

ICY DOCK Compatibility Test Report EX8350 and SX8300 with Enclosure MB453SPF and MB455SPF

Objective

The objective of the compatibility test is to make sure Promise controller SuperTrak EX8350 and FastTrak SX8300 works properly with Icy Dock external enclosure MB453SPF and MB455SPF (MB454SPF should have the same test result as the enclosure being tested). The test will focus on the controller and the enclosure's ability to handle Hot Plug, Hot Swap, and display LED activity properly as Icy Dock's manual stated. When the LED is showing a constant Green, it means the hard drive is present in the carrier. When the LED is blinking Amber, it means there is disk access activity on that hard drive.

Test Environment

Mother board: Tyan S2895 with NVIDIA nForce Pro chipsets

Memory: 2GB DDR ECC PC2100 RAM

CPU speed: Dual AMD Opteron 1.8 GHz

Hard drives: 8x HDDs

- Seagate Barracuda ST380817AS
- Maxtor DiamondMax Plus 9
- Seagate Barracuda ST380013AS
- Hitachi Deskstar HDS7250KLA360 (3G capability)
- Samsung SP0812C
- Seagate Barracuda ST3160023AS
- Maxtor DiamondMax Plus 9
- Samsung SP0812C

External enclosures: 1x 5 carriers, Icy Dock enclosure, model MB455SPF

1x 3 carriers, Icy Dock enclosure, model MB453SPF

RAID controllers: 1x Promise SuperTrak EX8350

1x Promise FastTrak SX8300

Setup

Steps to setup for both SuperTrak EX8350 and FastTrak SX8300 with Icy Dock enclosures:

1. Hook Access Cables (positive and negative) correspondingly to activity header on controller (jumpers JP2 and JP3 for EX8350, connector CN4 for SX8300)
2. Change ACC SET jumpers for all HDDs to Open on the enclosures
3. Connect all power cables and SATA cables accordingly

Test Result

Result for SuperTrak EX8350:

<u>Tests</u>	<u>Result</u>
Hot Swappable:	OK
Hot Plug:	OK
Activity LED blinks Amber:	OK
Power LED constant Green:	OK
Status LED:	NOT APPLICABLE

Result for FastTrak SX8300:

<u>Tests</u>	<u>Result</u>
Hot Swappable:	OK
Hot Plug:	OK
Activity LED blinks Amber:	OK*
Power LED constant Green:	OK*
Status LED:	NOT APPLICABLE

* Note: Power LED is shown with constant color Amber while Activity LED blinks with color Green. Probable cause may be that the activity header on SX8300 does not support bi-color LED. However, if drives are equipped with drive activity signal, then the issue will be corrected.

Conclusion

SuperTrak EX8350 is fully compatible with Icy Dock enclosures: MB453SPF and MB455SPF. FastTrak SX8300 is also fully compatible with these enclosures except for what is noted above.