



## SilverStone Fortress FT02

# Titan Of The Case World

By Kevin Boey

- 4.5mm aluminum unibody frame, 0.8mm steel body
- SSI CEB, ATX (maximum 12" x 11"), Micro ATX motherboards
- 2x USB2.0, 1x Audio, 1x Mic input
- 212mm x 497mm x 616mm
- 15kg
- RM899
- 1-year warranty
- Inter-Asia Technology Sdn Bhd
- (03) 6276 6292
- www.silverstonetek.com



Fan speed controls are really accessible



Three huge 180mm fans keep the interior cool and comfy

The last time anyone made a serious effort into improving a mere computer case in terms of thermal management was Intel with the short-lived BTX movement. Until recently, case manufacturers have implemented thermal ducting with various successes. One of the very few innovators in this realm of thermal ducting, SilverStone, has always initiated the more interesting thermal solutions – a trait that can be seen in its latest Fortress-series case, the FT02.

All access to your ports and I/O devices is made at the quick-remove top, and for those who lament about the loss of portability and quick USB swapping, this is no LAN party enclosure; it weighs 15 kilos when empty! Although it is

made from aluminum and a wee bit of steel, the uni-body construction adds to most of the weight, and this is why we love SilverStone; for their over-the-top engineering. We do not see this case flexing for at least the next 20 years, though the plastic studs on the top lid would have probably broken off by then.

Once the side panels are removed, it is easy to see why this case is innovative. The vertical orientation of the motherboard makes the evacuation of hot air all the more easier. Although motherboards have not evolved to accommodate such a unique placement, SilverStone has made the FT02 highly accommodating, allowing even the latest ATI Radeon HD 5970 ample headroom in its cavernous

space. Cooling is handled by three massive 180mm fans which draw in cool air from the bottom of the case and a standard 120mm fan on the top near the processor. PSU cooling is handled by a separate duct and thankfully, there are tons of ways in which you can hide your power cables.

Apart from the massive amounts of cooling, the case comes with defensive features to keep the noise down too. Hard drives are muffled in their hot-swappable cages and the case comes with a layer of noise-repelling foam out of the box. Users who want quieter computing can even control the 180mm fan speed settings, located on the top of the case. Keeping the case and your components clean are all-round filters

which are washable and removable, and even the PSU is well-protected. If air-cooling is not one's passion, the FT02 even comes with grommets for watercooling, making it extremely easy to adapt a kit to this case.

### What We Say

Besides being a splendid case to house your workstation or ultimate gaming rig, the Fortress TF02 is both tough and full-featured for any component mixture you can throw at it. Boasting massive airflow, drive space and even interior space for all your hard drives and gadgets, this case excels in both versatility as well as aesthetics with its uni-body construction. For both beauty and functionality, it is hard not to go without the SilverStone Fortress FT02.