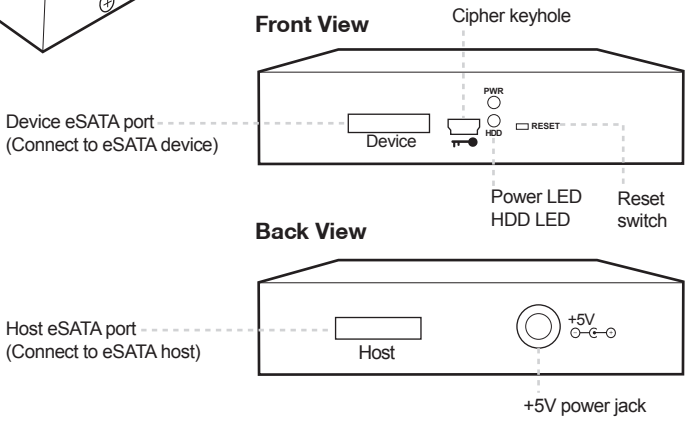
User Guide

External CipherChain (CCEXA256)



Basic Hardware Installation

Connecting the storage device: Connect the eSATA hard drive or storage device to the Device eSATA port on the External CipherChain using an eSATA cable. Remember to connect power to the eSATA storage device.

Connecting to the host/system: Connect to the Host eSATA port on the External CipherChain to one end of the eSATA cable and the other end to the onboard eSATA port of the motherboard or an add-in eSATA controller card. You can connect the External Cipherchain to a USB 3.0/2.0 port using the optional Addonics USB 3.0 to eSATA adapter.

Connecting the power: Using the provided 5V power adapter connect it to the power jack of the External CipherChain and to power outlet to provide power.

v3.1.11

Technical Support

If you need any assistance to get your unit functioning properly, please have your product information ready and contact Addonics Technical Support at:

Hours: 8:30 am - 6:00 pm PST
Phone: 408-453-6212
Email: http://www.addonics.com/support/query/

How to operate the External CipherChain:
1. Insert the AES 256-bit cipher key into the cipher keyhole on the External CipherChain.

2**. For eSATA port that does NOT support hotswap.** Power on the External CipherChain and eSATA storage device first before powering on the system. **For eSATA or USB port that supports hotswap.** You can power on the External CipherChain and eSATA storage device at any time. The External CipherChain can be connected to the system any time.

3. Observed that the green Power LED should light up. If it does not, re-insert the cipher key and re-power the devices or reset the External CipherChain.

4. For new drive, go to the operating system's management utility to partition, format and mount the encrypted drive.

5. Go to File Manager and view the encrypted drive.

Note: You may remove the cipher key from the External CipherChain once the External CipherChain is powered on. All the files being transferred into the drive are still encrypted even if the cipher key is removed.

Additional information in operating the External CipherChain when connected to an eSATA port that supports hotswapping
• Disconnecting the eSATA cable from the Device port of the External CipherChain will turn off power, clear the key code and remove the drive icon. The action of disconnecting serves as resetting the External CipherChain.

Best Practices:
• Create a label to identify the SATA storage device and the Cipher key used to encrypt the device.
• Always keep a spare master key in a safe place.
• It is a good security practice to remove the cipher key from the External CipherChain and press reset switch when External CipherChain is unattended.

For additional information about the External CipherChain, refer to the External CipherChain manual on the CD or download a copy from www.addonics.com

Reset switch – Not to be used when External CipherChain is connected to a non hotswap eSATA port. Hot swapping refers to the ability to plug and unplug the External CipherChain without rebooting the system. The following are examples of such applications:

a. When the cipher key is removed from the External CipherChain, pressing the reset switch will turn off power on the External CipherChain, clear the key code and remove the drive icon.

b. Likewise when an eSATA hard drive is plug into the External CipherChain then the cipher key is inserted into the cipher keyhole, pressing the RESET button will initialized the drive. Note that if the hard drive is not encrypted or the Cipher key does not match with what is on the encrypted hard drive, it will show up as an unallocated drive under the drive management screen and no drive icon will show up in My Computer folder. So it is very important to make sure that the correct Cipher key is used on the hard drive. Proceeding to initialize the hard drive will erase all the data beyond any possibility of recovery.

Green Power LED: In order to turn on the power to the External CipherChain, the cipher key must be inserted prior to power on the system or resetting the External CipherChain. If the power LED does not light up, the system will not detect the hard drive connected to the External CipherChain.

Yellow Power LED: Lights up when there is drive activity.