

**English**

**Safety manual for external hard drives**

***Freecom***

**Freecom Technologies • Germany**

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**Note:**

Keep this guide in a convenient place to access important information about your external device.

**Warning!**

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## Chapter GB-1: Introduction

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- A. Thank you very much for purchasing this Freecom external hard drive.

All of the safety instructions that are contained in this manual must be read carefully and must be fully understood before you attempt to use your external hard drive, in order to avoid potential hazards that could cause bodily injury or property damage, or could damage the external hard drive.

We hope that you are completely satisfied with your new Freecom external hard drive and that it gives you long and productive service.

We look forward to providing you with additional Freecom products to serve all of your computing needs in the future.

- B. Two categories of safety instructions are included in this manual:

- Product Warnings (i.e., what must never be done, to assure avoiding those hazards that could cause bodily injury or property damage).
- User Directions (i.e., what must always be done, to assure the safe use of your external hard drive).

## Safety icons

This manual contains safety instructions that must be observed in order to avoid potential hazards that could result in personal injuries, damage to your equipment, or loss of data. These safety cautions have been classified according to the seriousness of the risk, and the icons highlight these instructions as follows:

Signal Words	Meaning
<b>! Danger !</b>	Indicates an imminently hazardous situation which, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury.
<b>Warning !</b>	Indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury.
<b>Caution !</b>	Indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, may result in minor or moderate injury.
<b>Caution</b>	Indicates a potentially hazardous situation which, if not avoided, may result in property damage.
<b>Note</b>	Provides important information.

## Disclaimer of liability for manual contents

Descriptions contained in this instruction manual or in other written materials (including additional manuals) furnished to you will be considered as general guidance and will not create any warranty to you.

IN NO EVENT SHALL FRECOM OR ANYONE INVOLVED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OR CREATION OF THIS INSTRUCTION MANUAL OR OTHER INFORMATION PROVIDED TO YOU BE LIABLE FOR ANY INCIDENTAL, CONSEQUENTIAL OR SPECIAL DAMAGES, WHETHER BASED ON TORT, CONTRACT, OR OTHERWISE, ARISING OUT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH THIS INSTRUCTION MANUAL OR OTHER INFORMATION PROVIDED OR THE USE THEREOF.

## Chapter GB-2: Safe use of external hard drive, components and accessories

### External hard drive

#### **! Danger !**

**Never attempt to disassemble, tamper with or repair the external hard drive. This will cause fire, electric shock, death, serious physical injury, or permanent damage.**

**Always contact an authorized Freecom service provider, for appropriate assistance.**

#### **Warning !**

1. Never leave the plastic bags that were used for packaging the external hard drive or any of its components in places where children or infants will have access them, to prevent possible suffocation.
2. To avoid any risk of short-circuit, fire or other internal damage, never allow any metal object such as screws, staples or paper clips to fall into the unit. If that should happen, however, immediately turn off the power and unplug the power cord.  
Always contact an authorized Freecom service provider, for appropriate assistance.
3. Never allow any liquids to spill into any part of your external hard drive, and never expose the external hard drive to rain, water seawater or moisture, in order to avoid any risk of electric shock, fire or other damage to the unit. However, if any of these eventualities should occur, unplug the cable, shut off the external hard drive immediately, as the external hard drive may otherwise sustain permanent damage.

Always contact an authorized Freecom service provider for assistance, before attempting to use the external hard drive again.

4. If the external hard drive has been dropped, or if you ever detect the emission of smoke, unusual odour or excessive heat, always unplug the cable and shut off the external hard drive immediately, as there is a risk that this will cause fire, possibly resulting in death or serious physical injury.  
Always contact an authorized Freecom service provider, for appropriate assistance.
5. Never attempt to disassemble, adjust or repair the external hard drive, as safety hazards will result. Always contact an authorized Freecom service provider, if any repair or adjustment is required.
6. Never open any covers except those that are expressly designed to be opened by the user, in order to prevent the risk of fire possibly resulting in death or serious physical injury, or the malfunction of the external hard drive.
7. Today's performance external hard drives generate heat under normal operating conditions, as a function of system activity.  
Avoid extended contact between the external hard drive base/palm rest and your bare skin. Under certain operating conditions such prolonged contact between the external hard drive base/palm rest and your bare skin will result in skin irritation.

**Caution !**

1. Never store a external hard drive in a locked and unventilated vehicle, (where excessive internal temperatures may be encountered). Never place a external hard drive on top of (or adjacent to) a heating device, and never expose it to direct sunlight, to prevent external hard drive malfunction or damage to the components.
2. Never attempt to use the external hard drive on a precarious or unstable surface, as the unit may fall causing physical injury or damage to the unit.
3. Never attempt to use the external hard drive in a location that is subject to excessive vibration, as the unit may cause physical injury, or result in internal damage to the unit or the loss of stored data.
4. Never attempt to pull the cable out with excessive force, as the unit may fall causing malfunction, physical injury or damage to the unit.
5. Always handle the external hard drive with care to prevent the possible loss of stored data.

### Note

1. Never use the unit in an environment where temperature and humidity is less than or exceeds the limitations written in the users manual of your own external hard drive, to prevent malfunction.
2. Never use organic solvents (e.g., benzene or thinner) to clean the external hard drive, as they will cause the surfaces to deteriorate, deform or discolour.
3. Never place heavy objects on top of the external hard drive and never allow heavy objects to drop onto the external hard drive, to protect it from damage.
4. If the external hard drive has been exposed to cold temperatures, always allow it to warm to room temperature before turning it on. This will prevent the occurrence of harmful condensation within the unit. (This is a particularly important concern when the unit is being used in cold climates).
5. Always avoid using the external hard drive in dusty environments, since dust particles can affect the reliability of the external hard drive. Always contact an authorized Freecom service provider, if your external hard drive has become contaminated with dust or dirt particles.



## Safe use of your external hard drive aboard an aircraft

### Warning !

Always request and obtain the prior consent and approval of an authorized airline representative before using your external hard drive aboard an aircraft. Failure to obtain the prior consent and approval from the airline may result in your unwittingly interfering with aviation equipment onboard, leading to an accident and thereby resulting in the possibility of death or serious physical injury.

### Usage restrictions

Never incorporate this Freecom external hard drive into a system that will be used to control the following critical equipment:

- a. Equipment directly linked to the protection of human life, including:
  - Medical monitoring equipment, life support systems and equipment used in hospital operating rooms.
  - Exhaust systems used for venting poisonous gases and smoke.
  - Equipment used to perform life-saving functions mandated by law, (e.g., as required for fire-fighting under the Canadian Fire Services Act).
  - Other equipment comparable to that in the examples cited above.
- b. Equipment directly linked to the protection of human safety or affecting the performance of a vital public safety function, such as:
  - Traffic control equipment for air, railroad, highway and marine transportation.
  - Equipment used in atomic power plants.
  - Other equipment comparable to that in the examples cited above.
  - The control of such critical equipment requires the use of specially designed devices that employ redundant, fail-safe circuitry.
  - This external hard drive has not been designed for those types of uses.

## Chapter GB-3: Maintaining a safe work environment

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### Introduction

- Freecom external hard drives have been designed to be compact, light-weight and extremely portable, so that they can be easily carried and used almost anywhere.  
Proper use of a Freecom external hard drive does not pose any health hazards. When used in accordance with the safety instructions in this manual they also offer an alternative to external hard drive users who wish to avoid exposure to the additional sources of electromagnetic field (EMF) emission that may be present in PCs.
- The safety instructions in this manual should therefore always be followed, to avoid the adverse consequences that could otherwise result from the misuse of Freecom external hard drive under sub-optimum field conditions.

### Avoidance of exposure to EMF emissions

#### Note

1. Extremely Low Frequency (ELF) Emissions (50 Hz (Europe) or 60 Hz (US))  
Since Freecom external hard drives are low-voltage direct current (DC) devices, this external hard drive emits no EMF (electromagnetic field) energy in the ELF range when it is being powered by its USB bus power.
2. Radio Frequency (RF) Emissions
  - a. External hard drives generate digital timing pulses at frequencies within the RF range, and consequently may emit minute levels of stray EMF emissions in the RF range.

As a result, all desk-top and external hard drives are required to comply with the US Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Standards digital devices, the Canadian Interference-Causing Equipment Regulations and the European Community Standards.

(Digital devices are authorized for use in residential environments and are not permitted to intentionally emit RF energy.

Nevertheless, they are permitted to unintentionally emit low levels of RF energy, as a result of the generation of digital timing pulses by their clock oscillator circuits).

- b. The allowable levels of RF energy that may be emitted by external hard drives are severely limited in their intensity by the existing FCC Regulations (47 CFR Section 15.109 (a)), Canadian ICE Regulations and European Community Standard N55022, to prevent interference with reception on nearby radio and T.V. receivers.

Freecom external hard drives have therefore been equipped with internal shielding, to significantly reduce the stray emission of RF energy.

Nevertheless, airlines may prohibit the use of all external hard drives (and any other portable electronic devices that could emit stray RF energy) during takeoffs and landings, because of possible interference with the reception of signals by airborne electronic navigation devices.

- c. FCC regulations, ICES, and European Standards digital devices severely limit the levels of RF energy that may be emitted by a external hard drive.

The resulting emissions therefore also fall well within the allowable limits that have been adopted by OSHA in 29 CFR 1910.97, and that have been adopted by the promulgators of all other know regulations and standards that relate to the emission of EMF energy in the RF range.

Consequently, the minute levels of EMF energy in the RF range that are emitted by Freecom external hard drives comply with all existing regulations and standards, and pose no known health hazards to human beings.

### Chapter GB-4: Limited warranty

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Freecom does not warrant that operation of this product will be uninterrupted or error free. You must read and follow all set-up and usage instructions contained in this instruction manual and in any other manuals that have been provided with this external hard drive. If you fail to do so, this device will not function properly and you may lose data or suffer other damage.

EVEN IF YOU DO SO, HOWEVER, FREECOM MAKES NO GUARANTEE OR WARRANTY THAT THIS PRODUCT WILL FUNCTION PROPERLY IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES. IN NO EVENT WILL FREECOM BE LIABLE TO YOU OR TO ANY THIRD PARTY FOR ANY DAMAGES IN EXCESS OF THE PURCHASE PRICE OF THE PRODUCT, TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAW.

## Chapter GB-5: Important information for your freecom external hard drive

### FCC Information

**Product Name:** Freecom external hard drive

**Model number:** FHD-xx, Classic xx HD, Media Player xx, FND xx, FMD xx

### FCC Notice „Declaration of Conformity Information“

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radiofrequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

**Only peripherals complying with the FCC limits may be attached to this equipment. Operation with non-compliant peripherals or peripherals not recommended by Freecom is likely to result in interference to radio and TV reception. Shielded cables must be used between the external devices, USB port, and microphone jack. Changes or modifications made to this equipment, not expressly approved by Freecom or parties authorized by Freecom could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.**

### FCC conditions

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.
2. This device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

### Contact:

Freecom GmbH  
Zeughofstraße 1  
10997 Berlin  
Germany

## EU declaration of conformity



Freecom declares, that the product: FHD-xx, Classic xx HD, Media Player xx, FND xx, FMD xx conforms to the following Standards:

## Supplementary information:

"The product complies with the requirements of the Low Voltage Directive 73/23/EEC and the EMC Directive 89/336/ EEC and/or the R&TTE Directive 1999/05/EEC." This product is carrying the CE-Mark in accordance with the related European Directives. Responsible for CE-Marking is Freecom GmbH, Zeughofstraße 1, 10977 Berlin, Germany.

## Following information is only for EU-member states:



The use of the symbol indicates that this product may not be treated as household waste. By ensuring this product is disposed of correctly, you will help prevent potential negative consequences for the environment and human health, which could otherwise be caused by inappropriate waste handling of this product. For more detailed information about recycling of this product, please contact your local city office, your household waste disposal service or the shop where you purchased the product.

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