives, restructurings, acquisitions, divestitures, mergers, joint ventures and our strategic relationships; difficulties or delays in manuf

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other financial obligations; changes to our relationships with key customers; disruptions in operations from cyberattacks or other system security risks; actions by competitors; risks associated with compliance with changing legal and regulatory requirements and the outcome of legal proceedings; and other risks and uncertainties listed in the company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), including the company's Form 10-K filed with the SEC on August 28, 2020, to which your attention is directed. You should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date hereof, and the company undertakes no obligation to update these forward-looking statements to reflect new information or events.

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WESTERN DIGITAL CORPORATION PRELIMINARY CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(in millions; unaudited; on a US GAAP basis)

	0	ctober 2, 2020	July 3, 2020
ASSETS	1		
Current assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	2,995 \$	3,048
Accounts receivable, net		2,097	2,379
Inventories		3,355	3,070
Other current assets		558	551
Total current assets		9,005	9,048
Property, plant and equipment, net		2,897	2,854
Notes receivable and investments in Flash Ventures		1,746	1,875
Goodwill		10,069	10,067
Other intangible assets, net		758	941
Other non-current assets		927	877
Total assets	\$	25,402 \$	25,662
LIABILITIES AND SHAREI	HOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:			
Accounts payable	\$	1,949 \$	1,945
Accounts payable to related parties		404	407
Accrued expenses		1,293	1,296
Accrued compensation		497	472
Current portion of long-term debt		286	286
Total current liabilities		4,429	4,406
Long-term debt		9,086	9,289
Other liabilities		2,311	2,416
Total liabilities		15,826	16,111
Total shareholders' equity		9,576	9,551
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	\$	25,402 \$	25,662

WESTERN DIGITAL CORPORATION PRELIMINARY CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS (in millions, except per share amounts; unaudited; on a US GAAP basis)

	Three M	Ionths Ended
	October 2, 2020	October 4, 2019
Revenue, net	\$ 3,922	\$ 4,040
Cost of revenue	3,018	3,282
Gross profit	904	758
Operating expenses:		
Research and development	555	5 574
Selling, general and administrative	256	305
Employee termination, asset impairment and other charges	23	8
Total operating expenses	834	887
Operating income (loss)	70	(129)
Interest and other expense, net	(73	(108)
Loss before taxes	(3	(237)
Income tax expense	57	7 39
Net loss	\$ (60	\$ (276)
Loss per common share		
Basic	\$ (0.20	0.93)
Diluted	\$ (0.20	(0.93)
Weighted average shares outstanding:		
Basic	303	3 296
Diluted	303	3 296

WESTERN DIGITAL CORPORATION PRELIMINARY CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (in millions; unaudited; on a US GAAP basis)

Operating Activities Company Company <th></th> <th>Three</th> <th>Months Ended</th>		Three	Months Ended
Net loss \$ (b) (c) Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash provided by operations. 374 406 Sicok-based compensation 376 77 Sicok-based compensation 11 27 Deferred income taxes 11 22 Uses on disposal of assets 1 2 Uses on disposal of assets 16 0 210 Other non-cash operating activities, net 6 0 221 Changes in: 2 223 243 Inventories 285 5 5 Accounts receivable, net 285 5 5 Accounts payable to related parties 285 5 5 Accounts payable to related parties 285 5 5 Accounts payable to related parties 23 10 1 <td< th=""><th></th><th></th><th>October 4, 2019</th></td<>			October 4, 2019
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Repayment of debt (213) (319) Net cash used in financing activities (253) (492) Effect of exchange rate changes on cash 3 (2) Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents (53) (207) Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period 3,048 3,455	Employee stock plans, net		(40) (26)
Net cash used in financing activities(253)(492)Effect of exchange rate changes on cash3(2)Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents(53)(207)Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period3,0483,455	Dividends paid to shareholders		— (147)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash3(2)Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents(53)(207)Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period3,0483,455	Repayment of debt	(2	213) (319)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash3(2)Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents(53)(207)Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period3,0483,455	Net cash used in financing activities	(2	253) (492)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period (53) (207) 3,048 3,455		-	3 (2)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period 3,048 3,455			
	Cash and cash equivalents, end of period		

WESTERN DIGITAL CORPORATION PRELIMINARY RECONCILIATION OF GAAP TO NON-GAAP FINANCIAL MEASURES (in millions; unaudited)

	Three Month	is Ended
	tober 2, 2020	October 4, 2019
GAAP cost of revenue	\$ 3,018 \$	3,282
Amortization of acquired intangible assets	(145)	(164)
Stock-based compensation expense	(12)	(12)
Charges related to a power outage incident and related recovery	 30	(68)
Non-GAAP cost of revenue	\$ 2,891 \$	3,038
GAAP gross profit	\$ 904 \$	758
Amortization of acquired intangible assets	145	164
Stock-based compensation expense	12	12
Charges related to a power outage incident and related recovery	 (30)	68
Non-GAAP gross profit	\$ 1,031 \$	1,002
GAAP operating expenses	\$ 834 \$	887
Amortization of acquired intangible assets	(39)	(41)
Stock-based compensation expense	(64)	(65)
Employee termination, asset impairment and other charges	(23)	(8)
Charges related to acquisitions and dispositions	_	(5)
Charges related to cost saving initiatives	 	(1)
Non-GAAP operating expenses	\$ 708 \$	767
GAAP operating income (loss)	\$ 70 \$	(129)
Cost of revenue adjustments	127	244
Operating expense adjustments	126	120
Non-GAAP operating income	\$ 323 \$	235
GAAP interest and other expense, net	\$ (73) \$	(108)
Convertible debt activity	7	7
Other	(2)	2
Non-GAAP interest and other expense, net	\$ (68) \$	(99)
GAAP income tax expense	\$ 57 \$	39
Income tax adjustments	2	(4)
Non-GAAP income tax expense	\$ 59 \$	35

WESTERN DIGITAL CORPORATION PRELIMINARY RECONCILIATION OF GAAP TO NON-GAAP FINANCIAL MEASURES

(in millions, except per share amounts; unaudited)

Three Months Ended		d	
	October 2, 2020		ober 4, 019
\$	(60)	\$	(276)
	184		205
	76		77
	23		8
	_		5
	_		1
	(30)		68
	7		7
	(2)		2
	(2)		4
\$	196	\$	101
<u>\$</u>	(0.20)	\$	(0.93)
\$	0.65	\$	0.34
	202		206
			296
<u> </u>	303		300
\$	363	\$	253
	(330)		(145)
	163		186
\$	196	\$	294
	\$ \$ \$	October 2, 2020 \$ (60) 184 76 23 — (30) 7 (2) \$ 196 \$ (0.20) \$ 0.65 \$ 303 303 \$ 363 (330) 163	October 2, 2020 October 2, 2020 \$ (60) \$ 184 76 23 — (30) 7 (2) (2) (2) (2) \$ 196 \$ \$ 0.65 \$ \$ 303 \$ \$ 363 \$ (330) 163

To supplement the condensed consolidated financial statements presented in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP"), the table above sets forth non-GAAP cost of revenue; non-GAAP gross profit; non-GAAP operating expenses; non-GAAP operating income; non-GAAP interest and other expense, net; non-GAAP income tax expense; non-GAAP net income; non-GAAP diluted income per common share and free cash flow ("Non-GAAP measures"). These Non-GAAP measures are not in accordance with, or an alternative for, measures prepared in accordance with GAAP and may be different from Non-GAAP measures used by other companies. The company believes the presentation of these Non-GAAP measures, when shown in conjunction with the corresponding GAAP measures, provides useful information to investors for measuring the company's earnings performance and comparing it against prior periods. Specifically, the company believes these Non-GAAP measures provide useful information to both management and investors as they exclude certain expenses, gains and losses that the company believes are not indicative of its core operating results or because they are consistent with the financial models and estimates published by many analysts who follow the company and its peers. As discussed further below, these Non-GAAP measures exclude the amortization of acquired intangible assets, stock-based compensation expense, employee termination, asset impairment and other charges, charges related to acquisitions and dispositions, charges related to cost saving initiatives, charges related to a power outage incident and related recovery, convertible debt activity, other adjustments, and income tax adjustments, and the company believes these measures along with the related reconciliations to the GAAP measures provide additional detail and comparability for assessing the company's results. These Non-GAAP measures are some of the primary indicators management uses for assessing the company's performance and planning and forecasting future

As described above, the company excludes the following items from its Non-GAAP measures:

Amortization of acquired intangible assets. The company incurs expenses from the amortization of acquired intangible assets over their economic lives. Such charges are significantly impacted by the timing and magnitude of the company's acquisitions and any related impairment charges.

Stock-based compensation expense. Because of the variety of equity awards used by companies, the varying methodologies for determining stock-based compensation expense, the subjective assumptions involved in those determinations, and the volatility in valuations that can be driven by market conditions outside the company's control, the company believes excluding stock-based compensation expense enhances the ability of management and investors to understand and assess the underlying performance of its business over time and compare it against the company's peers, a majority of whom also exclude stock-based compensation expense from their non-GAAP results.

Employee termination, asset impairment and other charges. From time-to-time, in order to realign the company's operations with anticipated market demand or to achieve cost synergies from the integration of acquisitions, the company may terminate employees and/or restructure its operations. From time-to-time, the company may also incur charges from the impairment of intangible assets and other long-lived assets. These charges (including any reversals of charges recorded in prior periods) are inconsistent in amount and frequency, and the company believes they are not indicative of the underlying performance of its business.

<u>Charges related to acquisitions and dispositions.</u> In connection with the company's business combinations or dispositions, the company incurs expenses which it would not have otherwise incurred as part of its business operations. These expenses include third-party professional service and legal fees, third-party integration services, severance costs, non-cash adjustments to the fair value of acquired inventory, contract termination costs, and retention bonuses. The company may also experience other accounting impacts in connection with these transactions. These charges and impacts are related to acquisitions and dispositions, are inconsistent in amount and frequency, and the company believes they are not indicative of the underlying performance of its business.

<u>Charges related to cost saving initiatives.</u> In connection with the transformation of the company's business, the company incurred charges related to cost saving initiatives which do not qualify for special accounting treatment as exit or disposal activities. These charges, which the company believes are not indicative of the underlying performance of its business, primarily relate to costs associated with rationalizing the company's channel partners or vendors, transforming the company's information systems infrastructure, integrating the company's product roadmap, and accelerated depreciation of assets.

Charges related to a power outage incident and related recovery. In June 2019, an unexpected power outage incident occurred at the flash-based memory manufacturing facilities operated through the company's joint venture with Kioxia Corporation in Yokkaichi, Japan. The power outage incident resulted in costs associated with the repair of damaged tools and the write-off of damaged inventory and unabsorbed manufacturing overhead costs which are expensed as incurred. In September 2020, the company received a partial recovery of these losses from insurance carriers. These charges and recoveries are inconsistent in amount and frequency, and the company believes these charges or recoveries are not part of the ongoing production operation of its business.

<u>Convertible debt activity.</u> The company excludes non-cash economic interest expense associated with its convertible notes. These charges do not reflect the company's operating results, and the company believes they are not indicative of the underlying performance of its business.

Other adjustments. From time-to-time, the company incurs charges or gains that the company believes are not a part of the ongoing operation of its business. The resulting expense or benefit is inconsistent in amount and frequency.

Income tax adjustments. Income tax adjustments include the difference between income taxes based on a forecasted annual non-GAAP tax rate and a forecasted annual GAAP tax rate as a result of the timing of certain non-GAAP pre-tax adjustments. The income tax adjustments also include adjustments to estimates related to the current status of the rules and regulations governing the transition to the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. These adjustments are excluded because they are infrequent and the company believes that they are not indicative of the underlying performance of its business.

Additionally, free cash flow is defined as cash flows provided by operating activities less purchases of property, plant and equipment, net of proceeds from sales of property, plant and equipment, and the activity related to Flash Ventures, net. The company considers free cash flow generated in any period to be a useful indicator of cash that is available for strategic opportunities including, among others, investing in the company's business, making strategic acquisitions, repaying debt and strengthening the balance sheet.

Contacts:	

Investor Contact:

Western Digital Corp. T. Peter Andrew 949.672.9655 peter.andrew@wdc.com investor@wdc.com

Media Contact:

Sard Verbinnen & Co John Christiansen David Isaacs Leah Polito WesternDigital-SVC@sardverb.com