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Move Files Between USB Flash Drives, Sans PC

Posted by [Melissa Perenson](#)
Monday, November 08, 2004, 01:41 AM (PST)

XMultiple, a maker of USB interconnects and flash memory enclosures (among other things), is prepping a new USB flash memory drive that can copy files from one drive to another, without using a PC.

The FlashPoint drive has a USB connector that can accept another USB FlashPoint device. It works "only from FlashPoint to FlashPoint, since we're using a patented [process]. We're manufacturing the chip that enable this [copying] function," says Alan Pocrass, the company's CEO.

Plug one drive into the other, hit a button, and you can copy files from one drive to the other. The drive copies only files stored in the /share directory, and it does not sync files between drives.

XMultiple is trying to get other flash drive manufacturers to incorporate its chip into their own devices. In response to consumer interest, the company plans to ship drives in volume to consumers early next year, says Pocrass. "We're a connector and component manufacturer, and we don't want to compete with other companies we sell components to."

Pocrass expects the 512MB drive to sell for \$95, and the 1GB drive for \$125.

Comments

Posted by Jared on Monday, November 08, 2004, 08:11 AM (PST)

Just curious about the power factor? Is this going to run off batteries, or will you have to keep it plugged in?

Posted by Interested on Monday, November 08, 2004, 06:51 PM (PST)

Probably has a small battery, perhaps an AA.
Depends on how much power it needs, for a copy light, etc.

Posted by [Lynx](#) on Friday, November 12, 2004, 01:10 PM (PST)

Well I guess that function is called USB host support. It is already available in Muzio JM and iRiver H320. There is no restriction for the USB device you connect, and better you can choose which files to transfer using the screen. Well, maybe it is the first flash memory since others are mp3 players.

Posted by [Matt](#) on Monday, November 15, 2004, 01:10 PM (PST)

I hear the first units will use a throw-away button style battery. With future units using a rechargeable battery that recharges off you computers USB port.

Posted by [Drew](#) on Thursday, January 13, 2005, 10:12 AM (PST)

Accoring to the manufacturer. The FlashDrive will give you the ability to move between devcices and download your data files (MP3). No need to carry a USB hub or any other device to transfer files.

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