

Tableau T335 Forensic Drive Bay Controller

Overview:

Tableau's T335 Forensic Drive Bay Controller provides three independent bridges, two SATA and one IDE, each of which can be configured for read-only or read-write operation at system build time.

The T335 is designed to be mounted in a 5.25" half-height drive bay on the front of a forensic workstation or tower. The T335 is specifically designed to work in conjunction with SATA and IDE removable drive trays, which should be mounted in close proximity to the T335 in the host computer.

Working in conjunction with the removable drive bays, the T335 uses patent pending technology to sense when each drive bay is turned ON or OFF, automatically recognizing the insertion and removal of hard disks from the system.

In a typical system, one SATA and one IDE channel will be set for read-only mode and the remaining SATA channel will be set for read-write mode. In this way, the operator can use a write-blocked SATA or IDE drive bay to image a subject device, using the remaining SATA drive bay to write a copy of the image.

The T335 also includes an active FireWire800 hub and an active USB 2.0 hub, each with two connectors on the front of the unit. These front-mounted FireWire and USB connections are designed to give users convenient, front access to these high-speed ports, eliminating the need for a separate front-mount hub.

Requirements:

- Drive bays connected to the T335 must use a +12V fan.
- The drive bay fan must connect to the drive bay via a detachable connector.
- The fan must use the same connector as the cables included with the T335.

You will need IDE or SATA cables for each bay. We strongly recommend that the IDE bay be adjacent to the T335 so that you can use a short IDE cable, such as Tableau's TC6-8 IDE cable. This is important. The SATA bays may be further away, and typically you will need a 0.5m SATA signal cable.

Also, it is very important that you ***do not*** share a power lead between the T335 and any of the removable drive bays. Switching the bays on/off often creates a large current/voltage surge, and this surge may disrupt devices on the same power supply lead. We recommend, if at all possible, that you use separate power supply leads for each removable drive bay in a system. This is based on long experience with these kinds of products...**please take this recommendation seriously.**

You will need a FireWire connection to your motherboard or to an add-in FireWire card. FireWire800 is recommended for performance (and the T335 has only a FireWire800 connector). But, you can use a FireWire400 host if you have a suitable FireWire adapter cable.

Lastly, you will need a USB 2.0 connection to your motherboard or to an add-in FireWire card if you want to use the USB 2.0 hub on the front of the T335. **Please note that the USB and FireWire ports on the front of the T335 *are not* write-blocked.**

Configuration:

DIP SWITCH #1 (SW1 on Silkscreen):

- switch 1: OFF = IDE Channel R/O, ON = IDE Channel R/W
- switch 2: OFF = SATA Channel #1 R/O, ON = SATA Channel #1 R/W
- switch 3: OFF = SATA Channel #2 R/O, ON = SATA Channel #2 R/W
- switch 4: RESERVED

DIP SWITCH #2 (SW2 on Silkscreen):

- switch 1: OFF = Report error if write attempted, ON = Suppress error reporting
- switch 2: OFF = Report write protect status, ON = Hide write protect status
- switch 3: RESERVED
- switch 4: RESERVED

NOTE: The reporting of write errors (SW2/switch 1) and the reporting of the write-protect status (SW2/switch 2) is only relevant if a specific channel is set for R/O mode. In almost all situations, these additional switches should be left in the default OFF state.

A typical setting for the T335 would be: SW1/switch 3 = ON, all other switches = OFF

