USER'S GUIDE

EXTERNAL
HARD
DRIVE
HI-SPEED USB 2.0

acomdata™

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Setting Up & Using HybridDrive on a Mac

Re-Formatting Your HybridDrive

Help & Other Information

Contact AcomData

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Pre-Sales Questions:	sales@acomdata.com

Introduction

Welcome

Welcome, and thank you for choosing an AcomData E5 HybridDrive.

Your HybridDrive features high-quality construction, advanced engineering, and state-of-the-art data storage technology, designed to provide years of reliable, user-friendly performance.

Your HybridDrive is furnished with two guides:
1) this Hard Drive User's Guide, and;
2) a PDF* PushButton Backup User's Guide, located on the Drive's CD partition (more on the CD partition later).

* Viewing PDF documents requires Adobe Acrobat/Reader v. 5 or later. You can download Adobe Reader for free at: www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html

Please read this guide carefully and retain it for future reference. It contains very important information to help you properly set up your HybridDrive and customize its many advanced features.

FYI

If you want to use PushButton™ Backup or Sync, please follow the instructions in this guide first to set up your HybridDrive; then refer to the PushButton™ Backup User's Guide .

Symbols used in this guide:

ALERTS THE READER TO A WARNING OR IMPORTANT INFORMATION.

INDICATES A HELPFUL TIP OR OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION.

ALERTS THE READER TO IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT USB-RELATED ISSUES.

INDICATES INFORMATION SPECIFIC TO MAC USERS.

INDICATES INFORMATION SPECIFIC TO WINDOWS USERS.

Precautions ⚠

Please follow the precautions listed below. Not doing so may result in damage to the device, loss of data, and voiding of the warranty.

• If using this device for general-purpose storage, we strongly recommend you backup the files stored on the device. AcomData is not responsible for data loss or corruption; nor will AcomData perform recovery of lost data or files.

• Do not attempt to open, disassemble, or modify the device.

• Do not expose the device to damp or wet conditions.

• Never place containers of liquids on the device. This can damage the device and increase the risk of electric shock, short-circuiting, fire, or personal injury.

• Do not expose this device to temperatures outside the range of 5°C to 35°C when the device is in operation, and -20ºC to 60ºC when not in operation.

• Do not use a third-party AC adapter or power cord.

• Do not bump, jar or drop the device.

• Do not stand the device in a way not described in this guide.

• Do not disconnect any cables, while the device is powered on, without first unmounting the device.

Package Contents
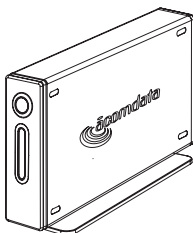
AᴄᴏᴍDᴀᴛᴀ
E5 HʏʙʀɪᴅDʀɪᴠᴇ & Sᴛᴀɴᴅ
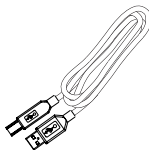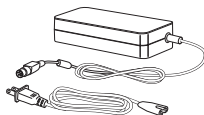
USB ᴄᴀʙʟᴇ

AC Aᴅᴀᴘᴛᴇʀ &
Pᴏᴡᴇʀ Cᴏʀᴅ

CD

HʏʙʀɪᴅDʀɪᴠᴇ
Usᴇʀ's Gᴜɪᴅᴇ

Mᴀɪʟ-Iɴ
Rᴇɢɪsᴛʀᴀᴛɪᴏɴ Cᴀʀᴅ

Rᴜʙʙᴇʀ Fᴇᴇᴛ

If you are missing any item shown above, please contact Customer Service at customerservice@acomdata.com, or call 800-470-4495.

Product Warranty Registration

Register online at www.acomdata.com. Once you enter the site, click on Product Registration and follow the instructions.

Advantages of Online Registration:

1. It's fast, free, and your product is registered immediately;
2. Free unlimited online technical support;
3. You get your own personalized support page:
   • download software updates
   • access all online support services
   • view all of your registered AcomData products
   • manage your personal profile;
4. If you need warranty service, arranging product returns is faster and easier if you registered online.

You may also register via mail by filling out and returning the Registration Card included in the package.

FYI

When registering your AcomData product you will need the model number and serial number. Both are printed on the product label affixed to the box, and on the label affixed to the Drive's stand.

System Requirements for Windows

What you need for the Drive itself:
- Minimum 233 MHz processor (Pentium, Celeron, AMD, etc.)
- Windows XP (Home, Professional, x64, MCE), 2000, Me or 98SE
- Available USB 2.0 or USB 1.1* port

* IF USING A USB 1.1 CONNECTION, DATA TRANSFERS WILL BE AT USB 1.1 SPEEDS (UP TO 12 MBPS).

Password Security has no additional requirements.

PushButton™ Backup and Sync use the supplied Redemption backup software, which gets installed on your HybridDrive when you activate the Nomad Mobile Desktop.

Nomad Mobile Desktop has no additional requirements. However, not all of the bundled applications may be compatible with all supported Windows operating systems.

Attention Windows 98SE and 2000 (pre-SP4) Users:
You will need to install the USB 2.0 driver from the supplied CD before you connect the Drive to your computer. Instructions are provided in "Installing the USB 2.0 Driver."

System Requirements for Mac

What you need for the Drive itself:
• Mac with a G3 (or later) or Intel processor
• Mac OS 10.2 or later
• Available USB 2.0 or USB 1.1* port

* If using a USB 1.1 connection, data transfers will be at USB 1.1 speeds (up to 12 Mbps).

Password Security requires 5 MB of free computer hard disk space for the SecureHD Login software.

PushButton™ Backup and Sync use the supplied Redemption backup software, which requires:
• Mac OS 10.3 or later
• 20 MB of free computer hard disk space

Attention Mac OS 10.2 users:
Your AcomData Drive was formatted at the factory with the FAT32 file system. However, Mac OS 10.2 does not recognize FAT32/MS-DOS formatted volumes larger than 128 GB.

If these conditions pertain to your situation, there are several ways to deal with this issue:

1. *If you don't need Windows compatibility, you can re-format the Drive using one of the Mac OS Extended file systems. See "Re-Formatting the Drive" for instructions;*

2. *If you want to maintain Windows compatibility, you can partition the Drive such that no partition is larger than 128 GB. Partitioning a hard disk will erase any data stored on the disk. Go to http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?artnum=107483 for instructions;*

3. *Before you connect the Drive, upgrade to Mac OS 10.3 or later. This option will allow you to maintain Windows compatibility and no partitioning or re-formatting is required.*

For more information about this issue, go to: http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?artnum=107483 on the Apple web site.

Getting to Know Your AcomData HybridDrive

E5 HybridDrive at a Glance

PushButton
Lights up blue when the Drive is powered on. Flashes red when reading or writing data. Press to run a backup operation. (Requires installation of the supplied software.)

Removable Stand
Can be removed for horizontal placement or stacking of Drives.

Power Switch
Turn the Drive on and off as needed while your computer is running. See "How to Properly Turn Off and Disconnect the Drive" for details.

USB 2.0/1.1 Port
The supplied USB cable plugs in here. The Drive has a Type B port, and your computer has a Type A port, which correspond to the connectors of the USB cable.

Power Port
The AC adapter plugs in here. When connecting the Drive, take care to orient the connector properly, as it will only go in one way.
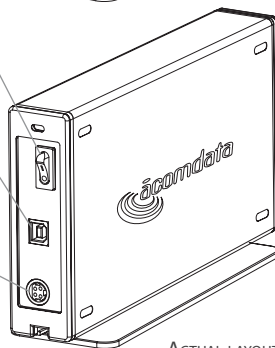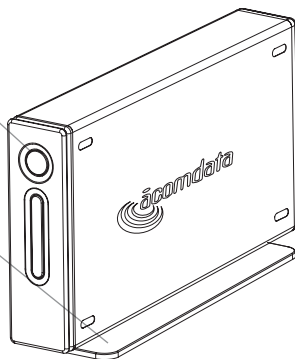
Actual layout of back panel may not be exactly as shown.

E5 HybridDrive In-Depth

This chapter describes, in detail, the innovative features available with your AcomData HybridDrive. We recommend you take a few moments to read it through and discover what makes your HybridDrive so much more than a high-performance data storage device.

VirtualCD + SecureHD

Your HybridDrive uses an advanced partition scheme called **VirtualCD + SecureHD**. The Drive was formatted at the factory with two partitions. As the name implies, one is the CD partition; the other is the HD (Hard Disk) partition. When you connect the Drive to your computer, the two partitions will mount as separate, distinct volumes, as if they were two discrete devices.

The CD partition is recognized by your computer as a CD-ROM volume with the label "CD PART." On Windows PCs it will appear in My Computer under Devices with Removable Storage. On the Mac OS it will appear on the Desktop and in the Finder.

The CD partition stores the software and documentation bundled with your Drive. This is what makes the portabil-

ity of Password Security and the Nomad Mobile Desktop applications possible, enabling you to use these features on any compatible computer. (*More on Password Security and Nomad Mobile Desktop below.)* The CD partition is read-only; you cannot delete it or modify it.

The HD partition is a standard hard disk partition that mounts to your system just like any other hard disk volume, except you have the option to secure it using Password Security. The HD partition is where the data you save to the Drive is stored. If you activate the Nomad Mobile Desktop, the included applications are installed on, and run from, the HD partition.

Password Security

The Password Security feature is a simple yet powerful tool that you can use to restrict access to the HD partition of your Drive. If Password Security is enabled, before the HD partition will mount you must enter your password on the SecureHD Login window. *(The CD partition mounts automatically, whether you login or not.)*

Password Security employs SHA-256 encryption, which uses a type of algorithm (known as a *hash function)* to encrypt your password. The encrypted password is stored as a *hash*

value (a fixed-sized output generated from a variable-sized amount of text).

The hash is one-way only, so it is extremely difficult to decrypt, making Password Security very secure—to say the least. It is so secure, in fact, that if you forget your password you will simply never be able to access the stored data. The data is effectively lost. Luckily, you'll have a password hint to help you remember. The hash value is stored on the Drive itself, not your computer. Therefore, your Drive is always secure no matter what computer you connect it to.

The Drive comes from the factory with Password Security enabled and armed with a pre-set password. You can either replace the pre-set with a password of your own, or, if you do not want to secure your Drive, you can disable Password Security. Full instructions are provided.

Nomad Mobile Desktop (Windows only)

Nomad Mobile Desktop is a powerful, ready-to-use feature built into your HybridDrive. Nomad comes pre-loaded with a collection of popular applications. If you activate Nomad *(no fees, no license codes, no strings)* these applications will be installed on, and run from, the HD partition of your HybridDrive—**no PC installation is required**.

Nomad Mobile Desktop

- Backup
- OpenOffice.org
- E-mail
- Skype
- Explore
- Device Info
- Password Manager
- Website
- Eject   Tour
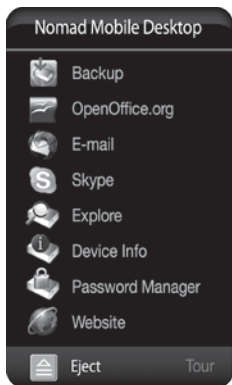
The Mobile Desktop appears on screen when your HybridDrive mounts to your system. It remains on screen only for as long as you need it to. It will disappear if you click on another part of the screen or after a period of inactivity. To view the Mobile Desktop at any time, simply click the Nomad icon in the Windows Taskbar.

Please Note: If you want to use PushButton™ Backup or Sync, you must activate Nomad. These two features need the Redemption backup software, which is bundled with Nomad, in order to function. Applications bundled with the Nomad cannot be installed individually.

About Nomad Mobile Desktop Applications

Redemption Backup

Developed exclusively for PushButton-equipped Drives, Redemption is the software that backs up your data when you press the PushButton. Redemption is also the software behind the Sync function.

However, there's more to Redemption than PushButton Backup and Sync. As a full-featured data backup and restore solution, Redemption can also be used as a stand-alone

application that you can launch from within the Mobile Desktop at any time. (For instructions on using PushButton™ Backup, Sync and other functions in Redemption, see the PushButton™ Backup User's Guide.)

OpenOffice.org

OpenOffice.org is an office suite from Sun Microsystems. It includes a word processor, spreadsheet, presentation program, vector graphics editor, and database component. OpenOffice.org is compatible with Microsoft Office and other office suites.

The source code of the suite was released as an open source project with the aim of breaking the market dominance of Microsoft Office by providing a lower-cost, high-quality, open alternative. For more information about OpenOffice.org, visit www.openoffice.org.

Thunderbird

Thunderbird is an award-winning, cross-platform e-mail and news client developed by the Mozilla Foundation. For more information, visit www.mozilla.com/thunderbird/.

Skype

Used by millions everyday, Skype is powerful P2P software

that lets you talk to people around the world using your computer. Features include voice calls, text messaging and conferencing. Calls between Skype users are free. You can even place calls to traditional phones (charges may apply). For more information about Skype, go to www.skype.com.

Utilities

Nomad also comes with several utilities to help you quickly access your stored files, track disk usage, and manage settings and Password Security.

PushButton™ Backup

PushButton Backup is a faster, easier way to run routine data backups. Rather than having to launch a backup utility and set cumbersome parameters every time you want to backup your files, all you need to do is press the PushButton on your Drive.

Not only does PushButton Backup make backups simpler and more convenient, but since you're backing up your data to a high-performance hard drive—as opposed to say, tape or optical media—backups are also much faster.

A detailed explanation of the various backup operations available, as well as full instructions for setting up and using

PushButton Backup, are provided in the PushButton Backup User's Guide, located on the CD partition of your Drive.

Synchronization (Sync)

Sync allows you to easily synchronize the data on two or more computers/hard drives. You can work from multiple drives without the need to keep track of what files are on which drives.

Sync is one of the operations that can be launched via the PushButton. A more detailed explanation and instructions are provided in the PushButton Backup User's Guide.

About Hi-Speed USB 2.0

Your AcomData Drive is equipped with a Hi-Speed USB 2.0 interface (USB stands for "Universal Serial Bus.").

USB 2.0 has a maximum interface transfer rate (bandwidth) of 480 Mbps (**M**ega**b**its **p**er **s**econd). That's 40 times faster than the earlier standard, USB 1.1, which has a bandwidth of 12 Mbps.

Performance in day-to-day use will depend on many factors, including: CPU utilization; file system overhead; the number of active devices on the USB bus; the size, structure and

number of files being transferred, and; the speed at which other devices can transfer data to/from the Drive. Also, as is the case with any data I/O (input/output) technology, some bandwidth is taken up by the protocols that structure and govern data transmissions—this is called *interface overhead*. Given these and other factors, in day-to-day use you can expect to get maximum, sustained transfer rates in the mid-30s MB/s (Mega**bytes** per second).

*Note: The interface transfer rate specification of an I/O technology, such as USB, is expressed using the **bit** as the base unit (e.g. Mbps) because this is the truest way of measuring raw interface performance. However, for the end user it is more meaningful to express day-to-day transfer rates using the **byte** as the base unit (e.g. MB/s) because computer files are measured in bytes (kilobytes, megabytes, etc.).*

USB 2.0 is backward compatible with USB 1.1. This means you can connect a USB 1.1 device to a USB 2.0 port, and vice versa. However, interface transfer rates are limited by the interface with the lower bandwidth. So, for example, if you plug a USB 2.0 device into a USB 1.1 port on your computer, data transfer rates will be limited to USB 1.1 speeds.

USB uses a master/slave architecture. This means the computer (the "master") dictates data flow to, from and between attached USB devices (the "slaves"). A single USB bus can

support up to 127 USB devices. However, connecting more than a few USB devices to a computer usually requires the use of one or more USB-equipped hubs. A typical USB hub can accommodate several USB devices.

Exclusive 16-Bit RISC Processor

While other USB controllers use 8-bit processors, AcomData's USB controller has an exclusive, on-board 16-bit RISC *(Reduced Instruction Set Computer)* processor. In benchmark lab tests, this controller was up to 22% faster than other USB 2.0 controllers. This does not mean that our USB controller exceeds the 480 Mbps bandwidth of the Hi-Speed USB 2.0 specification. It does, however, mean that you'll enjoy better day-to-day performance, subject to the factors described above.

Mac & PC Ready

Your AcomData Drive was formatted at the factory with the FAT32 file system. Because FAT32 is supported on both Windows and Mac, the Drive is compatible with both plat-forms right out of the box. Although FAT32 will work fine in most cases, you may want to consider re-formatting the Drive using one of the other file systems that may be avail-able to you. See "Re-Formatting the Drive" for information.

Hot-Pluggable

You can connect/disconnect the Drive while your computer, and the Drive itself, are running (i.e. "hot").

Fanless Design

All hard drives generate heat during normal operation. However, your AcomData Drive was engineered to dissipate heat so efficiently that it doesn't need a fan. The results are a sleeker, more compact design, and near-silent operation.

On-Off Switch

It's a simple thing, but it's powerful too. The on-off switch allows you to save electricity by turning the Drive on only when you actually need to use it. Furthermore, if Password Security is enabled you can reduce the risk of others accessing your files when you leave your computer unattended. *(Sure, someone can always turn on the Drive, but unless they know your password they won't be able to access your data.)*

Unmount the Drive before you turn it off or disconnect it. See "How to Properly Turn Off and Disconnect the Drive" for details.

Technical Specifications

Dimensions: ....4.6" X 1.37" X 8.13"; 117 X 35 x 206.5 (mm)

Weight... 1.09 Kg / 2.4 lbs.

Interface: ....Hi-Speed USB 2.0

Interface transfer rate (max)..480 Mbps

Data buffer (cache)... 8 MB

Rotational speed .... 7200 RPM

Latency (average)...4.2 ms

Seek times (average)
   Read ....8.5 ms
   Track-to-track..2 ms
   Full stroke..21 ms

Error rate (non-recoverable)..< 1 in 10^{14} bits read

Spindle start time (max) .... 9 s

Start/Stop cycles (at 25ºC) 50,000

Ambient temperature (operating) .... 5ºC – 35ºC

Relative humidity (non-condensing, operating) .... 8% – 90%

Chassis (approved/ recognized) ....FCC/CE/UL

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Installing Your HybridDrive

Placing the Drive on Your Desktop

Place the Drive on a sturdy, flat surface. Do not place the Drive on an unstable or makeshift base, such as a stack of books, that may be prone to collapse or toppling.

Choosing an Orientation (Vertical or Horizontal)

Your AcomData Drive can be placed on your desktop in either the vertical or horizontal position. If you do not plan to stack on additional AcomData E5 Drives, we recommend the vertical position, as this orientation takes up the minimum amount of desktop space. Also, the PushButton will be higher up, so there is less chance it will get obstructed by other items on your desk.

Vertical Placement

Most likely, your Drive was packaged with the stand attached to the Drive case, so you can stand the Drive on your desktop vertically right out of the box. However, if the stand was not already attached, follow the steps below:

1. If the screws and nuts are not already affixed to the stand, insert the two screws through the two holes from the underside of the stand. Screw a nut onto the end of each screw just far enough to hold the nut to the screw. Do not tighten the nuts.

2. With both screws and nuts in place, push down on each screw head to make sure the screws extend through the holes as far as they will go.

3. Attach the stand to the Drive case by sliding the nuts through the groove in the Drive case, entering from the backside of the case. You cannot slide the stand in from the front of the case. The stand is symmetrical so it does not matter which end you insert first. Once the nuts are in the groove, position the stand so that it is centered with the Drive case.
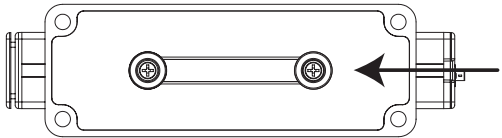
4. While holding the stand in place with one hand, use a screwdriver with the proper type and size head to tighten the screws. Make sure the stand is firmly secured to the Drive case.

Horizontal Placement

Do not discard the stand. The label with your Drive's Model and Serial numbers may be affixed to the underside of the stand (it may also be affixed to the back of the Drive). In the event that you need warranty service, you will need to send us the stand along with the Drive itself.

Removing the stand

Use a screw driver with the proper type and size head to loosen the two screws located on the underside of the stand. Loosen the screws just enough so that you can easily slide the stand out of the groove. Keep the nuts attached to the screws. Store the stand in a safe place.

Affixing the rubber feet to the Drive case

It is highly recommended you use the supplied rubber feet for horizontal placement and stacking of Drives. The feet help keep the Drive securely in place, and they also prevent the Drive case from possibly scuffing your desktop.

1. Decide whether you want the PushButton to be located on the left or right side when the Drive is in the horizontal position, and select the appropriate side on which to affix the feet.

2. Remove one of the rubber feet from the paper backing and carefully position the foot inside one of the four oblong indentations, with the adhesive side down. Once the foot is properly positioned, press down firmly to secure it in place. Repeat for the other three feet.
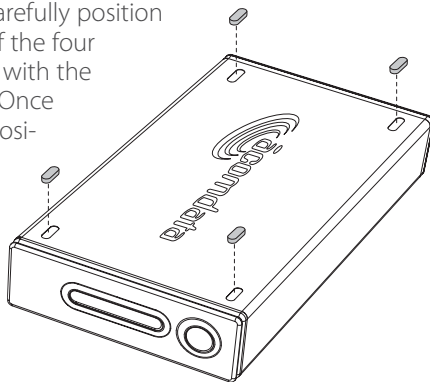
Installing the USB 2.0 Driver

If you are using Windows 98SE or Windows 2000 (Service Pack 3 or earlier) you need to install the USB 2.0 driver on the supplied CD before connecting the Drive. Follow the instructions below. All other users can proceed to "Connecting the Drive to Your Computer."

1. Insert the CD into your computer's CD/DVD drive.

2. The installation program will launch automatically. Follow the instructions in the InstallShield Wizard.

3. On the final screen of the InstallShield Wizard, you will be given the option to restart your computer. *(You must restart your computer in order to make the software active.)* Make sure the "restart" option is selected and click Finish. Do not remove the CD until after the computer restarts.

4. After your computer restarts, you can remove the CD.

5. Proceed to "Connecting the Drive to Your Computer."

Connecting the Drive to Your Computer

Refer to the illustration on the next page when following the instructions below.

1. Plug the AC adapter into the Drive's Power Port.

   The connector can be inserted only one way. Do not force it. If the connector will not go in, check the orientation and try again.

   Do not force the connector or you may damage it and/or the Drive and void the warranty.
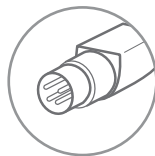
2. Plug the power cord into the socket in the AC adapter. Then plug the other end into an AC outlet.

   If the power cord has three prongs, be sure to plug the cord into a three-prong (grounded) outlet.

3. Plug the Type A connector of the USB cable into a USB port on your computer or USB hub.

4. Plug the Type B connector into the USB 2.0 port on the back of the Drive.

   When making the connections, be sure to correctly insert the connectors, or you may damage the Drive and void the warranty.

"A"   "B"

USB 2.0/1.1 Port

Power Switch

To AC outlet
(If plug has three prongs, be sure to plug into a three-prong outlet.)

USB Type B Connector

Power Port

Power Cord

USB Type A Connector
Plug into to a USB 2.0 /1.1 port on your computer or USB hub.

USB Cable

AC Adapter
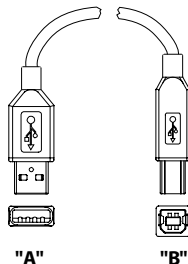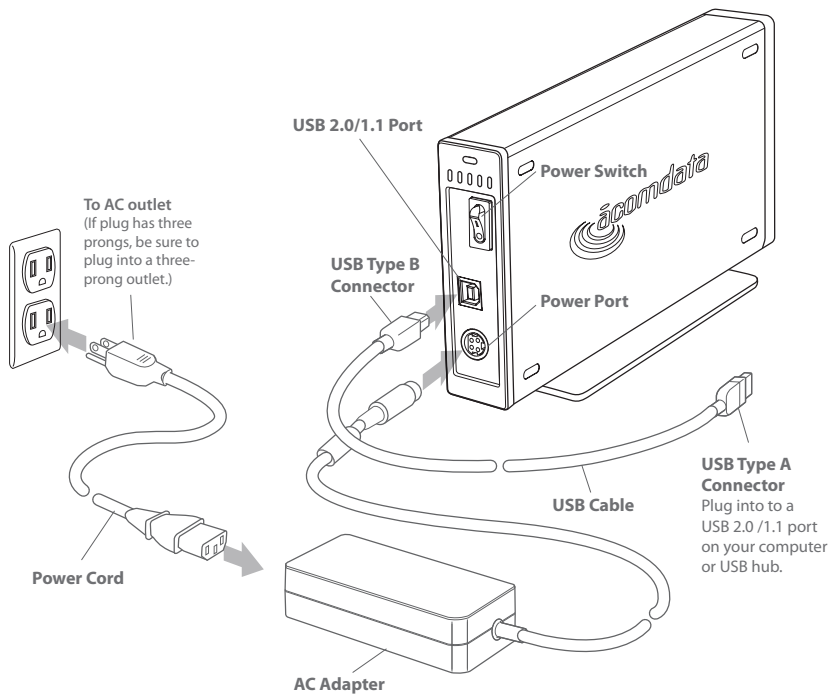
5. Flip the power switch on the back of the Drive to turn it on.

   After the Drive powers up, the CD partition will mount.

   On Windows, you will see an icon labelled 'CD PART' in My Computer under Devices with Removable Storage.

   On the Mac, an icon labelled 'CD PART' will appear on the Desktop and in the Finder's Sidebar.

6. Your next step depends on your operating system:

   Windows users: Proceed to "Setting Up & Using HybridDrive on Windows."

   Mac users: Proceed to "Setting Up & Using HybridDrive on a Mac."

Setting Up the Drive

This chapter will help you set up your HybridDrive with the custom features you want. Please follow the instructions carefully.

Step 1: Confirm the Drive has been recognized by your PC

After you connect the Drive, the following should occur:

1. You will see a series of 'Found New Hardware' pop-up alerts on the Taskbar. The final alert will say 'Your new hardware is installed and ready to use'.

2. The Drive's CD partition will mount.

   The CD partition will always mount automatically whether Password Security is enabled or not. The CD partition is read-only. It cannot be changed or deleted. *(See 'HybridDrive In-Depth' for information on the VirtualCD+SecureHD partition scheme.)*

   To confirm the CD partition has mounted, go to My Computer; you'll see an icon labeled 'CD PART' listed under Devices with Removable Storage.

3. The HybridDrive Welcome Screen will appear.

Step 2: Deactivate the Welcome Screen?

By default, the Welcome Screen is set to appear whenever a secured Drive mounts. If you plan to keep Password Security enabled, but you don't want to see the Welcome Screen every time you mount the Drive, check *'Do not display the Welcome Screen next time'*. The next time you mount the Drive you will be taken directly to the Password Security Login window.

You can re-activate the Welcome Screen by checking *'Show Welcome Screen'* in the Password Security Login window. This can be useful if someone else needs to use the Drive.

Step 3: Change the pre-set password or disable Password Security

Your HybridDrive came from the factory armed with a pre-set password. If you wish to keep Password Security enabled, you should change this password (see Option 1 below). If you do not want to secure your Drive you can disable Password Security (see Option 2).

Option 1: Changing the Pre-set Password:

1. In the Welcome Screen, click on *'Change Password'*. A window titled *'SecureHD Login'* will appear.

2. In the *Current Password* field, enter: *12345*.

3. In the *New Password* field enter your new password.

4. In the *Confirm New Password* field re-enter the new password.

5. In the *Hint* field type in a word or short phrase that will help you remember your password in case you forget it. Click *OK*.

6. You will see a message telling you to unplug and plug in the device. Click *OK*, then unplug and plug in the USB cable connected to the Drive.

7. If you checked *'Do not display the Welcome Screen next time'* in Step 2, the Password Security Login window will appear

after you re-connect the Drive. If you did not check this option, the Welcome Screen will appear. In that case, click on *'Login'* to display the SecureHD Login window.

Enter your password and click *OK*.

You will see an alert message which says, *'Login successful. The HD partition is now mounted and ready to use.'* Click *OK* or just wait for the message to time out.

8. Proceed to Step 4.


Option 2: Disabling Password Security:

1. In the Welcome Screen, click on *'Disable Password Security'*. A window titled *'SecureHD Login'* will appear.

2. In the *Current Password* field, enter *12345*, and click *OK*.

3. You will see a message telling you to unplug and plug in the device. Click *OK*, then unplug and plug in the USB cable connected to the Drive.

4. Proceed to Step 4.

Step 4: Activate Nomad Mobile Desktop?

After you complete Step 3, a new window will appear asking if you wish to activate the Nomad Mobile Desktop. *(See 'HybridDrive In-Depth' for information on the Nomad Mobile Desktop and descriptions of the bundled software applications.)*

Activating Nomad requires no fees or license codes. Nomad is yours to enjoy with our compliments. The manufacturers of the individual applications may have their own end-user license agreements (EULAs), but there is no cost to install their software.
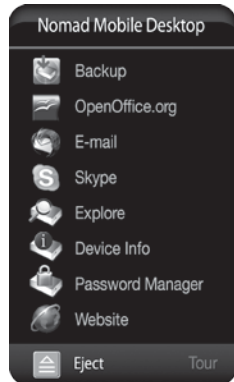
If you want to use PushButton™ Backup or Sync, you must activate Nomad. These two features need Redemption backup software, which is bundled with Nomad. Applications bundled with Nomad cannot be installed individually.

To activate Nomad, click *OK.* All included software will be installed to the HD partition. The installation may take several minutes and requires approximately 300 MB of disk space.

When the installation is complete the Mobile Desktop will appear on screen and the Nomad icon will appear in the Taskbar.

The Redemption splash screen and graphical user interface (GUI) will also momentarily appear on screen, and the Redemption icon will show up in the Taskbar. *(By default, Redemption is set to auto-launch because it must be running in order for PushButton Backup to work.)*

To leave Nomad dormant, click *Cancel.*

If you think you may want to activate Nomad at some future time, do not check *'Do not display this message next time, even if Nomad Mobile Desktop is not activated.'*

You can confirm that the HD partition has mounted by going to My Computer. An icon/drive letter labeled 'HD PART' will be listed under Hard Disk Drives.

Congratulations, setup is complete. Read on for important information and explore how to best take advantage of HybridDrive's many features.

How to Safely Turn Off & Disconnect the Drive

Before you learn anything else about using your HybridDrive you should learn how to properly turn it off and disconnect it from your computer. The procedure is very simple, but if not done correctly, you could lose data or damage the Drive and your computer.

About Mounting and Unmounting

Apart from physically connecting an external hard drive to a computer, before a hard drive can be used, it must be "mounted" to your operating system. This means the system has recognized the drive and established a communications link with it. If the drive contains more than one recognizable partition (like your HybridDrive), each partition will mount as a separate volume.

Mounting occurs automatically when you turn on a drive. However, if you wish to turn off or disconnect a hard drive while the computer is running, you must first manually unmount its mounted volume(s).

Never turn off or disconnect a hard drive from a running computer without unmounting it first. You may lose data or damage the drive.

The steps required to unmount your HybridDrive depends on whether or not you activated the Nomad Mobile Desktop.

How to Unmount the Drive if Nomad is Activated

1. If the Nomad Mobile Desktop is not on screen, click the Nomad icon in the Taskbar.

2. Click the Eject button on the Mobile Desktop. You will see a message telling you it is safe to remove the device.

3. You can then safely turn off and/or disconnect the Drive.

How to Unmount the Drive if Nomad is Not Activated

1. In the Taskbar, click the Safely Remove Hardware icon (the icon with the green arrow). A pop-up message will appear with a list of devices connected to your computer.

2. Select the HybridDrive. (It will be listed as "USB Mass Storage Device" with two drive letters—one for the CD partition, and one for the HD partition.)

   After a few seconds both partitions will unmount and Windows will give you a message that it is safe to remove the device.

3. Click OK. You can then safely turn off and/or disconnect the Drive.

Using Nomad

Viewing the Mobile Desktop

If Nomad was activated, the Mobile Desktop will appear on screen whenever the Drive mounts to your system. It will disappear if you click on another part of the screen or after a period of inactivity.

To view the Nomad Mobile Desktop at any time, click on the Nomad icon in the Taskbar.

Nomad Mobile Desktop
Backup
OpenOffice.org
E-mail
Skype
Explore
Device Info
Password Manager
Website
Eject   Tour
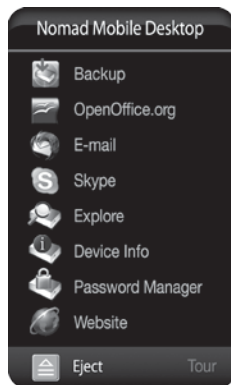
Take the Tour!

Click '*Tour*' on the Nomad Mobile Desktop to view a short presentation that will quickly explains Nomad's features.

Setting applications to auto-launch

You can set the main applications on the Mobile Desktop to auto-launch whenever you connect your HybridDrive to a PC. For example, let's say the first thing you do after you mount your Drive is check your e-mail. Rather than manually launching Thunderbird every time, Thunderbird can be set to launch automatically when the Drive mounts.

How to set applications auto-launch

1. If the Mobile Desktop is not on screen, click on the Nomad icon in the Taskbar.

2. On the Mobile Desktop, click *'Device Info'*.

3. In the Device Info window, click the *Settings* tab.

4. Under Settings, check the applications you want to auto-launch, and click *OK*. The applications you check will auto-launch the next time you mount the Drive.

Using Redemption

Redemption can be used as a stand-alone application or in conjunction with PushButton Backup. The Sync feature is also a function of Redemption. For instructions on using Redemption, see the PushButton Backup User's Guide.

FYI

If you plan to use PushButton Backup, make sure Redemption is set to auto-launch. In order for the PushButton to work, Redemption must be running. If Redemption is not set to auto-launch, you will need to manually launch the application before running a backup via the PushButton.

If Redemption is set to auto-launch, when the Drive mounts

the Redemption splash screen and user interface will briefly flash on screen; the Redemption icon will appear in the Taskbar and remain there as long as Redemption is active.

Redemption will remain active and in the background as long as you do not manually quit the application, or as long as the Drive is mounted to your system.

Redemption will remain in the background until you call it up, either by clicking *'Backup'* in the Mobile Desktop or by pressing the PushButton on the Drive.

Using the Other Applications

Most of the main applications on the Mobile Desktop are third-party programs that work just like any other Windows-compatible software.

It is beyond the scope of this guide to provide user instructions for all applications. The exception is Redemption, which was developed specifically for your HybridDrive.

Some of the applications are furnished with HTML help documents, which contain links to various resources and guides. For example, to get help for OpenOffice.org, go to HD PART (in My Computer) > Apps > Portable Open Office and launch the document 'help.html'.

You can also visit the software manufacturers' web sites for assistance and further information:

• OpenOffice.org: www.openoffice.org
• Thunderbird: www.mozilla.com/thunderbird/
• Skype: www.skype.com

Using Password Security

Changing the Password

You can change the password at any time. Doing so will not affect any data stored on your Drive.

1. Make sure the Drive is connected to your computer and powered on.

2. There are a number of ways to access the window that lets you change the password. Select an option below and then proceed to step 3.

   From the Welcome Screen:
   Click on *'Change Password'*.

   From the SecureHD Login window:
   Click the **Options** button.

   From the Nomad Mobile Desktop:
   Click *'Password Security'*.

   If you are logged in but Nomad was not activated:
   Double-click the CD PART icon in **My Computer**. In the CD PART icon window, double-click **PWMangr.exe**.

3. In the **Current Password** field, enter the current password.

4. In the *New Password* field, enter your new password.

5. In the *Confirm New Password* field, re-enter the new password.

6. In the *Hint* field, type in a word or short phrase that will help you remember your password in case you forget it. Click *OK*.

7. You will see a message telling you to unplug and plug in the device. Click *OK*, then unplug and plug in the USB cable connected to the Drive.

8. After you re-connect the Drive, either the Welcome Screen or the SecureHD Login window will appear. If the Welcome Screen appears, click on *'Login'* to access the SecureHD Login window. Enter your password and then click *OK*.

   You will see an alert message which says, *'Login successful. The HD partition is now mounted and ready to use.'* Click *OK* or just wait for the message to time out.

Disabling Password Security

You can disable Password Security at any time. Doing so will not affect any data stored on your Drive.

1. Make sure the Drive is connected to your computer and powered on.

2. There are a number of ways to access the window that lets you disable Password Security. Select an option below and then proceed to step 3.

   From the Welcome Screen:
   Click on *'Disable Password Security'*.

   From the SecureHD Login window:
   Click the **Options** button.

   From the Nomad Mobile Desktop:
   Click *'Password Security'*.

   If you are logged in but Nomad was not activated:
   Double-click the CD PART icon in **My Computer**. In the CD PART icon window, double-click **PWMangr.exe**.

3. Check *Disable Password Security*.

4. In the **Current Password** field, enter the password and click **OK**.

5. You will see a message telling you to unplug and plug in the device. Click *OK*, then unplug and plug in the USB cable connected to the Drive.

6. After you re-connect the Drive, both the CD partition and the HD partition will mount automatically. You can confirm this by going to My Computer where you should see the CD PART and HD PART icons.

Enabling Password Security

You can enable Password Security at any time. Doing so will not affect any data stored on your Drive.

1. Make sure the Drive is connected to your computer and powered on.

2. There are a number of ways to access the window that lets you enable Password Security. Select an option below and then proceed to step 3.

From the Nomad Mobile Desktop:
Click *'Password Security'*.

If Nomad was not activated:
Double-click the CD PART icon in *My Computer*. In the CD PART icon window, double-click PWMangr.exe.

3. In the *New Password* field, enter a password.

4. In the *Confirm New Password* field, re-enter the password.

5. In the *Hint* field, type in a word or short phrase that will help you remember your password in case you forget it. Click *OK*.

6. You will see a message telling you to unplug and plug in the device. Click *OK*, then unplug and plug in the USB cable con-nected to the Drive.

7. After you re-connect the Drive, either the Welcome Screen or the SecureHD Login window will appear. If the Welcome Screen appears, click on *'Login'* to access the SecureHD Login window.

   Enter your password and then click *OK*.

   From now on, before the HD partition will mount, you will need to input your password in the SecureHD Login win-dow.

What if You Forget Your Password?

Password Security allows three consecutive attempts to enter your password. If the third attempt is unsuccessful you can view your Hint and try again.

If you permanently forget your password you will not be able to access the HD partition. For all intents and purposes, the HD partition will be rendered unusable, and any data stored on the HD partition will effectively be lost.

Resetting the Password

It is possible to regain access to the HD partition by using the Reset Password feature. However, this is the option of last resort because…

• *RESETTING THE PASSWORD WILL ERASE THE HD PARTITION! ALL DATA ON THE HD PARTITION WILL BE PERMANENTLY DELETED.*

• *IF NOMAD MOBILE DESKTOP WAS ACTIVATED ON YOUR DRIVE, YOU WILL ALSO LOSE NOMAD AND ALL BUNDLED APPLICATIONS. HOWEVER, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO RE-ACTIVATE NOMAD AFTER THE PASSWORD IS RESET.*

How to reset the password

1. Double-click 'CD PART' in My Computer. In the CD PART window, double-click ONSPCPRT.exe.

2. The *Reset Password* window will launch. Follow the instructions on screen. You will receive a series of warnings reminding you of the consequences of resetting the password and giving you the option to cancel.

3. If you proceed to reset the password, the HD partition will be erased.

   Once the HD partition is erased, you will receive a message telling you the password was reset. You will then need to unplug and plug in the USB cable connected to the Drive in order for the change to take effect.

   If the Nomad Mobile Desktop was active on your Drive, you will also see an alert message telling you "*This application cannot be launched...*" This is because when the HD partition was erased, Nomad and the bundled applications were also erased. However, you can re-activate Nomad.

Re-Activating Nomad

After you login, the *Activate Nomad Mobile Desktop?* window will appear. Click OK to re-activate Nomad and have the included applications installed on the HD partition.

Re-Naming the HD Partition

The default name (label) of the HD partition is "HD PART."
You can change the label, if you wish, in order to make the
name more meaningful to you (e.g. "My Work", "HD 1", etc.)

FYI — *If you plan to re-format the HD partition, you will have the opportunity to re-name the partition during the formatting process.*

Option 1:

1. Go to My Computer and click on the HD PART icon.

2. With the HD PART icon highlighted, go to the File menu and select Properties.

3. Under the General tab, type a name in the text field beside the Drive icon. Click Apply and then click OK.

Option 2:

1. Go to My Computer and right-click on the HD PART icon.

2. In the pop-up menu, select Rename.

3. Enter a new name in the icon label and press Return.

Performing Basic Tasks

Opening Files and Folders

1. Double-click on the HD PART icon in My Computer, or if you have Nomad activated, click Explore on the Mobile Desktop. A window showing the Drive's contents will appear.

2. Double-click on the file or folder that you want to open.

Copying Files and Folders to Your Drive

1. Single-click the file or folder you want to copy in order to highlight it.

2. Go to "Edit --> Copy."

3. Double-click the Drive icon to open it. If you want to copy the file or folder to a specific folder on the Drive, double-click that folder to open it.

4. Go to "Edit --> Paste." The file or folder will copy over.

Setting Up
& Using
HybridDrive
on a Mac

Using Password Security

After you connect the Drive and turn it on, an icon labelled 'CD PART' will appear on the Desktop and in the Finder's Sidebar.

Because the Drive came from the factory with Password Security enabled, the HD partition will not mount until you install the Secure HD Login software and either replace the factory pre-set password with one of your own, or disable Password Security.

Installing SecureHD Login

1. Double-click the CD PART icon on the Desktop or in the Finder.

2. In the CD window, open the folder "Mac X" and then double-click "Secure_HD_Login...tar.gz." The file will expand and create a new folder on your Desktop called "Secure_HD_Login."

3. Double-click on the folder "Secure_HD_Login." Inside the folder, double-click "Secure_HD_Login...pkg" to launch the installer.

4. Follow the instructions on screen to install the software.

5. When installation is complete, you will need to re-start your computer.

   After your computer re-starts, you will notice the SecureHD Login icon on the Desktop.

Logging in

1. Double-click the SecureHD Login icon on the Desktop to launch the SecureHD Login window.

2. In the SecureHD Login window, enter your password and click Login. The HD partition, labeled "HD PART", will mount to the Desktop and in the Finder.

FYI

The HD partition may take up to 40 seconds to mount, during which time the PushButton may flash red continuously. The longer mounting time has to do with the fact that the Drive was formatted with the FAT32 file system, which makes it compatible with both PCs and Macs.

If you find the time-to-mount unacceptable, you can re-format the Drive with one of the Mac OS Extended files systems. This will resolve the issue. For instructions, see "Re-Formatting the Drive."

Changing the Password

You can change the password at any time. Doing so will not affect any data stored on your Drive.

1. Make sure the Drive is connected to your computer and powered on.

2. Double-click on the SecureHD Login icon on the Desktop. The SecureHD Login window will appear on screen.

3. Click the *Options* button.

4. In the *Current Password* field, enter the current password. If this is your first time changing the password, enter *12345* (this is the factory pre-set).

5. In the *New Password* field, enter your new password.

6. In the *Confirm New Password* field, re-enter the new password.

7. In the *Hint* field, type in a word or short phrase that will help you remember your password in case you forget it. Click *Change*.

8. You will see a message telling you to unplug and plug in the device for the change to take effect. But before you do, drag the CD PART icon to the trash. After the CD partition unmounts, you can safely unplug and then plug in the USB cable from the Drive.

9. To log in, double-click on the SecureHD Login icon, enter your password and click Login. The HD partition, labeled "HD PART" will mount to the Desktop and in the Finder.

Disabling Password Security

You can disable Password Security at any time. Doing so will not affect any data stored on your Drive.

1. Make sure the Drive is connected to your computer and powered on.

2. Double-click on the SecureHD Login icon on the Desktop. The SecureHD Login window will appear on screen.

3. Click the *Options* button.

4. Check *Disable Password Security*.

5. In the *Current Password* field, enter your password, and click *Change*.

6. You will see a message telling you to unplug and plug in the device for the change to take effect. But before you do, drag the CD PART icon to the trash. After the CD partition unmounts, you can safely unplug and then plug in the USB cable from your computer.

7. After you reconnect the Drive, the HD partition will mount.

Enabling Password Security

You can enable Password Security at any time. Doing so will not affect any data stored on your Drive.

1. Make sure the Drive is connected to your computer and powered on.

2. Double-click on the SecureHD Login icon on the Desktop. The SecureHD Login window will appear on screen.

3. Click the *Options* button.

4. In the *New Password* field, enter a password.

5. In the *Confirm New Password* field, re-enter the password.

6. In the *Hint* field, type in a word or short phrase that will help you remember your password in case you forget it. Click *Change*.

7. You will see a message telling you to unplug and plug in the device for the change to take effect. Before you unplug the USB cable, you must unmount the CD and HD partitions. To do so, drag each partition to the trash one at a time.

After the partitions have been unmounted, unplug and then plug in the USB cable from your computer.

8. Double-click on the SecureHD Login icon on the Desktop to access the login window. Enter your password and click *Login*. After a few moments, the SecureHD partition will mount.

What if You Forget Your Password?

Password Security allows three consecutive attempts to enter your password. If the third attempt is unsuccessful you can view your Hint and try again.

If you permanently forget your password you will not be able to access the HD partition. For all intents and purposes, the HD partition will be rendered unusable, and any data stored on the HD partition will effectively be lost.

Resetting the Password

It is possible to regain access to the HD partition by using the Reset Password feature. However, this is the option of last resort because…

RESETTING THE PASSWORD WILL ERASE THE HD PARTITION! ALL DATA ON THE HD PARTITION WILL BE PERMANENTLY DELETED.

How to reset the password

1. Double-click the SecureHD Login icon on the Desktop.

2. In the SecureHD Login window, click *Options*.

3. In the next window, click *Reset Password*.

4. The *Reset Password* window will launch. Follow the instructions on screen. You will receive a series of warnings reminding you of the consequences of resetting the password and giving you the option to cancel.

5. If you proceed to reset the password, the HD partition will be erased.

   It may take several minutes for the process to complete. Once the HD partition is erased, you will see a message telling you to unplug and plug in the device for the change to take effect. But before you do, drag the CD PART icon to the trash. After the CD partition unmounts, you can safely unplug and then plug in the USB cable from the Drive.

How to Safely Turn Off & Disconnect the Drive

Before you learn anything else about using your HybridDrive you should learn how to properly turn it off and disconnect it from your computer. The procedure is very simple, but if not done correctly, you could lose data or damage the Drive and your computer.

About Mounting and Unmounting

Apart from physically connecting an external hard drive to a computer, before a hard drive can be used, it must be "mounted" to your operating system. This means the system has recognized the drive and established a communications link with it. If the drive contains more than one recognizable partition (like your HybridDrive), each partition will mount as a separate volume.

Mounting occurs automatically when you turn on a drive. However, if you wish to turn off or disconnect a hard drive while the computer is running, you must first manually unmount its mounted volume(s).

Never turn off or disconnect a hard drive from a running computer without unmounting it first. You may lose data or damage the drive.

How to Unmount the Drive

Option 1: From the Desktop:
One at a time, drag the Drive's CD PART and HD PART icons to the Trash. After both icons disappear from the Desktop you can safely turn off and/or disconnect the Drive.

Option 2: From within the Finder:
Locate the CD PART and HD PART icons in the Sidebar. For each icon click the eject symbol (the triangle with the bar underneath). After both icons disappear you can safely turn off and/or disconnect the Drive.

Performing Basic Tasks

Opening Files and Folders

1. Double-click on the Drive icon. A window showing the Drive's contents will appear.

2. Double-click on the file or folder that you want to open.

Copying Files and Folders to Your Drive

1. Single-click the file or folder you want to copy in order to highlight it.

2. Go to "Edit --> Copy."

3. Double-click the Drive icon to open it. If you want to copy the file or folder to a specific folder on the Drive, double-click that folder to open it.

4. Go to "Edit --> Paste." The file or folder will copy over.

Renaming the HD Partition

The default name (label) of the HD partition is "HD PART."
You can change the label, if you wish, in order to make the
name more meaningful to you (e.g. "My Work", "HD 1", etc.)

FYI

If you plan to re-format the HD partition, you will have the opportunity to re-name the partition during the formatting process.

Option 1:

1. Click on the HD PART icon on the Desktop and press Return.

2. Type a new name in the label field and press Return. You
   may be required to enter an administrator password before
   the change is accepted.

Option 2:

1. Select the HD PART icon, either on the Desktop or in the
   Finder.

2. In the Finder, go to *File > Get Info* to open the Info window.

3. In the *'Name & Extension:'* field, type in the new name and
   then close the Info window.

Re-Formatting Your HybridDrive

About Formatting & File Systems

Formatting a hard disk erases all data stored on the disk! Before you re-format or partition your Drive, be sure to save a copy of any files you wish to keep to another storage device.

About Formatting

Before a hard disk can be used to store data it must contain one or more partitions, and each partition must be formatted with a given file system. *("Formatting" is also commonly referred to as "Initializing" on the Mac OS.)*

A file system defines the disk's directory structure for keeping track of and accessing files. It also governs other features, such as the way files are named, the maximum allowable size of a file or volume, and the disk's allocation unit size (the smallest unit of data storage on a disk).

The HD partition of your AcomData Drive was formatted at the factory with the FAT32 file system. This makes the Drive compatible with both Mac and PC, and ready to use right

out of the box. However, you may want to re-format the HD partition with another file system. This section provides a brief overview of the most common file systems used on Macs and PCs, and tips for selecting the file system that best suits your needs.

About the Most Common File Systems:

- **FAT32** is the standard file system used on Windows 98SE and Me, and is supported under Windows XP, 2000 and the Mac OS. Think of FAT32 as the "universal" PC and Mac file system.

- **NTFS** is the primary file system for Windows XP and 2000. NTFS offers more advanced features than FAT32, including support for files larger than 4 GB. NTFS cannot be used on Windows 98SE or Me. NTFS cannot be used on the Mac OS, with the exception that Mac OS 10.3 and higher can read, but not write to NTFS-formatted volumes.

- **Mac OS Extended (HFS Plus)** is the most common file system used on Macs. It is not compatible with Windows. Depending on which version of the Mac OS you have, you have the option to use journaled and case-sensitive HFS Plus file systems. For an explanation of journaling, go to http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?artnum=107249. For an explanation of the case-sensitive option, go to

http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?artnum=107863.

- **MS-DOS** is the Windows/Mac-compatible file system available on the Mac OS. It is equivalent to FAT32.

Choosing a File System

If you plan to use the Drive only on Windows XP or 2000, we recommend re-formatting the Drive with the NTFS file system.

If you plan to use the Drive only on a Mac, we recommend re-formatting the Drive with one of the Mac OS Extended file systems (HFS Plus).

Re-formatting the Drive for Mac and PC

If you ever need to re-format the Drive but you want to maintain Mac and PC compatibility, you have two options:

1. Format the Drive on a Windows PC using FAT32.
2. Format the Drive on Mac OS 10.3 or later using the MS-DOS file system. (MS-DOS is equivalent to FAT32 on the PC.)

Formatting the HD Partition

Formatting the HD Partition
in Windows XP or 2000

1. Disable any anti-virus software you may have running.

2. Go to My Computer and right-click the HD PART icon.

3. Select Format… in the pop-up menu. The Format dialog box will appear.

4. Under Capacity, verify the capacity. It should be close to the stated capacity of your Drive in gigabytes.

5. In the File System pop-up menu, select the file system.

6. In the Allocation unit size pop up, select "Default allocation size."

7. In the Volume label field, type in a unique name for the HD partition that will distinguish it from other volumes.

8. Under Format options you can check Quick Format. If you leave it unchecked Windows will run a Full format. A Full format will take about 30-90 minutes. A Quick format will take just a few minutes, but will do less verifying of the Drive.

9. Click Start. Once the format process is complete, the HD partition will be ready to use.

Formatting the HD Partition
in Windows Me or 98SE

1. Disable any anti-virus software you may have running.

2. Double-click on My Computer. In the My Computer window, right-click the HD PART icon and select Format. In the Format window, verify the capacity; it should be close to the stated capacity of your Drive in megabytes.

3. Under Format type, select Full; everything else should be left at the default setting. In the Label field, under Other options, you may assign a name to the HD partition that will allow you to easily distinguish it from other storage devices. (Limit 8 characters; no symbols.)

4. Click Start. The following warning will appear: "This device is either a hard disk or a large removable disk. Formatting it will destroy all files currently on the drive. Are you sure you want to format this drive?" If the HD partition contains no data or you already backed up the data you wish to keep, click OK.

5. If you see a warning from an antivirus program, click Exclude.

6. When formatting is complete, you will be asked to run a thorough Scandisk. (Periodically running Scandisk is a part of regular hard drive maintenance.) If you do not wish to run Scandisk at this time, close the Format window.

Formatting the HD Partition on a Mac

1. Launch Disk Utility in the Applications folder.

2. The Disk Utility window will open. In the small window at the left, click the HD PART icon.

3. Click on the Erase tab. In the Erase window you will see a Volume Format pop-up menu and a Name field.

4. From the Volume Format pop-up, select a file system. If you plan to use the Drive only on a Mac, we recommend selecting the Mac OS Extended file system. (With some Mac OSs you have the option of selecting journaled and/or case-sensitive file systems. Go to http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?artnum=107249 and http://docs.info.apple.com/article.html?artnum=107863 for explanations of journaling and case-sensitive respectively.

5. In the Name field, type in a name for the HD partition.

6. Click Erase. You should see an alert message: "Erasing a disk will destroy all information…" Click Erase again. Once initializing is complete, you should see the HD partition listed in the Disk Utility window with whatever name you assigned.

7. Quit Disk Utility. You should now see the HD partition icon on the Desktop and in the Finder.

Help & Other Information

Maintaining Your Drive

A hard drive is a very sophisticated and sensitive device that requires proper care and maintenance to ensure the longest possible life, reliable operation and—most importantly—the integrity of your stored data.

Defragmenting and Optimizing a Hard Drive

A hard drive stores data on disks called platters. Each platter surface is divided into concentric *tracks*. Each track is divided into *sectors*. A group of sectors, called a *cluster,* or *allocation unit*, is the smallest unit of data storage space.

When data is saved to a new hard drive, it is written to disk contiguously, one cluster after another. As old files are erased, clusters that were previously occupied become available for new data. However, there may not be enough space for the drive to write a new file in a contiguous set of clusters. The drive uses the clusters it can; if more are needed it searches for empty clusters in other locations on the disk(s). The result is a fragmented file.

Over time, as old files are erased and new files are written, the data becomes increasingly fragmented. The more fragmented a disk becomes, the longer it takes to read

and write data because the Drive's read/write mechanism spends more time searching for fragments or free clusters.

We recommend using defragmentation and optimization software to maximize storage efficiency and optimize performance. Optimization re-organizes files so that the files you use most often can be accessed more quickly. Defragmentation (defragging) consolidates file fragments into more efficient contiguous clusters.

Examining and Repairing a Hard Drive

There are a number of reasons why a hard drive may become damaged or the data may become corrupted. Regular examination of a hard drive with a quality diagnostic and repair utility is the best way to prevent irreparable disk damage and avoid data loss.

There are several software packages available that offer a suite of disk management and repair utilities, including defragmentation, optimization, repair, erased file recovery and more. How often you should perform maintenance depends on how much you use the drive. If you use your hard drive on a daily basis, it's a good idea to examine it for damage about once a month.

Some maintenance and repair operations can take quite

some time, so it's wise to perform hard drive maintenance at times when you don't need to use your computer. The good news is that, for the most part, you won't need to tend to the computer while the software performs these operations.

Protecting Your Data from Malware

One of the greatest threats to your data comes from viruses and other malware, such as worms, trojan horses and spyware. *(The term 'virus' is commonly used to refer to all forms of malware.)* These are insidious programs created by malefactors and designed to damage or disable a computer or network, or steal personal information. The worst part is you may not be aware that your system has been infected until it's too late.

The most common way computers catch viruses is by downloading and sharing infected files via e-mail and other Internet services. You can protect your data against viruses by using anti-virus software. These programs are designed to seek out and eradicate or quarantine viruses before they can cause damage. There are a number of good anti-virus programs on the market for both PC and Mac.

Cleaning the Drive Case

Always unplug all cables from the Drive before cleaning it. Clean the Drive using a soft, dry cloth. For tough dirt, dampen a soft cloth with some neutral detergent diluted in 5 to 6 parts water; wipe off the dirt, then wipe off the Drive with a dry cloth. Do not use alcohol, paint thinner, or other chemicals; they may damage the case materials.

Stacking Drives

Your AcomData Drive was designed to be stackable so that you can add even more high-performance data storage without taking up more desktop space.

For this section we assume that you already have an AcomData Drive installed on your system, and that the Drive is placed in the horizontal position.

1. Follow the steps in the section "Horizontal Placement" to properly prepare a Drive for stacking.

2. Place one Drive onto the other, making sure the feet of the second Drive are properly seated in the foot indentations of the first Drive.

3. Follow the instructions in the section "Connecting the Drive to Your Computer."

Troubleshooting

If you experience a problem with your AcomData product, you should take the following actions in the order specified:

1. Make sure you followed the instructions in this guide.

2. Consult the Troubleshooting sections of this guide.

3. If the issue is still not resolved, contact Technical Support using one of the following options:
   a) via the Technical Support form at www.acomdata.com;
   b) via e-mail at techsupport@acomdata.com;
   c) by telephone at (909) 348-0680, during business hours (Pacific Time).

Troubleshooting for Windows Users

The Drive will not power on

A: Make sure the connections are secure.

My computer does not recognize the Drive.

A: Possible reasons:

• Make sure all of the connections are secure.

• If you have an add-on card, make sure it is working prop-
erly and update the software/firmware.

• Make sure you have the latest updates for your operating
system.

**The CD partition mounts but Nomad Mobile Desktop will
not launch.**

First, be sure that the Nomad Mobile Desktop was activated.
See "Setting Up & Using HybridDrive on Windows" for
instructions.

If Nomad is supposed to launch, but doesn't, click the Safely
Remove Hardware icon in the Taskbar (the icon with the
green arrow). Select the Drive from the list (it will be listed
as "USB Mass Storage Device", and have two drive letters).
You will then see a message telling you it is safe to remove

the device. Unplug and plug in the USB cable connected to the Drive. The Drive should now mount properly and Nomad should launch.

When I leave my computer idle for a while and come back, the Drive won't work properly.

A: The most likely cause is that your computer is going into Sleep mode. The immediate solution is to restart your computer. To prevent this problem from re-occurring, go into your Power Settings/Energy Saver and set it to where it never goes into Sleep mode.

The Drive feels quite warm when powered on.
Is this dangerous?

A: When in operation, the Drive may feel quire warm to the touch. This is normal.

The Drive gives me a "Device cannot start. Code (10)."

A: This is a power issue. Make sure your connections are secure. The other possibility is that the Drive has malfunctioned and requires service.

I don't see my AcomData Drive in My Computer, but it does appear in Device Manager (Windows XP & 2000 only).

A: Right-click on My Computer. Select Manage in the pop-up menu. In the Computer Management window, select Storage, then select Disk Management. In the Disk Management window, you should see a list of available storage devices. Look for the Disk that has a capacity closest to your AcomData Drive. Right-click on the right-hand box; in the pop-up menu select Delete Partition. Once you do this, it will say "Online" & "Unallocated." Right-click on the box and select Create New Partition in the pop-up menu. When the Partition Wizard appears, select Primary Partition and click on Next. You will see a default value for the AcomData Drive; click Next. You will then see a drive letter (you can change this drive letter if you wish); click Next. You will then be asked to format the AcomData Drive.

When I try to format my Drive in Windows XP or 2000, I get the message: "Could not complete format."

A: This problem can occur if you are using an expansion card to connect the Drive. Plug the Drive into a data port on your computer and try the format again. You may also come across this error if you are using Windows XP or 2000 and you try to format the Drive using the FAT32 file system.

After I connected the Drive, I got the following alert message: "Hi-Speed USB device plugged into non-Hi-Speed USB Hub."

A: Windows XP and 2000 users will get this alert message if you plugged the Drive into a USB port that only support USB 1.1. This is fine, except your AcomData Drive will operate USB 1.1 speeds (up to 12 Mbps).

Performance seems to be slower than 480 Mbps.

A: First, in order to reach USB 2.0 speeds, you need a connection that supports USB 2.0. If the connection only supports USB 1.1 the Drive will operate at USB 1.1 speeds (up to 12 Mbps). The Drive will auto-sense the speed of your USB port and adjust between USB 1.1 and USB 2.0. Second, 480 Mbps is the maximum interface transfer rate of USB 2.0. Actual data transfer rates will vary depending on a number of factors. See "About Hi-Speed USB 2.0" for more information.

Troubleshooting for Mac Users

The Drive will not power on.
A: Make sure the connections are secure.

My computer does not recognize the Drive.
A: Possible reasons:
- Make sure all of the connections are secure.
- If you have an add-on card, make sure it is working properly and update the software/firmware.
- Make sure you have the latest updates for your operating system.

It takes a very long time for the Drive to mount.
We are aware of this issue on the Mac, though it is not really a technical problem. It has to do with the fact that the Drive was formatted with the FAT32 file system, which makes it compatible with both PCs and Macs. If you find the time-to-mount unacceptable, you can re-format the Drive with one of the Mac OS Extended files systems. This will resolve the issue. For instructions, see "Re-Formatting the Drive."

When I leave my computer idle for a while and come back, my AcomData Drive won't work properly.

A: The most likely cause is that your computer is going to sleep. The immediate solution is to restart your computer. To prevent this problem from recurring, go into your Energy Saver preferences and set it to never go into Sleep mode.

The Drive feels quite warm when powered on.
Is this dangerous?

A: When in operation, the Drive may feel quire warm to the touch. This is normal.

Performance seems to be slower than 480 Mbps.

A: First, in order to reach USB 2.0 speeds, you need a connection that supports USB 2.0. If the connection only supports USB 1.1 the Drive will operate at USB 1.1 speeds (up to 12 Mbps). The Drive will auto-sense the speed of your USB port and adjust between USB 1.1 and USB 2.0. Second, 480 Mbps is the *maximum* interface transfer rate of USB 2.0. Actual data transfer rates will vary depending on a number of factors. See "About Hi-Speed USB 2.0" for more information.

Obtaining Service

If you experience a problem with your Acomdata product which cannot be resolved by Tech Support, your Tech Support Specialist will assist you in arranging for service.

What you need to obtain warranty service:

1) A copy of the bill of sale for your AcomData product;

2) A **Returned Merchandise Authorization** (RMA) number that is assigned to your product by your TSS. An RMA can only be generated if the product has been registered online at www.acomdata.com. If your AcomData product is not registered at the time you need service, you must register the product online or your TSS can register it for you. Your TSS will then walk you through the process to ensure you receive prompt service.

DO NOT SEND A PRODUCT IN FOR SERVICE WITHOUT FIRST CONTACTING ACOMDATA TECHNICAL SUPPORT. ACOMDATA CANNOT ACCEPT RETURNED PRODUCTS THAT HAVE NOT BEEN ASSIGNED AN RMA NUMBER.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Do I need to activate Nomad in order to use my HybridDrive? (Windows only)

Activation of Nomad Mobile Desktop is optional and can be done at any time. However, if you want to use the PushButton™ Backup or Sync features of your HybridDrive, you must activate Nomad. This is because PushButton™ Backup and Sync need the Redemption Backup software in order to function, and Redemption is only available if you activate Nomad.

Q: Are there any fees for activating Nomad?

No. Nomad and all bundled applications are provided to you free of charge.

Q: Is Nomad available for the Mac?

At this time, Nomad is not compatible with Macintosh computers.

Q: How much disk space on my HybridDrive do the Nomad Mobile Desktop applications take up?

The entire installation will require approximately 300 MB.

Q: Can I choose which applications to install?

When you activate Nomad, all of the bundled applications are installed on your HybridDrive. You cannot install applications individually, exclude any applications from being installed, or remove individual applications after Nomad is activated.

Q: Do the applications bundled with Nomad have the same features as the stand-alone versions available directly from the software manufacturers?

The short answer is "yes."

The long answer is: most Nomad Mobile Desktop applications are customized portable versions of desktop applications offered by third-party software manufacturers. Generally speaking, it is safe to say that the portable versions are identical to the desktop versions, however we have no control over this. AcomData does customize the software somewhat to ensure certain features are optimized for portability. We also thoroughly test the software before releasing it to the public. So, you can feel confident knowing that, for example, the OpenOffice.org application included with Nomad has all of the features of the same release that you'd get directly from Sun Microsystems.

Q: How do I upgrade Nomad Mobile Desktop applications?

Upgrades of individual third-party applications on the Nomad Mobile Desktop are provided as part of periodic "global" updates to Nomad, available for download at www.acomdata.com. When you update your Nomad Mobile Desktop the latest available versions of each application will replace the current versions on the Mobile Desktop.

Applications bundled with the Nomad Mobile Desktop are customized for Nomad. You cannot upgrade these applications autonomously. For example, downloading the latest version of Thunderbird from the Mozilla web site will not replace or upgrade the version of Thunderbird on the Mobile Desktop.

Q: Will new applications be added to Nomad?

Nomad was created with the intent of giving our customers the best possible portable software experience now and down the road. New applications for Nomad will be made available for download from the AcomData web site as they become available. Check www.acomdata.com for updates and new releases. Registered users will be notified of updates and new releases automatically via their Personal Support pages.

Q: Can I use my Drive on two computers at the same time?

A: No. If you connect the Drive to two computers at the same time, you may damage the Drive and the computers.

Q: Do I have to format my AcomData Drive prior to using it?

A: No. All AcomData Drives are formatted at the factory with the FAT32 file system, making them compatible on Mac and PC right out of the box. You can re-format the Drive if you wish to use a file system other than FAT32.

Q: What is the difference between FAT32 and NTFS?

A: See "Re-Formatting the Drive" for descriptions.

Q; Where are the drivers for XP, 2000 and Me?

A: They are built into the operating system.

Q: Can I connect the Drive to a USB expansion card?

A: Yes, but you may need to update the software/firmware for the card. We recommend you check with the card's manufacturer for the latest updates.

Q: Is the Drive compatible with Win 95, 98 (First Edition) or Windows NT?

A: No.

Q: Why doesn't the Drive have a fan?

A: All hard drives generate some heat during normal operation, which is why hard drives often have big, noisy fans. The AcomData Drive was engineered to be more efficient and to generate so little heat that it does not need a fan, allowing us to make the drive as compact and lightweight—and quiet—as possible.

Q: Why is the capacity of my Drive, as shown in Windows or Mac OS, lower than the Drive's stated capacity?

A: The difference is mostly due to the way Windows and Mac operating systems measure hard disk capacity, as compared to the method used by hard drive manufacturers. Hard drive manufacturers have always used the decimal (base 10) method, where 1GB = 1,000 MB = 1,000,000 KB = 1,000,000,000 bytes. Windows and Mac operating systems use the binary (base 2) method, where 1GB = 1,024 MB = 1,048,576 KB = 1,073,741,824 bytes.

For example: 120 GB (decimal) = 111.8 GB (binary). How did we get that number? Using the decimal method, 120 GB = 120,000,000,000 bytes. To convert that to binary we divide 120,000,000,000 by 1,073,741,824, which equals 111.8. Therefore, a 120 GB hard drive partition will mount as approximately a 111.8 GB

volume on your computer's OS. The reason the number will be approximate is because the actual number of available bytes of storage on a 120 GB hard drive will not be exactly 120,000,000,000. It is actually a bit more than that. We just round down the figure to 120 GB for simplicity's sake.

Hard drive manufacturers use the decimal method because it is simpler and less confusing to consumers who may not be familiar with the base 2 number system. Manufacturers of operating systems do not need to concern themselves with this issue, so they typically use the more traditional binary method.

Q: Can I use my AcomData Drive to copy an operating system from one computer to another?
A: You cannot transfer an installed operating system to another computer or hard drive simply by copying the operating system's files. In order to install an operating system, you'll need to follow the manufacturer's installation procedure. If you wish to transfer the contents of one startup disk to another, you will first need to properly install the operating system on the target startup disk. You can then use your AcomData Drive to copy over your files (except the operating system).

Q: Does AcomData provide data recovery services?
A: AcomData does not provide data recovery services.

Q: Can you make the Drive bootable?
A: Windows does not support the use of external hard drives as startup disks. PowerPC-based Macs do not support the use of USB drives as startup disks. You can use a USB 2.0 hard drive as a startup disk on Intel-based Macs.

Glossary

Bit - The basic unit of binary data, represented logically as a 1 or a 0.

Buffer – See "Cache."

Bus – An electronic link that can convey data between devices, such as computers and peripherals.

Byte – A basic unit of digital data, usually made up of eight bits (octet). A byte holds the equivalent of a single character, such as the letter A. Storage capacity is measured in bytes, kilobytes (KB), megabytes (MB), gigabytes (GB) etc.

Cache – A memory buffer that stores frequently used disk data in RAM so the data can be read at a faster rate than if accessed from the disk.

Device Driver – A software program that enables a computer to communicate with peripheral devices, such as hard drives and CD-ROM drives. Each type of device requires a different driver.

FAT32 – A file system that organizes files on a disk. This file system is standard for Windows 98SE and Me, and is supported under Windows XP, 2000 and the Mac OS.

File System – The method for storing and retrieving files on a disk. A file system defines the directory structure for keeping track of the files and the path syntax required to access them. It also defines the way files are named as well as the maximum size of a file or volume. FAT32 and NTFS are file systems used on PCs; HFS is common on Macs.

Format – Preparing a disk partition for the storage and retrieval of

files. A partition is formatted with a specific file system. Formatting is often referred to as *initializing* on the Mac.

Gigabyte – 1,024 megabytes (binary); 1,000 megabytes (decimal), or approximately one billion bytes.

Hub – A device which links peripherals onto the same data bus.

Interface – Junction between two items of hardware or software for the exchange of data.

Mbps (Megabits per second) – A measurement of data transmission speed. For data transmissions, the base unit is the bit rather than the byte. Using bits is a truer measure of raw performance because it negates the need to differentiate between the part of the data stream that makes up the file(s) being sent and the accompanying data protocols that structure and govern data communications.

MB (Megabyte) – 1,048,576 bytes (binary); 1,000,000 bytes (decimal).

Partition – A fixed amount of reserved storage space on a hard disk. A disk can contain one or more partitions. A partition must be formatted with a compatible file system in order to mount to a given operating system. A mounted partition is treated as a discrete volume.

Startup Disk – The disk from which a computer loads its operating system. Also called a "boot volume."

Volume – A formatted hard drive partition. The term "volume" is often used as a synonym for the hard drive itself when the drive contains a single partition. However, it is possible for a hard drive to contain more than one volume, or for a single volume to span more than one hard drive.

One Year Limited Warranty

AcomData warrants this product (the "Product") against defects in material or workmanship as follows:

1. LABOR: For a period of one (1) year from the original date of purchase from AcomData or its local representative supplier, AcomData will repair defective Product (or, at its option, replace with a new or recertified product) at no charge. After this 1 year period, you must pay for all labor charges.

2. PARTS: For a period of one (1) year from the original date of purchase from AcomData or its local representative supplier, AcomData will supply, at no charge, new or rebuilt replacement parts in exchange for defective parts of this Product. Any replacement parts will be warranted for the remainder of the original warranty period or ninety (90) days from installation by AcomData. All exchanged parts replaced under this warranty will become the property of AcomData.

This warranty only covers the hardware components packaged with the Product. This warranty does not cover: (1) any software contained in, or included with, the Product; any such software is provided "as is." Please refer to any documentation included with the software for your rights and obligations with respect to the software; (2) any consumables (such as batteries) supplied with this product; (3) cosmetic damages; (4) damage to or loss of any software programs, data or removable storage media; (5) damage due to the Product such as, but not limited to, excessive heat or humidity, or modifications of this Product.

This Warranty does not apply if the malfunction results from: (1) the use of this Product in conjunction with accessories, products or ancillary or peripheral equipment, or where it is determined by AcomData that there is no fault with this Product itself; (2) improper installation, operation, testing or maintenance of this Product; (3) power failure or connection to improper voltage supply; or; (4) attempted repair by any party other than AcomData.

This Limited Warranty is invalid if the factory applied serial number has been altered or removed from the Product.

Repair or replacement, as provided under this warranty, is the exclusive remedy of the consumer. AcomData shall not be liable for any incidental or consequential damages

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FOR BREACH OF ANY EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED WARRANTY, BREACH OF CONTRACT, NEGLIGENCE, STRICT LIABILITY, OR ANY OTHER LEGAL THEORY RELATED TO THIS PRODUCT. SUCH DAMAGES INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO: LOSS OF PROFITS; LOSS OF DATA; LOSS OF USE OF THE PRODUCT OR ANY ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT; DOWN TIME AND PURCHASER'S TIME.

THIS WARRANTY EXTENDS ONLY TO YOU, THE ORIGINAL PURCHASER. IT IS NOT TRANSFERABLE TO ANY ONE WHO SUBSEQUENTLY PURCHASES THE PRODUCT FROM YOU. PROOF OF PURCHASE IN THE FORM OF A BILL OF SALE (WHICH IS EVIDENCE THAT THE PRODUCT IS WITHIN THE WARRANTY PERIOD) MUST BE PRESENTED TO OBTAIN WARRANTY SERVICE.

WHEN SENDING AN ACOMDATA PRODUCT IN FOR SERVICE YOU MUST TAKE THE PRODUCT, OR DELIVER THE PRODUCT (FREIGHT PREPAID) TO ACOMDATA, IN EITHER ITS ORIGINAL PACKAGING OR IN A PACKAGE THAT PROVIDES THE PRODUCT WITH A DEGREE OF PROTECTION EQUIVALENT TO THAT OF THE ORIGINAL PACKAGING. ACOMDATA IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY DAMAGE TO, OR LOSS OF, ANY PROGRAMS, DATA, OR OTHER INFORMATION STORED ON ANY MEDIA OR ANY PART OF ANY PRODUCT SERVICED HEREUNDER. BE SURE TO REMOVE ALL FEATURES, PARTS, OPTIONS, ALTERATIONS, AND ATTACHMENTS NOT UNDER WARRANTY PRIOR TO RETURNING THE PRODUCT TO ACOMDATA. ACOMDATA IS NOT LIABLE FOR ANY LOSS OR DAMAGE TO THESE ITEMS.

EXCEPT TO THE EXTEND PROHIBITED BY APPLICABLE LAW, ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE ON THIS PRODUCT IS LIMITED IN DURATION OF THIS WARRANTY.

SOME STATES DO NOT ALLOW THE EXCLUSION OR LIMITATION OF INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, OR ALLOW LIMITATIONS ON HOW LONG ON IMPLIED WARRANTY LASTS, SO THE ABOVE LIMITATION OR EXCLUSIONS MAY NOT APPLY TO YOU. THIS WARRANTY GIVES YOU SPECIFIC RIGHTS; YOU MAY HAVE OTHER RIGHTS WHICH VARY FROM STATE TO STATE.

Notices

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