

# 2BAY RAID SYSTEM USB 3.0 DESKTOP RAID Enclosure for Two 3.5" SATA Hard Drives



USER MANUAL HXDAS35 Rev. 2.0

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#### Important information

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# Introduction

Hamlet 2Bay RAID System is an external storage device equipped with USB 3.0 interface that can accommodate two 3.5" Hard Disk Drives. The SuperSpeed USB 3.0 connectivity and the ability to operate in RAID mode make Hamlet 2Bay RAID System the ideal solution for creating a safe, fast and reliable data backup.

Depending on your needs you can choose to use RAID 0 for maximum performance, RAID 1 for data security or JBOD option to take advantage of the whole storage capacity of the installed hard drives. The aluminum case and built-in fan also ensure optimum cooling of the unit while the screw-less design allows a quick and easy installation of the Hard Disks.

#### Features

- Supports JBOD, RAID0, RAID1, Normal mode
- Enhanced data protection and high-performances storage
- Support with USB3.0 high speed reach up to 5.0Gbps
- Supports Plug-play and Hot-plug
- Support mode select by RAID switch

## Specifications

- Inner Interface: SATA I/II/III
- Outer Interface: USB 3.0
- Date Transfer rate: Support USB 3.0 super-speed (5Gbps)
- Complies with USB 2.0 high speed (480Mbps), USB 1.1 Low speed (1.5Mbps)
- Supported Drives: 2 x 3.5" SATA I/II/III HDDs
- Supports Plug-play and Hot-plug
- Power Supply: AC 100~240V, 50~60Hz ; DC 12V, 2.5A
- Material: aluminum and plastic
- Cooling Fan: One 25 x 25 mm cooling fan
- OS Compatibility: Windows XP/Vista/7/8/10, Mac OS 10.4 or above and Linux
- Dimension: 200 x 120 x 68 mm (L x W x H)

#### **System Requirements**

- Minimum Pentium II/50MHz or Apple G4 processor
- Minimum 64MB RAM
- Windows XP/VISTA/7/8, Mac OS 10.4 and above
- One available USB port

## Supported Hard Drives

- One or two 3.5" SATA I/II/III hard drives (1.5/3.0/6.0 Gbps)
- Capacity up to 2TB or more
- Hard drives of identical capacities are recommended
- Supports large volumes in excess of 3TB

## **Package Contents**

- Dual bay enclosure 3.5"
- USB 3.0 cable
- Power supply
- Manual

# Setting the RAID Mode

RAID (Redundant Array of Independent Disks) is a set of technology standards for teaming disk drives to improve fault tolerance and performance.

The RAID mode should be set before installing the drives and then first formatting the drives.

- 1. Make sure the power is off.
- Set the RAID switch and select your preferred RAID mode. In the inner of the device there are 2 switches (S1/S2), which allow to configure 4 different operating modes as shown in the figure below.

| HDD2 |  |
|------|--|
|      |  |

3. Install the hard drives and replace the front panel, then turn on the power.

**RAID-1** Mode

S1/S2=ON/ON.

4. Format the hard drives.

**Note:** Changing the RAID mode will require you to re-format the hard drives. Make sure to backup all existing data first.

# **Description of RAID Modes**

#### Normal Mode (Non-Raid)

Normal mode is the default setting of HDD enclosure and will not use any RAID mode. In Normal condition, both of the two hard disk mode inside the enclosure are in independent operation state, and also will be identified as the two separate hearts in the system, users can choose any hard drive for storing files. If one piece of hard disk is damaged, the other piece of hard disk data would not be influenced.

### BIG Mode (JBOD/Spanning)

In JBOD mode two hard disk will simply be bound for one, the merger hard drive performance will be same as single hard disk. The total capacity of the portable hard disk equal to the sum of two hard drive capacity. In this mode the system starts to storage from the first disk and switches to the second hard drive when the storage space of the first disk is. If one of the two HDDs appears damaged, then all of the data in the two hard disk will be lost.



## FAST Mode (RAID 0/Striping)

FAST mode it's also our familiar RAID 0 mode. In RAID 0 state, data storage is divided into two parts, respectively in two hard disk storage, then the theory storage speed of hard disk is twice the one of single block hard disk.

The actual capacity equals to twice the smaller capacity of the one hard drive (between the two hard disk). The deficiency of RAID 0 is that any piece of hard disk is failure, the whole RAID on data will not be restored.





## SAFE Mode (RAID 1/Mirroring)

Safe mode is also known as RAID 1. In this state two hard drives are closely mirrored. The actual capacity of portable hard drive equals to the smaller capacity one, storage speed is same as a single block of hard disk. The advantage of RAID 1 lies that any piece of hard disk stored data losing, others can not lose, its weakness is the capacity loss of hard drive is bigger.

For this reason the RAID 1 mode is the ideal storage solution for very important material such as databases or personal data.





# System Setup

#### Hard Drive Installation

The drives can be installed at any position, there is no specific order required.

1. Unlock the switch at the bottom of the case and lift the front panel upward and away from the housing to remove it.



2. Install the hard drives as illustrated below with the top of the drives, where the label is located, facing each other. Push the drives lightly into place.



3. Set your preferred RAID mode and then replace the front panel.



#### Connect to computer

- 1. Connect one end (type B) of the USB cable into the type B USB port of your HDD enclosure.
- 2. Connect the other end of the USB cable (type A) into any active USB port of the computer.
- 3. Connect Power supply to the enclosure and power up the enclosure.
- 4. Let OS search and install the driver automatically.
- 5. Use the disk management tool (PC) or disk utility (Mac) to create a new partition and format the drives.
- 6. Open "My Computer" to see your external hard drive ready to use.

#### Note:

To enjoy USB 3.0 super speed up to 5Gbps, your computer must be equipped with built-in USB 3.0 ports or a USB 3.0 host PCI-e card.

It is not possible to add more drives to an existing RAID array without re-formatting it. When adding additional drivers at a later point, they will only be detected after the device has been restarted and the drivers have been re-formatted.

### **Replacing Hard Drives**

When one drive fails, the HDD LED will display below state:

- 1. If HDD1 Fails: Blue LED off.
- 2. If HDD2 Fails: Green LED off.



If one drive fails and the RAID mode is set to RAID0 or JBOD, the data will be lost and the system can not be accessed again until the drive have been replaced.

- 1. Check the HDD LED state and replace the faulty drive. The power must be turned off when replacing the drive.
- For RAID 0 and JBOD, restart the system and then format the drives again.
- 3. For Non-RAID (Normal Mode), simply format the new drive.

# FAQs

#### Can I use external USB hub?

Yes, USB hub works in the same way as the computer USB ports.

# My computer doesn't have USB 3.0 port, can I use USB 3.0 host adaptor?

USB 3.0 host adapter works in the same way as the built-in USB ports.

#### What file system should I choose to format my drive?

This will depend on how you want to use the drive but in general, we recommend:

- Windows XP/VISTA/7/8/10 → NTFS
- Mac OS X → HFS+ (Mac OS Extended)
- To use it on both PC and Mac → FAT32 (single file size is limited to 4GB)

#### How many drives can fail before I loose my data?

For RAID 0 and JBOD, any drive failure will result in the data being lost. For RAID 1, more than one drive failure at the same time will mean the data can not be recovered anymore. For Non-RAID, only the data on the defective drive will be lost.