

Intel teases faster processors for the next gen of pro laptops like the 16-inch MacBook Pro

Offering speeds at 5GHz and above, it's likely we'll see these new chips in laptops that already offer 9th-gen Coffee Lake processors such as Apple's MacBook Pro (*above*), Dell's XPS 15 and others.

Over the past six months we've seen laptops using Intel's 9th-generation 'Coffee Lake' processors with up to eight cores from the usual creative pro vendors: from Apple's 16-inch MacBook Pro and Dell's XPS 15 to the .

But we can probably expect it to get a little faster this year. At CES, Intel teased its new 'Comet Lake H' series 10th-generation processors. These are higher-wattage (45W), higher-performance versions of the 10th-generation Comet Lake mobile processors announced last year. That 45-watt power envelope is perfectly suitable for pro-grade creative laptops. It uses Intel's current 9th-generation 45-watt mobile processors, after all.

At CES, Intel showed off a Razer 17-inch gaming laptop using its upcoming Comet Lake H CPU.

Over this year, we will likely see update to all of the above laptops, and they're likely to feature these new processors. What can sort of performance uplift can we expect?

Well, Comet Lake is still using a 14nm process, just like Coffee Lake. This is still fundamentally the same microarchitecture on the same manufacturing process, just fine-tuned. Intel promises that 10th generation Core i7 chips will hit boost speeds up to 5.0GHz. The Core i7-9750H found in today's 16-inch MacBook Pro or Razer Blade 15 Advanced tops out at 4.5GHz, so that's about 11 percent faster. Of course, you can get a Core i9 in your MacBook Pro that boost up to 5.0GHz, but Intel promises the newer 10th-generation Core i9 chips will exceed 5.0GHz.

Comet Lake also allows for slightly faster LPDDR4 memory, which should improve performance in some scenarios. It definitely improves integrated graphics performance, but most high-end laptops come with separate graphics chips from the likes of AMD and Nvidia.

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