

OLIN Products: **HVBTR-1200 / HVBTR-1400**

HVBTR series - External drive and Flash Drive support notes.

Following are notes and observations from our testing and customer feedback. We have found that the **quality of the USB recording device** (flash drives, USB sticks, portable hard disc drive and desktop hard disc drive) is **critical to achieving the best results for recording programs** from your OLIN HVBTR-1200 or OLIN HVBTR-1400. The following information is meant as a **guide** to these USB devices. **Compatibility is not limited to any specific products mentioned in this document.**

Flash Drives / USB Sticks

Extract from Users Manual:

Minimum requirements on compatible external drives:

- **USB Flash Drives:** total capacity 4GB or above with free capacity 1GB or above write speed: 3.125 MB or above; read speed: 3.125 MB or above

Basic read and write speed specifications for USB Flash Drives are usually not supplied by the manufacturers. (Unlike memory cards where it can be important for the type of device it will be used in eg digital camera). It is therefore difficult to advise on flash drives generally except to **try it and see**.

Overwhelmingly we have found that most users have external HDD. This is because of the relatively cheap cost per gigabyte of external HDD storage.

The sheer size of files created when recording makes external HDD far more practical. For example a HD recording to a 4GB USB stick will only allow about 25 minutes of recording. Standard Definition is about 45 minutes on a 4GB USB stick.

External HDD

Extract from Users Manual:

Minimum requirements on compatible external drives:

- **Removable Hard Disk:** FAT32 or NTFS format, USB 2.0 port; free capacity 1GB or above.

External HDD can be portable (ie they rely on power supplied by the USB port on the device they attach to) or desktop (ie they usually have an external power supply and do not rely on power supplied by the USB port on the device they attach to).

Powered External HDD / desktop

The most stable systems we have seen are 3.5 inch externally powered HDD. These are the most successful on devices like Digital set top boxes. They are not reliant on power being supplied from the USB port on the HVBTR series. To date, we have not had any reports from clients with these types of devices not working. Internal testing within Westwell has also shown these devices 100% successful.

Unpowered External HDD / portable

Generally we have reports of most new models working. Many USB unpowered case and HDD combinations have been reported by customers as OK. A series of USB unpowered case and HDD combinations were tested at Westwell as OK. The case is the most important factor. Many of these HDD cases are not branded by the manufacturer.

Note: Westwell does not endorse any specific manufacturer or model. Please check with your retailer or external HDD supplier re details of model number etc.

Additional **testing at Westwell** has shown these manufacturers branded models working:

Samsung G2 Portable (HX-MUOxxDC) series

Samsung G2 Portable (Model: HX-MUO64DC / 640GB) – tested unit - OK.

Samsung G2 Portable (Model: HX-MUO25DC / 250GB) – should work.

Samsung G2 Portable (Model: HX-MUO32DC / 320GB) – should work.

Samsung G2 Portable (Model: HX-MUO50DC / 500GB) – should work.

Seagate FreeAgent Go (ST9x) series

Seagate FreeAgent Go (ST902503FAM2E1-RK / PN:9KW2M4-571 / 250GB) – tested unit - OK.

Seagate FreeAgent Go (ST90320x / 320GB) – ST9x series case – should work.

Seagate FreeAgent Go (ST90500x / 500GB) – ST9x series case – should work.

Seagate FreeAgent Go (ST90640x / 640GB) – ST9x series case – should work.

Seagate FreeAgent Go (ST90750x / 750GB) – ST9x series case – should work.

Seagate FreeAgent Go (ST90880x / 880GB) – ST9x series case – should work.

Seagate FreeAgent Go (ST91000x / 1TB) – ST9x series case – should work.

Seagate FreeAgent GoFlex Ultra-Portable (STAAx) series

Seagate FreeAgent GoFlex (STAA320301 / Box P/N:9ZF2M1-570 / Unit P/N:9ZF2A1-500 / 320GB) – tested unit - OK.

Seagate FreeAgent GoFlex (STAA500x / 500GB) – STAAx series case – should work.

Seagate FreeAgent GoFlex (STAA750x / 750GB) – STAAx series case – should work.

Seagate FreeAgent GoFlex (STAA1000x / 1TB) – STAAx series case – should work.

Western Digital Elements – WDBAARx series

Western Digital Elements (WDBAAR3200ABK-00 / 320GB) – tested unit – OK.

Western Digital Elements (WDBAAR2500ABK / 250GB) – WDBAARx series case – should work.

Western Digital Elements (WDBAAR5000ABK / 500GB) – WDBAARx series case – should work.

Western Digital My Passport Essential – WDMEx series –

Western Digital My Passport Essential (WD5000MEB-00 / 500GB) – tested unit - OK.

Western Digital My Passport Essential (WD2500MEB / 250GB) – WDMEx series case – should work.

Western Digital My Passport Essential (WD3200MEB / 320GB) – WDMEx series case – should work.

Western Digital My Passport Essential (WD4000MEB / 400GB) – WDMEx series case – should work.

Note: these are an older model and may no longer be available

Western Digital My Passport Essential – WDBAAAx series –

Western Digital My Passport Essential (WDBAAA3200ARD-00 320GB) – tested unit – OK.

Western Digital My Passport Essential (WDBAAA2500x / 250GB) – WDBAAAx series case – should work.

Western Digital My Passport Essential (WDBAAA5000x / 500GB) – WDBAAAx series case – should work.

Western Digital My Passport Essential (WDBAAA6400x / 640GB) – WDBAAAx series case – should work.

Note: requires firmware update:

HVBTR1200-FW201078.abs for HVBTR-1200

HVBTR1400-FW201078.abs for HVBTR-1400.

Refer to www.olinlivenow.com.au for firmware update information.

Note: Compatibility with the HVBTR-1200 and HVBTR-1400 is not limited to HDD models listed above.

Cables

Westwell used the cables that came with the each model in the testing. We have noted that **a good quality USB cable is critical to the operation of any external HDD** on PCs and devices like the HVBTR series. If you don't have the original cable that came with the external HDD, talk to your dealer about **a high quality USB cable suitable for use with an external HDD**.

Older model unpowered external HDD

Newer models are far less demanding of power from USB ports. Some older devices (3 or more years old) have shown power related issues. Older models seem to put quite a load on the USB port of the HVBTR.

Examples we have found not working are Fujitsu DYNADISQSATA_III (NOV 08) and Maxtor Basics 80GB. Example older drives we have found that work include the OLIN LH100 60GB. While **it is not possible to be absolute about all older models**, some models may demand more current than the HVBTR USB port is able to provide.

Note: On a PC this demand on USB port power is common enough to be catered for with a "double" USB cable. These cables have two A-type ends to get current from two USB ports on the PC. This allows for double the current available. With only one USB port on the HVBTR, this option is not available.

Feedback

Logistically it is very difficult to test all external HDD – there are many options in the market. We are always pleased to get information from any client who is successfully using a model not mentioned above. Thank you for the excellent feedback we have already received directly from customers and from some of the forums.

If you wish to send feedback please include:

Manufacturer

Model name

Model part no (usually found near the serial number)

Externally powered – yes or no

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support@westwell.com.au