

Intel highlights new technology being developed at its Rio Rancho plant

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Rob Crooke, Intel senior vice president and general manager of Non-Volatile Memory Solutions Group, shares Intel's vision and strategy in Memory and Storage to global press at the Intel Memory/Storage day on Thursday in Seoul, South Korea.

Courtesy Intel Corp.

On stage in Seoul, South Korea, Intel Corp. [NASDAQ: INTC] announced Thursday milestones and investments in advance memory and storage technology developed at its Rio Rancho plant.

Intel said it plans to operate a new Optane technology development line at its [facilities in Rio Rancho](#). Optane is a new advanced memory technology designed to speed moving data between memory and a central or main processor, boosting performance for the user, [according to sister publication](#)

[Portland Business Journal](#). The Santa Clara, California-based tech giant said the new technology offers solutions for cloud, artificial intelligence and network edge applications.

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"The world is generating data at an accelerating rate, and businesses are increasingly becoming overwhelmed with how to efficiently process it," said [Rob Crooke](#), Intel senior vice president and general manager of the Non-Volatile Memory Solutions Group, in a statement. "Harvesting value from all this data will be critical in separating the winners from losers. It will require cutting-edge innovation in the memory-and-storage hierarchy, which is what we are driving at Intel."

In September 2018, Intel and then-Gov. Susana Martinez announced Intel's related 3D XPoint technology development [would relocate to its Rio Rancho facility](#), bringing over 100 additional jobs to the site. It has [since announced another 300 new jobs](#). Those announcements helped reverse a trend of a shrinking workforce at Intel. The workforce at the Rio Rancho plant shrank by around 700 in 2016, or 37 percent. The facility [employed as many as 3,200 in 2013](#).

Intel, the [largest manufacturer in the state](#), hired 168 new employees at its Rio Rancho plant in 2018, up from 30 in 2017, [Business First reported in April](#).

Intel plans to release the second generation of its Optane DC Persistent Memory, code-named "Barlow Pass," in 2020.

Intel's Non-Volatile Memory Solutions Group reported a net loss of \$284 million on [\\$940 million in revenue for the second quarter](#).

Along with Optane, Intel is developing its related 3D NAND technology at the Rio Rancho plant. The 3D NAND technology increases storage capacity and lowers per-gigabyte costs, offering a "cost-effective replacement for traditional hard-disk drives to help customers accelerate user experiences, improve the performance of apps and services across segments, and reduce IT costs," according to Intel.