



FORENSIC LABDOCK™ USER MANUAL

Revised July 28, 2010

Thank you for purchasing WiebeTech's Forensic LabDock. LabDock can be installed into a standard 5.25" bay in any computer to turn it into a digital forensic workstation. LabDock allows write-blocked access to many kinds of hard drives and other data storage devices.



Features

- Easy attachment and write-blocked access to 2.5" and 3.5" IDE/PATA and SATA hard drives
- Write-blocked access to USB flash drives (FLDu model only)
- Convenient storage "cubby" keeps your drives out of the way during imaging. No need to cable down to your table top. A quiet fan keeps the cubby cool.
- Recognizes and reports the presence of a hidden area (HPA or DCO) on a hard drive. Included software utility can be used to configure LabDock to handle such hidden areas the way you prefer.
- Eight labeled LED indicators report real time operational status

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Forensic Device User Advisory

We recommend that you perform a final check on this product.

Prior to first use, please verify that the write-blocking function of this product is working properly. This is easily done: attach a known good formatted drive, and verify that the drive mounts properly on your computer. Use a drive that has data on it that you are willing to overwrite. Transfer files to the drive. The files will appear to transfer to the drive. Thereafter, unmount the drive and remount the drive. The files that you wrote to the drive should not appear after the drive is remounted. If they do appear, there is a problem with your forensic device, and you should contact our support department for further instructions.

CRU/WiebeTech support may be reached at:

(866) 744-8722 (toll free)
 (316) 744-8722 (international)
 (316) 744-1398 (fax)
support@wiebetech.com (email)

1. Pre-Installation Steps

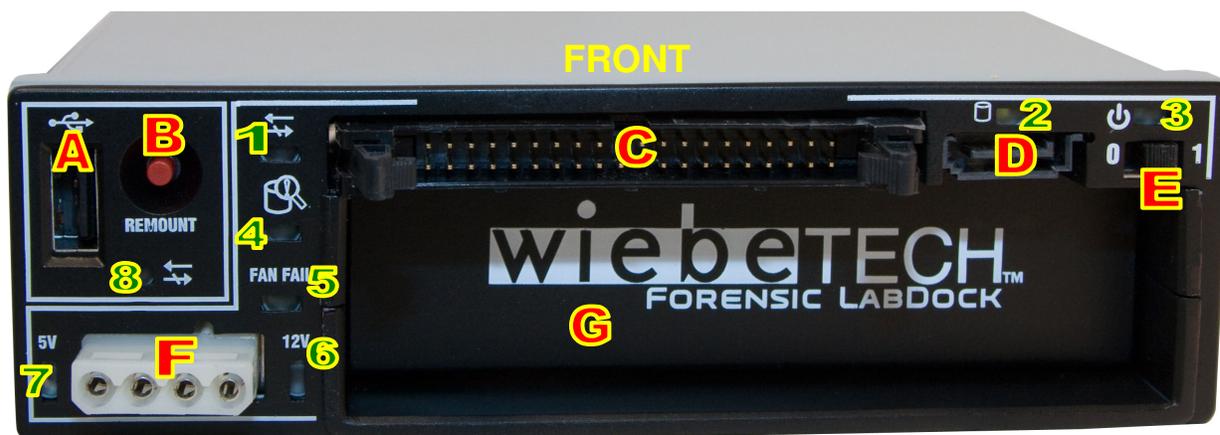
1.1 Forensic LabDock Accessories

Check the accessories with your Forensic LabDock. Please contact WiebeTech if any parts are missing or damaged. The box should contain the following items:

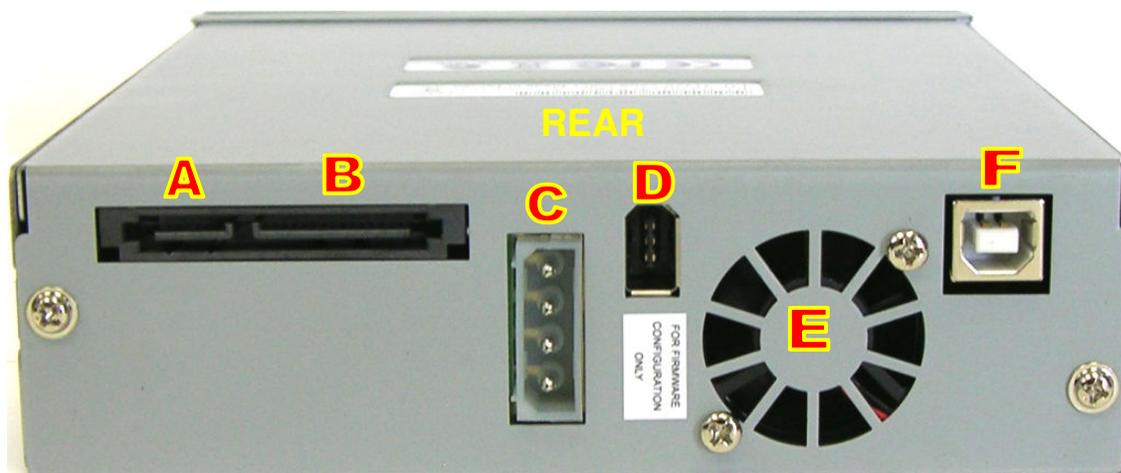
Accessories	FLDu	FLDs
Forensic LabDock unit	1	1
4-pin legacy Molex power cable	1	1
IDE cable for 3.5" drives (40-pin to 40-pin)	1	1
IDE cable for 2.5" drives (40-pin to 44-pin)	1	1
SATA data/power connector	1	1
USB A-type to B-type cable with bracket	1	0
USB B-type to 10-pin header cable	1	0
Packet of screws	1	1
CD containing manual and warranty info	1	1

1.2 Identifying Parts

Take a moment to familiarize yourself with the parts of the Forensic LabDock. This will help you to better understand the remaining instructions.



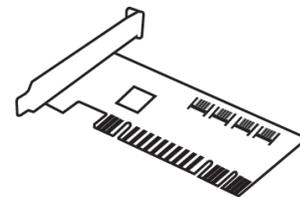
- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| A. Write-blocked USB Port | 1. Write-block LED |
| B. Reset Button | 2. Drive Access LED |
| C. IDE Connector | 3. Power LED |
| D. SATA data Connector | 4. HPA/DCO Indication LED |
| E. On/Off Power Switch | 5. Fan Fail Status LED |
| F. 4-pin power connector | 6. +12V Drive Power LED |
| G. Cubby (for holding media) | 7. +5V Drive Power LED |
| | 8. USB Write-Block LED |



- A.** SATA data connection (primary data connection)
- B.** SATA power connection (power from computer's power supply)
- C.** 4-pin Legacy Molex power connection (from computer's power supply)
- D.** FireWire port (for firmware updates and HPA/DCO mode configuration)
- E.** Drive Cooling Fan
- F.** USB B port (data connection for USB WriteBlocker)

1.3 Host Bus Adapter Installation (OPTIONAL)

Forensic LabDock requires a SATA data connection inside your computer. The FLDu model also requires a USB data connection for the write-blocked USB port. If you already have the necessary connectors in your computer, you may skip this step. If not, you can add the necessary connectors by installing a host bus adapter (HBA) card into an empty expansion slot inside your computer. The following general steps will work for most cards. Instructions for individual cards may vary, so consult your host card's user manual.

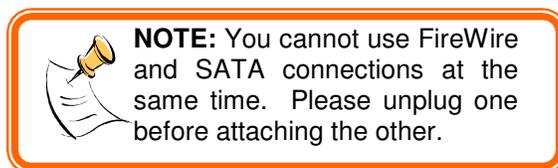


- 1.3.1 Power down the computer system.
- 1.3.2 Insert the card into an available, compatible slot.
- 1.3.3 Make sure the card is fully seated in the slot. Secure with a screw.
- 1.3.4 Turn the computer back on.
- 1.3.5 Install the appropriate software drivers for the card.

1.4 Configure HPA/DCO Mode (OPTIONAL)

Forensic LabDock gives you the ability to select the way hidden areas (HPA/DCO) on hard drives are handled. Use the Forensic Software Utility, a free software application designed for usage with Forensic LabDock, to select the desired mode of operation (See section 3.1 of this manual). In default mode, Forensic LabDock will only notify you of the presence of these hidden areas by blinking the HPA/DCO LED indicator. Other modes allow you to view the information in these hidden areas. To change modes, you must connect Forensic LabDock **with a FireWire connection**. You may find this easiest to do before installing Forensic LabDock inside a computer.

- 1.4.1 Connect a free power cable from your computer's power supply to the rear of LabDock.
- 1.4.2 Attach a FireWire cable to the rear of Forensic LabDock.
- 1.4.3 Connect the free end of the cable to any computer running Forensic Software Utility.
- 1.4.4 Set the HPA/DCO behavior using Forensic Software Utility (see section 3.1 of this manual).
- 1.4.5 Unplug FireWire and power from the rear of Forensic LabDock.



2. How to install the LabDock into a computer

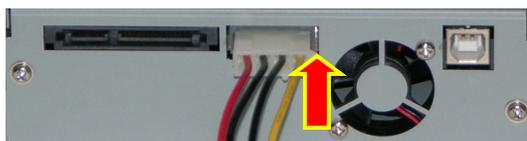
2.1 Mount the LabDock into an empty 5 ¼" Bay inside your computer. Do not screw it into place until all the cables have been connected.

2.2 Connect the USB WriteBlocker using the USB port on the rear of the LabDock. There are 3 possible ways to do this:

- If your motherboard has an available 10-pin USB header, use the USB to 10-pin header cable.
- If no header is available, use a USB B-type to B-type cable to connect to a USB host card.
- Or, use a USB B-type to A-type cable and attach the A-type end to an available USB port on the computer.



2.3 Connect a free power cable from your computer's power supply to the rear side of the LabDock. There are two options. Use 4-pin legacy Molex power or a SATA power cable.



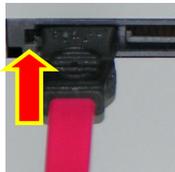
Molex power connection



SATA power connection

2.4 Attach the SATA data cable.

Connect one end to the rear of the LabDock. Connect the other end to either a SATA connector on the computer's motherboard, or a SATA host card.



NOTE: You cannot use FireWire and SATA connections at the same time. Please unplug one before attaching the other.

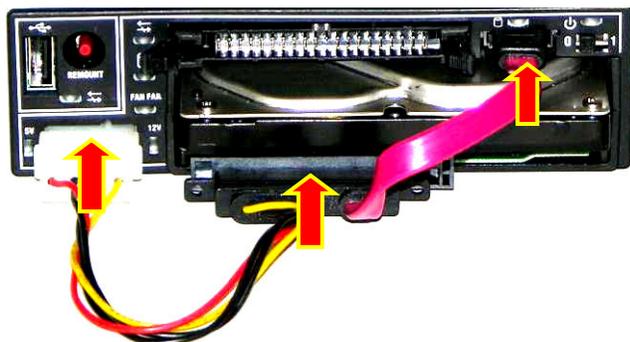
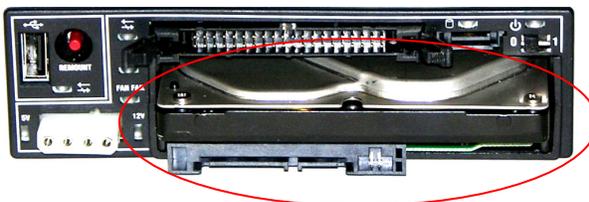
2.5 Secure the LabDock into place.

2.6 Close up the computer and turn it on. Installation is now complete. To use LabDock, turn it on via the power switch on the front of the unit.

3. Connecting hard drives to Forensic LabDock

3.1 SATA hard drives

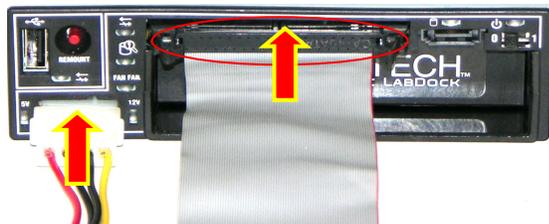
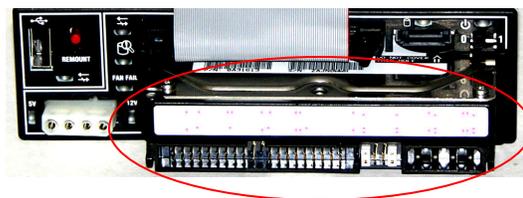
3.1.1 Insert the drive into the cubby. Face the power and data connection *outward*.



3.1.2 Attach the SATA power and SATA data connections to the back of the hard drive. Then connect the 4-pin power and the free end of the SATA data cable to the front of the LabDock.

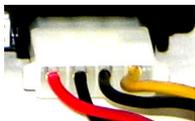
3.2 IDE (PATA) hard drives

3.2.1 Insert the drive into the cubby. Face the power and data connection *outward*.

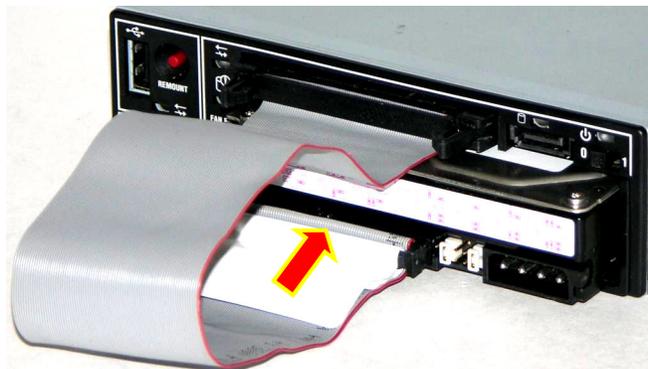


3.2.2 Attach the IDE and 4-pin power cable connections to the front of the LabDock. The IDE interface uses a SafeEject™ IDE connector to reduce wear and tear. **Make sure the levers are in the outward position before plugging in the IDE cable.**

3.2.3 Connect the IDE and power cables to your hard drive. Attach the free end of the IDE ribbon cable to the back of the hard drive. The connector is keyed to insert only one way.



Next, attach the 4-pin power connector from the dock into the back of the hard drive. As with the IDE cable, the power connector will only fit one way.



3.3 USB Drives (FLDu model only)

Forensic LabDock model FLDu is equipped with a write-blocked USB connection for attaching a USB thumb drive, flash media, or drive enclosure.

3.3.1 USB Thumb Drives

Plug the device into the USB port. If the device has an on/off switch, turn it on. There is a “Remount” button for a few instances where USB WriteBlocker might not be recognized by the computer. If that is ever the case, cycle the device’s power, then press the “Remount” button.



3.3.2 USB Drive Enclosures

The write-blocked USB port on Forensic LabDock is designed primarily to work with USB thumb drives. However, it will also work with many hard drive enclosures that have USB connections. Such products must be seen by the computer’s OS as a “USB Mass Storage Device,” and cannot be compound USB devices (i.e. products seen by the OS as more than one physical device).

You may find this feature useful for viewing the contents of a drive enclosure to determine whether it contains digital evidence you need to acquire. If it does, you can then decide whether to acquire the evidence through the USB connection, or open the drive enclosure and access the bare hard drive using the IDE or SATA write-blocked connections since those connections will allow faster imaging.

Note: for smaller drive enclosures that operate using bus power, Forensic LabDock’s write-blocked USB port may not provide enough bus power to operate the product. Either power the enclosure from an external power source (e.g. AC adapter), or use the optional USB bus power cable (sold separately).

3.4 Other Types of Drives

Combo Adapters are available from WiebeTech that can allow your Forensic LabDock to access many other kinds of drives. Follow these three simple steps to use a Combo Adapter with your LabDock:

- 3.4.1 Connect the drive to the adapter.
- 3.4.2 Connect LabDock's ribbon cable to the adapter's IDE pins.
- 3.4.3 Attach LabDock's 4-wire power connector to the adapter.



You are now ready to use your dock to access the drive. Combo Adapters are available for SATA drives, notebook drives, microdrives, ZIF drives, and more. See the WiebeTech website for more details (www.wiebetech.com).

4. Using the Forensic Software Utility

The Forensic Software Utility is a free software application designed for optional usage with your Forensic LabDock. The Forensic Software Utility allows you to configure the way LabDock handles any hidden areas found on attached drives (i.e. HPA and/or DCO), update the LabDock's firmware, and capture real-time info about both the write-blocker and the attached drive which can be saved to a log file. Forensic Software Utility and its user's manual are available for download from the WiebeTech website (http://www.wiebetech.com/software/Forensic_Software_Utility.php) or can be found on the CD accompanying LabDock.

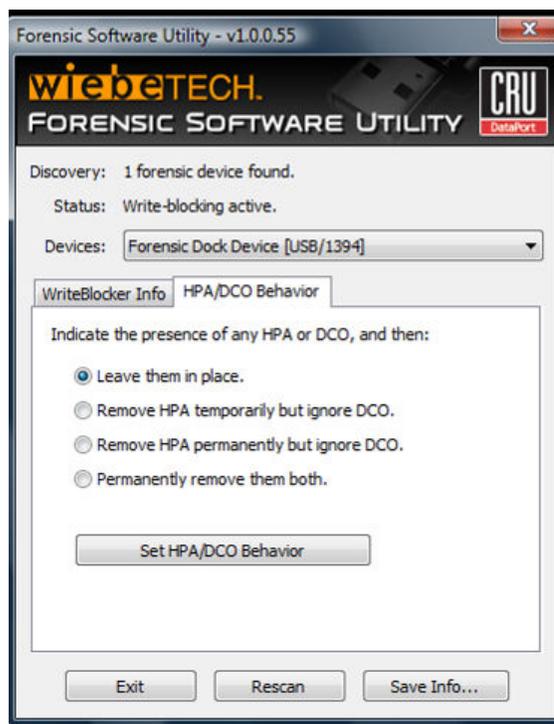
4.1 HPA/DCO Mode Configuration (Requires FireWire connection)

A Host Protected Area (HPA) and Device Configuration Overlay (DCO) are reserved areas on a hard drive that are not accessible by the BIOS or OS. Data can be hidden behind an HPA or DCO, like a stage hidden behind a curtain.

Your Forensic LabDock will alert you to the presence of any HPA or DCO by blinking an LED indicator. By default, LabDock will not remove HPAs or DCOs. If you would like LabDock to remove HPAs or DCOs so you can view the data hidden behind them, you may use the Forensic Software Utility select your preferred mode of operation. There are four modes from which to choose:

4.1.1 MODE #1: Leave them in place

This is LabDock's default setting. The HPA and DCO areas will be left "as is" on the hard drive. This is an "indication only" mode. LabDock's LED indicator will blink to indicate the presence of hidden areas, but no other action is taken.



4.1.2 MODE #2: Remove HPA temporarily but ignore DCO

This mode temporarily allows you to view information hidden by an HPA (to “see behind the curtain”) without removing it. No permanent changes are made to the hard drive. When the hard drive is disconnected from the write-blocker, the HPA remains in place. Any DCO is left untouched.

4.1.3 MODE #3: Remove HPA permanently but ignore DCO

This mode permanently removes any HPA, making the data behind it visible. When the hard drive is disconnected from the write-blocker, the HPA is not reinstated. Any DCO is left untouched.

4.1.4 MODE #4: Permanently remove them both

Any HPA and/or DCO are permanently removed, making all of the data behind them visible. When the drive is disconnected from the write-blocker, the HPA and DCO are not reinstated.

4.2 Firmware Updates (Requires FireWire connection)

A firmware update may be available for your forensic product. Forensic Software Utility, a free application included on the product CD and on the WiebeTech website, can detect this and install updated firmware on your device. If your product is running outdated firmware, you will see the message below upon launching the Forensic Software Utility application.



To update the firmware, follow these steps:

1. Click “Proceed with Update” to begin the update process.
2. You will see a status bar showing the progress of the update.
3. When the update is complete, you will see a message that says “Firmware is now up to date.”

5. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q: What are HPA and DCO?

A: A Host Protected Area (HPA) and Device Configuration Overlay (DCO) are reserved areas on a hard drive that are not accessible by the BIOS or OS. Data can be hidden behind an HPA or DCO. WiebeTech forensic devices will alert you if there is an HPA or DCO so that you are aware of it and can take the necessary steps to retrieve the hidden data.

Q: Why does my eSATA device appear as a Parallel SCSI device in System Profiler?

A: The "Serial ATA" tab in System Profile shows devices attached to the internal SATA bus, but not always devices attached to an eSATA host card. Sometimes these devices will appear under the heading "Parallel SCSI" instead. This is entirely normal and does not indicate a problem with the device or its drivers.

Q: Why is it necessary to update the firmware of my WiebeTech forensic device?

A: Firmware relates to the programs and data that control electronic products. Firmware is enhanced over time, usually to add new features or increase compatibility. Updating firmware can improve the functionality and dependability of your product. If your WiebeTech forensic device is using outdated firmware, the WiebeTech Forensic Software Utility can recognize this and implement up-to-date firmware on your device. See section 3.2 of this manual for more info.

Q: My Forensic LabDock works great with SATA drives but I am having compatibility issues with IDE/PATA drives. What should I do?

A: First check to make sure the SATA power/data cable is unplugged from the SATA output port. IDE/PATA drives cannot be recognized if a SATA connection is made with the SATA output. Next check to make sure the 4-pin power cable is plugged into the IDE/PATA drive. If the power and host connection are securely attached to the UltraDock, then the IDE cable may be faulty. Contact Technical Support for further instructions.

Q: How should I set my hard drive jumper settings?

A: Note: This is only necessary for IDE/PATA drives (the type of drive that has a 40-pin data interface).

Try the MASTER setting first. This is the recommended setting for most WiebeTech products. Some hard drives have two different MASTER settings: one for when there is a SLAVE drive present and one for when there is NO SLAVE drive present. Choose the setting for NO SLAVE present. There may be some drives that will not work with either of these settings. The next choice is CABLE SELECT. If this does not work, try using NO jumpers. This may be the same as MASTER with NO SLAVE present.

If you're unsure how to change the jumper configuration, check the manual that came with your hard drive, or the manufacturer's website. Some drives also have the information printed on the label.

For additional FAQs, please visit www.wiebetech.com/techsupport

6. Technical Specifications

Product Name (and Part Number)	Forensic LabDock (31320-2209-0000)
Power	Internal power connection: +12V/+5V 4-pin legacy Molex connector or SATA power Power output: +12V / +5V (legacy 4-pin Molex connector) Power switch: two-position sliding switch (On / Off)
Internal Host Connections:	SATA: primary data connection; required for IDE or SATA drive access. USB: required for write-blocked USB access (FLDu model only). FireWire (1394a): for firmware updating or HPA/DCO mode configuration only.
Data throughput (drive dependant)	SATA: As fast as drive can operate, typical speeds up to 100MB/s PATA/IDE: As fast as drive can operate, typical speeds up to 60MB/s USB: up to 9MB/s Speeds vary depending on the drive model/type and operating system.
Compatibility:	2.5"/3.5" IDE/PATA drives 2.5"/3.5" SATA drives USB 1.1/2.0 devices that are recognized as "USB Mass Storage" devices Works with v4 Combo Adapters to access many more drive types.
HPA/DCO Handling	Four modes of operation (selectable using software utility) 1. Leave HPA and DCO in place 2. Remove HPA temporarily but ignore DCO 3. Remove HPA permanently but ignore DCO 4. Permanently remove HPA and DCO
LED Indicators:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • power on / off • USB write-blocking active • SATA/PATA/IDE write-blocking active • SATA/PATA/IDE drive activity • HPA/DCO detected • Fan Fail Status • +5V drive power operational • +12V drive power operational
Remount Button:	Allows changing/resetting attached USB device (FLDu model only)
SDK/API	An available USB WriteBlocker API allows software programmers to query built-in USB WriteBlocker to retrieve information from attached devices. Works with Windows XP (32-bit version), or Windows Vista (32-bit or 64-bit).
OS Compatibility:	Windows 7, Vista, XP
Product Weight:	1.55 pounds, excluding accessories
Dimensions:	193 mm x 147 mm x 42 mm
Support:	We don't want anything to go wrong with your product. But if it does, Tech Support is standing by and ready to help. Contact us through wiebetech.com/techsupport . WiebeTech is a brand of CRU.

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Limited Product Warranty

CRU-DataPort (CRU) warrants this product to be free of significant defects in material and workmanship for a period of two years from the original date of purchase. CRU's warranty is nontransferable and is limited to the original purchaser.

Limitation of Liability

The warranties set forth in this agreement replace all other warranties. CRU expressly disclaims all other warranties, including but not limited to, the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose and non-infringement of third-party rights with respect to the documentation and hardware. No CRU dealer, agent or employee is authorized to make any modification, extension, or addition to this warranty. In no event will CRU or its suppliers be liable for any costs of procurement of substitute products or services, lost profits, loss of information or data, computer malfunction, or any other special, indirect, consequential, or incidental damages arising in any way out of the sale of, use of, or inability to use any CRU product or service, even if CRU has been advised of the possibility of such damages. In no case shall CRU's liability exceed the actual money paid for the products at issue. CRU reserves the right to make modifications and additions to this product without notice or taking on additional liability.

FCC Compliance Statement: "This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) This device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation."

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class A digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference when the equipment is operated in a commercial environment. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instruction manual, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. Operation of this equipment in a residential area is likely to cause harmful interference in which case the user will be required to correct the interference at this own expense.

In the event that you experience Radio Frequency Interference, you should take the following steps to resolve the problem:

- 1) Ensure that the case of your attached drive is grounded.
- 2) Use a data cable with RFI reducing ferrites on each end.
- 3) Use a power supply with an RFI reducing ferrite approximately 5 inches from the DC plug.
- 4) Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna

